

# The Times

FLOYD COUNTY

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**Rebels get 19th win**  
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**briefs**

## Blood drive planned

**McDOWELL** — Recent flu outbreaks and bad weather have the Central Kentucky Blood Center worried that a severe shortage may occur in the near future.

Donations are down because several blood drives were canceled during the past few weeks due to snowy conditions coupled with a widespread flu outbreak that shut down several school districts throughout the region.

"Bad weather has canceled at least a dozen blood drives and health officials have listed Kentucky in the widespread flu category," said Dan Dickson, the Blood Center's Communications Director.

Prestonsburg resident Seldon Horne, who has donated a total of 135 pints of blood said, "We can't stress enough how important it is for healthy donors to donate now, rain or shine, through ice or snow, to help prevent an emergency situation."

According to the CKBC, transfusions at 67 Kentucky hospitals the agency serves ran ahead of the number of donations that were received in January and the beginning of February.

An upcoming community blood drive in Floyd County has been scheduled at McDowell ARH Hospital to help refill the blood bank. The blood drive will be held from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday. Each donor will receive the Blood Center's new "Lifesaver" T-shirt.

As always, donors must present a photo I.D., be at least 17 years of age, weigh a minimum of 110 pounds, and be in general good health.

# Schools seeing success reducing truancy

by ALEX SMITH  
 STAFF WRITER

The first conviction is \$100. The second conviction is \$250. A third conviction is jail time, usually in the 15-to-30-day range.

These convictions may sound like the fines levied for some trivial offense such as jaywalking or a parking viola-

tion, but they are the penalties a parent potentially faces in Floyd County if convicted for not sending their children to school.

"I think failing to send children to school can affect their grades as well as their behavior," said Kristina Springer, director of pupil personnel for the Floyd County Board of Education. "If they're not there, they get left behind."

Springer's job entails overseeing the county's attendance and notifying parents when their children reach the threshold of unexcused absences allowed in Floyd County, which is six. An absence is unexcused if a student misses a class and does not have a note from their parent or a doctor authorizing the absence. An absence must be accounted for within two days, or else

it goes into the record as unexcused. When a student nears the six-absence limit, it is Springer's job to notify the parents and explain what could happen to them. The student's school is also charged with notifying the parents and letting them know that their child is nearing the maximum

(See TRUANCY, page three)

## CITY RECOGNIZED



PRIDE Coordinator Marie Martin Holbrook presented Allen Mayor Sharon Woods with an award recognizing her and the efforts of numerous volunteers on roadside cleanup projects in Allen.

photo by Jessica Hale

# Turner given six months in vote fraud case

The Associated Press

**FRANKFORT** — An Floyd County man was sentenced to six months in prison after he pleaded guilty to lying to a federal grand jury regarding the source of campaign donations.

Prosecutors called Loren Glenn Turner, 53, of Pikeville, the "bag man" for the late eastern Kentucky political activist Ross Harris. Turner will become the second of 10 Pike Countians indicted for vote fraud in 2003 to go to prison. He was sentenced Thursday in U.S. District Court in Frankfort, the Herald-Leader reported.

Turner pleaded guilty in March 2005 to lying to a federal grand jury about the source of the \$1,000 dona-

tions his family members and friends contributed in a 2002 Pike County judicial race.

Turner, who supervised engineering operations at Harris' coal companies, told Judge Karen Caldwell in 2005 that in "less than seven days" in October 2002, he traveled around Floyd County and reimbursed 12 friends and relatives for their \$1,000 checks to judicial candidate John Doug Hays' campaign with \$1,000 in cash.

At the time, Caldwell asked where Turner got the \$12,000 to reimburse the contributors. On the advice of his attorney, Mark Chandler of Louisville, Turner stopped short of saying where the money

(See TURNER, page three)

# Court tackles housekeeping items during Friday meeting

by JESSICA HALE  
 STAFF WRITER

**PRESTONSBURG** — The Floyd County Fiscal Courtroom saw a substantial audience as the agenda for Friday's meeting was filled with 10 resolutions, many of which were "house cleaning" items that the court wanted to resolve.

The first resolution was one that would transfer funds from several different accounts. Magistrate Jackie Owens was the only magistrate to vote against the transfers, citing that he had just received the list and would have liked to have had

time to review it before making a decision.

Resolution 2, which Owens also voted against, was one that would issue a total of \$617,583.59 to Citizens National Bank for bond payments. There were also several resolutions to void checks, some of which had not cleared the bank and were over nine months old.

A \$25,000 check was approved payable to the Floyd County Sheriff's Office for its share of the 3 percent tax on alcohol sales.

The county also approved hiring two additional Road Department employees at an

hourly rate of \$8.50 an hour and passed a resolution to execute the lease agreement for the three dump trucks which were approved for purchase for last week.

Southern Water and Sewer District was approved to receive \$96,379 from the court for the acquisition of new pump stations needed for water projects throughout the area.

Magistrate Ronnie Akers asked Southern Water's Bob Meyer to update the court on the progress of water line extensions in the county. According to Meyer, Southern

(See COUNTY, page three)

# Former Times GM arraigned in sex case

by ALEX SMITH  
 STAFF WRITER

**PRESTONSBURG** — Former Floyd County Times general manager William McHugh was arraigned Friday on two sexual abuse charges stemming from an incident which allegedly occurred the morning of Oct. 5, 2005, at the Holiday Inn in Prestonsburg.

A pretrial date has been set for May 17. Bail was set at \$50,000 at the time of his arrest and a motion to reduce bond was denied based on a prior arrest after he was originally posted bail in the case in 2005.

According to former Times female employees, they were each independently invited to meet with McHugh outside the office on Oct. 5 to discuss a position which had recently become vacant at the paper. Both women agreed to do so, hoping they would be chosen to fill the position, which offered an increase in salary.

One arrived at work first that morning and readily accepted the opportunity to discuss the position privately, away from the office.

The two talked over breakfast at Holiday Inn, and after eating, McHugh explained that he was living at the motel and had forgotten something in his suite that he needed to retrieve.

The woman accompanied him to his room to retrieve the item. Once inside, she alleges that McHugh immediately made unwarranted and unwanted sexual overtures, which she rebuffed. The woman said her resistance only provoked McHugh, who physically and sexually attacked her.

The woman said she was able to escape from the suite, and after McHugh apologized to her, she agreed in her hysteria to ride with him back to the office. During the return trip she said McHugh continued further advances and inappropriately touched her.

The woman related the incident to several coworkers upon her return to the office shortly after 10 a.m. She was called into McHugh's office for a "business conference call," where she alleged that

(See ABUSE, page three)

# Pike women charged with snatching 71-year-old's purse

by ALEX SMITH  
 STAFF WRITER

**PIKEVILLE** — Two Pike County residents were arrested Thursday night after they allegedly stole a purse from a 71-year-old woman as she left Velocity Market near Pikeville.

Wesley J. Williams, 25, of Fishtrap, and Dorothy E. Fleming, 28, of Shelby Gap, were arrested a few hours after the robbery took place. They were located after Jewelena Elam, of Raccoon, was able to describe the vehicle the alleged purse-snatchers used to flee the scene.

Just after 5 p.m. Thursday Kentucky State Police Post 9 received a call from Elam stating that she had been robbed as she left the Velocity

Market. According to Elam, the woman, Fleming, distracted her while her accomplice came up behind her and forcefully took her purse from her.

Both were located later that evening at separate locations. Fleming was arrested on Raccoon Road while Williams was located at his home in Fishtrap. Elam was treated at the scene for a minor laceration and abrasion on her right hand.

Williams and Fleming were both lodged in the Pike County Detention Center and charged with one count of complicity to commit first-degree robbery. Neither suspect was found with any weapons and none are believed to have been used during the robbery.

The incident remains under investigation by Trooper Melissa Hampton.

**2 DAY FORECAST**

**Today**  
 Some snow  
 High: 29 • Low: 12

**Tomorrow**  
 Mostly cloudy  
 High: 44 • Low: 31

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# Push to stop mountaintop mining gets no traction

by ROGER ALFORD  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — What Ruman Hurt describes sounds like the scene from a war zone: Distant explosions, dust plumes rising skyward, sudden jolts that rattle dishes and knock pictures off walls.

But the eastern Kentucky resident is describing mountaintop removal mining, a process in which some of the state's tallest peaks are flattened with explosives and heavy machinery to get coal out of the ground.

"I just don't see any good in it," Hurt said. "We love those mountains."

That's why Hurt has been urging Kentucky lawmakers to ban mountaintop removal, which he says creates desert-

like landscapes where lush forests once thrived.

For the second year, Kentucky lawmakers are refusing to consider legislation that could significantly slow mountaintop removal mining by barring companies from shoving the dislodged dirt and rock into valleys below.

"The leaders in the House and Senate are irresponsible if they don't address this issue and address it while we have some mountains and streams and forests left in eastern Kentucky," said Teri Blanton, a member of the environmental group Kentuckians for the Commonwealth.

In the destructive mining practice, mountaintops are removed with explosives and heavy equipment to get coal out. The excess dirt and rock

unearthed in the process are dumped into valleys, and environmentalists say that destroys wildlife habitat and contaminates streams with sediment and acid discharge.

State Rep. Don Pasley, D-Winchester, is sponsoring the legislation. A resident of central Kentucky, he lives far from the coalfields, as do each of the co-sponsors, most of whom live in the Lexington and Louisville areas. Not a single lawmaker from the coalfields has signed onto the bill as co-sponsor.

That didn't escape the notice of environmentalists who gathered in Frankfort earlier this week to push for passage of the mountaintop removal bill.

State Rep. Jim Wayne, D-Louisville, one of the co-spon-

sors, said the coal economy and the political establishment is often intertwined in eastern Kentucky, making it difficult for lawmakers from the region to take a stand against a practice that provides jobs to many of their constituents.

Wayne said that leaves it up to lawmakers from outside the region to champion the issue.

"We have to recognize this as rape of the land," Wayne said. "We can sustain the economy of eastern Kentucky in better ways than this."

State Sen. Ray Jones, D-Pikeville, said lawmakers from the coalfields aren't pushing the "ridiculous" legislation because they know it isn't the right thing to do. He said pushing to shut down mountaintop removal coal mines is no different from calling for the closure of the Toyota plant in Georgetown. Either would put thousands of people out of work.

"This legislation is absolutely preposterous," Jones said Friday. "You cannot

shut down the mining industry and put thousands of families out of work. These are real people with real needs."

State Rep. Jim Gooch, chairman of the House Natural Resources and Environment Committee, said several lawmakers have gone out to see mountaintop removal sites and found that the process is actually beneficial in mountainous eastern Kentucky.

"I would never be for

(See MINING, page six)

## Abuse

McHugh again made inappropriate sexual advances.

Shortly thereafter, the second woman, who had not been in the office when the first returned and had not heard what had allegedly happened, arrived at work and was invited to talk privately outside the office with McHugh. The second woman said she agreed to do so for the same reasons that the first had. When they left the office, McHugh said he needed to stop by his suite to pick something up.

The woman went to the suite and McHugh again allegedly began making sexual advances, during which time he allegedly sexually abused her before she was able to

escape from the room. She also rode back to the office with McHugh and said he inappropriately touched her.

The second woman related her story to other employees, and after hearing of McHugh's earlier alleged actions, the two contacted the newspaper's home office, at which time McHugh left the premises. Prestonsburg police were called, and McHugh was arrested when he returned to the office a short time later.

The women have also filed a civil complaint against McHugh and are seeking \$10 million in punitive damages, as well as compensation for past, present and future physical, psychological and emo-

tional distress from the incident.

McHugh's sexual abuse case begins after he was recently released from a Florida jail after serving a 364-day sentence in Manatee County for false imprisonment and grand theft auto.

McHugh was arrested Oct. 25, 2005, after he stole a car parked outside of a bowling alley near Bradenton, Fla. He was arrested after an 8-year-old girl, who was in the back seat along with a 3-year-old boy and another 8-year-old girl, used her mother's cell phone to call her father and 911 to describe where they were.

## Turner

came from.

Chandler asked Caldwell to allow his client to serve his sentence under home incarceration. Caldwell rejected the proposal after Assistant U.S. Attorney Kenneth Taylor told the judge that Turner had

received nearly \$4 million from Harris.

Chandler denied that Turner had received any money from Harris' will.

The money — \$3.87 million — came from the sale of one of Harris' businesses, not

## Truancy

number of unexcused absences allowed.

When a student does reach the limit, the school refers the matter to Springer, who then contacts the parents a second time and schedules a home visit, where she discusses the situation, what problems may be leading to the absences, and informs them of the consequences of continuing down the path.

If the unexcused absences continue, criminal charges are then filed.

"It's a lengthy process, but we have to show the court that we have tried to warn these people," Springer said.

Many of the cases are referred to juvenile court, where the students' and parents' names are not in the public record. In cases of extreme truancy, the charges can be filed in district court, where the parents' names are in the public record.

For the 2005-06 school year, 26 cases were filed against parents for failing to send their children to school. Only four

such cases have been filed during the 2006-07 school year, and Springer said she believes the drop is a direct result of parents realizing that their child's future success is being threatened when they miss so much class time.

"The child is the one missing out, and it is important that they (parents) make sure they get an education."

Betsy Layne High School initiated a program last fall that has significantly reduced the school's attendance problems

## County

is working on prioritizing the projects that need the most attention at this time.

During the citizens' participation portion of the meeting, Big Sandy Area Development District's Sandy Runyon was in attendance to ask the court for funds to help with the 2007 East Kentucky Fair. Runyon said they are already making plans and have scheduled this year's event to take place from August 2 through August 5. Last year, Floyd County provided \$5,000 to the fair and all magistrates agreed that they

should give as much or more this year. Judge Marshall said the court will propose a specific amount at the next scheduled meeting.

"We are totally committed to this effort," said Marshall.

Bill Keathley, of Teaberry, asked the council to consider paying Floyd County's election officials amounts that equal those of surrounding counties. According to Keathley, the officials deserve a rate increase for all of the work they do.

PRIDE Coordinator Marie

the will, Taylor said in an interview later.

Until now, the only defendant to serve prison time was Tom Varney, 71, of McCarr. He pleaded guilty to felony vote-buying.

Continued from p1

Continued from p1

Martin Holbrook, was on hand to present Allen Mayor Sharon Woods with an award honoring the efforts of the city and all of the volunteers who helped with roadside cleanup projects. This particular group collected the equivalent to five dump truck loads of garbage.

"We're very proud to accept this award and without you Jackie, we couldn't have done it," said Mayor Woods, directing her thanks to Magistrate Jackie Owens for the assistance he gave the group during the cleanup.

## Obituaries

Preston Funeral Home.

Joe Vanhose Jr., of Paintsville, died Thursday, February 8, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Evelyn Johnson VanHose. Funeral services were held Sunday, February 11, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

### MARTIN COUNTY

Lillian Cornette, 80, of Tomahawk, died Wednesday, February 7, at Highlands Regional Medical Center in Prestonsburg. She is survived by her husband, Wilburn James Cornette. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, February 10, under the direction of Richmond-Callaham Funeral Home.

Dallas Crum, 74, of Inez, died Wednesday, February 7. He is survived by his wife, Blanch Fitch Ward. Funeral services were held Saturday, February 10, under the direction of Richmond-Callaham Funeral Home.

Tony Jackson Dials, 52, of Little Rockcastle, died Monday, February 5, at his home. Funeral services were held Wednesday, February 7, under the direction of Richmond-Callaham Funeral Home.

Terry Dean Evans, 37, of Lovely, died Wednesday, February 7. Funeral services

were held Saturday, February 10, under the direction of Richmond-Callaham Funeral Home.

Rhonda Fannin, 49, of Inez, died Friday, February 9, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, Edwin H. Fannin. Funeral services were held Monday, February 12, under the direction of Richmond-Callaham Funeral Home.

James Hardbarger, 79, of Inez died Saturday, February 10, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Tennie Hardbarger. Funeral services were held Tuesday, February 13, under the direction of Richmond-Callaham Funeral Home.

Alex Hinkle, 76, of Inez, died Saturday, February 10, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Opal Bowen Hinkle. Funeral services were held Monday, February 12, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

Delbert Howard, 49, of Kermit, West Virginia, a native of Martin County, died Wednesday, February 7, at his residence at Jennies Creek, West Virginia. Funeral services were held Sunday, February 11, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

Virginia C. Parsley, 84, of Jennies Creek, died Sunday,

February 11. Funeral services were held Wednesday, February 14, under the direction of Richmond-Callaham Funeral Home.

James Everett Preece, 67, of Lovely, died Thursday, February 1, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Ollie M. Preece. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, February 4, under the direction of Richmond-Callaham Funeral Home.

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## Attention: Floyd County Residents

The Floyd County PRIDE Committee will be meeting on Thursday, February 22, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.

At the Floyd County Annex Building 2nd Floor Conference Room Located at 313 Westminster Street behind the old Floyd County Courthouse

If you have any questions, please call Marie Martin-Holbrook, Floyd County PRIDE Coordinator at 606-886-9193.

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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

Our view

## If promises were asphalt

Groundhog Day was not too long ago, and if you missed it, the weather outside should clue you in to what that insufferable little rodent had in store for us this year.

But in Eastern Kentucky, we have a similar tradition, one that comes about the same time of the year, although only in one year out of every four. Once every four years, many times in February but sometimes earlier or later, a gubernatorial candidate emerges from his hole, surveys the landscape and promises to widen the Mountain Parkway to four lanes.

Much like the groundhog's meteorological prognostications, the Parkway Promise is not exactly a reliable indicator of what we can expect in the future. On the other hand, the Parkway Promise has been dead wrong every time it has been uttered.

In fact, if we had a mile of four-lane for each time the Parkway Promise has been made, we'd be able to drive to Lexington on a 12-lane superhighway by now.

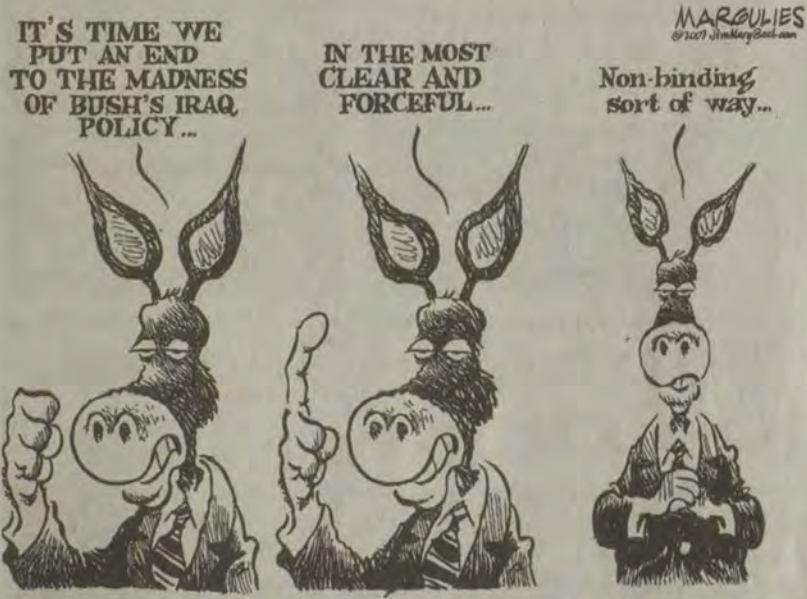
Former Gov. Paul Patton is the only one who has come close to making the Parkway Promise a reality, except that his widening project wasn't exactly on the Parkway, and at roughly two miles, it wasn't exactly complete.

We have already had one candidate come to town and make the Parkway Promise. We won't name him right now because, by the time the campaign is over, all of the candidates will have done the same.

All of which leads to an interesting question: Will the Mountain Parkway ever be widened to four lanes throughout?

Maybe, maybe not. But if that dream ever becomes reality, we think it will have to start from the bottom up. We will never see four lanes stretching from Middle Creek to Campton until we stop accepting empty Parkway Promises, and start putting Public Pressure on the politicians who make them.

— The Floyd County Times



## The Times

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### Rich Lowry Column

#### The big drug scam

Democrats hate that Republicans are willing, on the issue of embryonic stem-cell research, to let their straitened moral views supposedly stand in the way of medical progress. But Democrats have their own ethical problem with medical progress — based on their moral qualms about the profit motive.

During the 2006 campaign, Democrats argued that President Bush's prescription-drug program — Medicare Part D — could never be cost-effective unless the government was allowed to negotiate directly with drug companies. According to the Democrats, the "D" in Medicare "Part D" stood for "dystopia," forcing dazed and confused seniors to be ripped off by ravenous drug companies.

In reality, the absence of government negotiations has been key to the program's success. Private health plans negotiate drug prices with the drug companies and then offer a menu — a formulary — of covered drugs through Medicare. Seniors choose among the various plans, picking the one with the drugs they want at the best price.

According to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the

robust competition has meant that premiums for the basic drug benefit average \$22 per month, 40 percent less than had been projected. Seniors are estimated to be saving, on average, \$1,200 a year on drugs, and 80 percent of seniors enrolled in the program are satisfied with it.

As it happens, government negotiations of prices won't do any good unless the government is empowered not to offer certain drugs, thus achieving real bargaining power. This would require creating a national formulary — in other words limiting the drugs available to seniors in the Medicare program.

The Department of Veterans Affairs — touted by Democrats as an ideal example of government negotiations — has just such a formulary. If the latest drug isn't on the VA list — well, there are always old drugs. Columbia University professor Frank Lichtenberg reports that "only 38 percent of drugs approved in the 1990s and 19 percent of the drugs approved by the FDA since 2000 are on the VA National Formulary."

Democrats don't want to impose a formulary on Medicare Part D

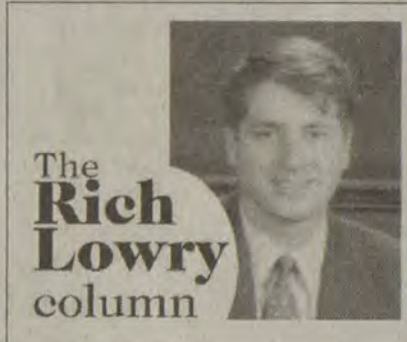
against profits.

They used to complain that drug companies made too many "me-too drugs," but the variety of drugs available to treat the same conditions has created healthy competition regarding price. Now Democrats complain about one-of-a-kind breakthrough drugs, where there isn't (yet) such competition.

But drug research is risky and hideously expensive. No one will do it without the benefit of profits. When Pfizer's new cholesterol-lowering drug proved a failure late last year, it lost 15 years and \$1 billion in research and development costs.

If Democrats continue crusading against drug-industry profits, they will succeed only in obstructing medical progress, to the detriment of seniors and all of us.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.



### beyond the beltway

#### Molly Ivins: Rest in wit

by DONALD KAUL  
MINUTEMAN MEDIA

Molly Ivins died on Jan. 31. She was 62; not young to the young, but way too soon for a vibrant force of nature like Molly.

She was, I would argue, the foremost liberal columnist of her time — more liberal than Mike Royko, tougher than Art Buchwald, more down-to-earth than Russell Baker. She spent her life giving comfort to the afflicted and afflicting the comfortable, while making people laugh all the while.

Not everyone laughed, of course. I doubt Rush Limbaugh joined in. Of the right-wing radio talker, she wrote: "I have been attacked by Rush Limbaugh on the air, an experience somewhat akin to being gunned by a newt. It doesn't actually hurt, but it leaves you with slimy stuff on your ankle."

When Pat Buchanan delivered his bellicose speech at the 1992 Republican National Convention, announcing that we as a nation were locked in a cultural war, she said that the speech "probably sounded better in the original German."

She spent her most productive years and did her best work in her home state of Texas. She adopted a good 'ol girl, homespun style that was somewhat at odds with her Smith College-Columbia University resume, but which fitted her earthy sense of humor like a cowboy boot.

Texas was invented for her. It was,

she said, "reactionary, cantankerous and hilarious" and when the state's legislature was about to convene she would issue the warning, "every village is about to lose its idiot."

Dallas, she said, was a town "that would have rooted for Goliath to beat David."

Of a Texas congressman, she wrote: "If his I.Q. slips any lower, we'll have to water him twice a day."

President Bush, or "Dubya" as she called him (when she wasn't referring to him as "Shrub" or "President Billy Bob Forehead"), was another of her favorite targets.

"Denial is not just a river in Egypt," she wrote. "It's a court-appointed presidency and they are behaving as if they have a mandate." "There are two kinds of humor," she told "People" magazine. One kind "makes us chuckle about our foibles and our shared humanity. The other kind holds people up to public contempt and ridicule. That's what I do."

Elsewhere she would write: "I only aim at the powerful. When satire is aimed at the powerless it is not only cruel — it's vulgar." Which is perhaps the best argument I've heard against the "politically incorrect" folks who would have you believe that it's brave to tread on the downtrodden in the name of free speech.

She tried reporting for "The New York Times" but it didn't work out. The "Times" was, then as now, a staid and proper institution and Molly was wild and crazy.

While working in the Denver bureau of the "Times," she was sent

to cover a festival in Corrales, N.M., that featured a mass slaughter of chickens. She called it a "gang pluck."

That never made the paper but her use of it offended the "Times" executive editor Abe Rosenthal who, while a great journalist, had a sense of humor so narrow you could slice cheese with it. She and the "Times" soon parted company.

"The New York Times" is a great newspaper," she later wrote. "It is also no fun."

She was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1999 and spent the rest of her life fighting it,

always with courage and characteristic flair.

Of her treatment, she said: "First they mutilate you; then they poison you; then they burn you. I have been on blind dates better than that."

At the time of her death she was syndicated in nearly 400 newspapers, the author of several best-selling books — several at the expense of George Bush — and the winner of numerous journalism awards (many of which she used as trivets on her dining room table).

But not the grandest prize of all; she never won the Pulitzer. I'm not sure the award will ever fully recover from that, nor should 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: dkaul1@verizon.net.





## INSIDESTUFF

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## CAR TALK:

Free tire program not all it's cracked up to be

see pg. A6

## 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.

If I weren't afraid you would think the record has stuck, I would say this hasn't been one of my better weeks.

### THE PUTTEROFFER

Why I wait until the afternoon of press-day to indite these few lines is something of a mystery to me. I concede the point that I'm lazy, a chronic putteroffer, and am usually short on material. Yet I know the job has to be done, that I'm the guy it has been entrusted to, and that procrastination is simply a big word which will do me no good whatsoever. And still I wait till it won't wait any longer. Then I have at it with both forefingers, punching away.

I try to remember now: Have I recounted this experience or that story in earlier columns? I leave them lie. I hear a definition of The Twist that's downright clever, but I resist the temptation to use it. I pound my forehead, trying to think of that quip I heard or concocted, but it will not emerge from limbo.

So, there being no escape, I write as follows.

I am reminded that these new ready-tied, clip-on ties is the greatest invention to come along since the non-sinkable fly-line.

### TRY IT!

The Floyd County Times hasn't sponsored an essay-writing contest in a long while. It occurs to me we could do this and offer a "grand prize" of \$50,000 (which we do not have, and could not get) and still be safe with this sort of thing:

Complete this sentence—"I would not marry a beautiful young heiress to a million-dollar fortune, because—" and restrict your statement to 25 words or less.

### REMINDER

Pity the poor hypochondriac! His groan is echoed by a chortle: If sympathy were dollars, he would be a pauper. And finally, to everybody's surprise except his, he ups and dies.

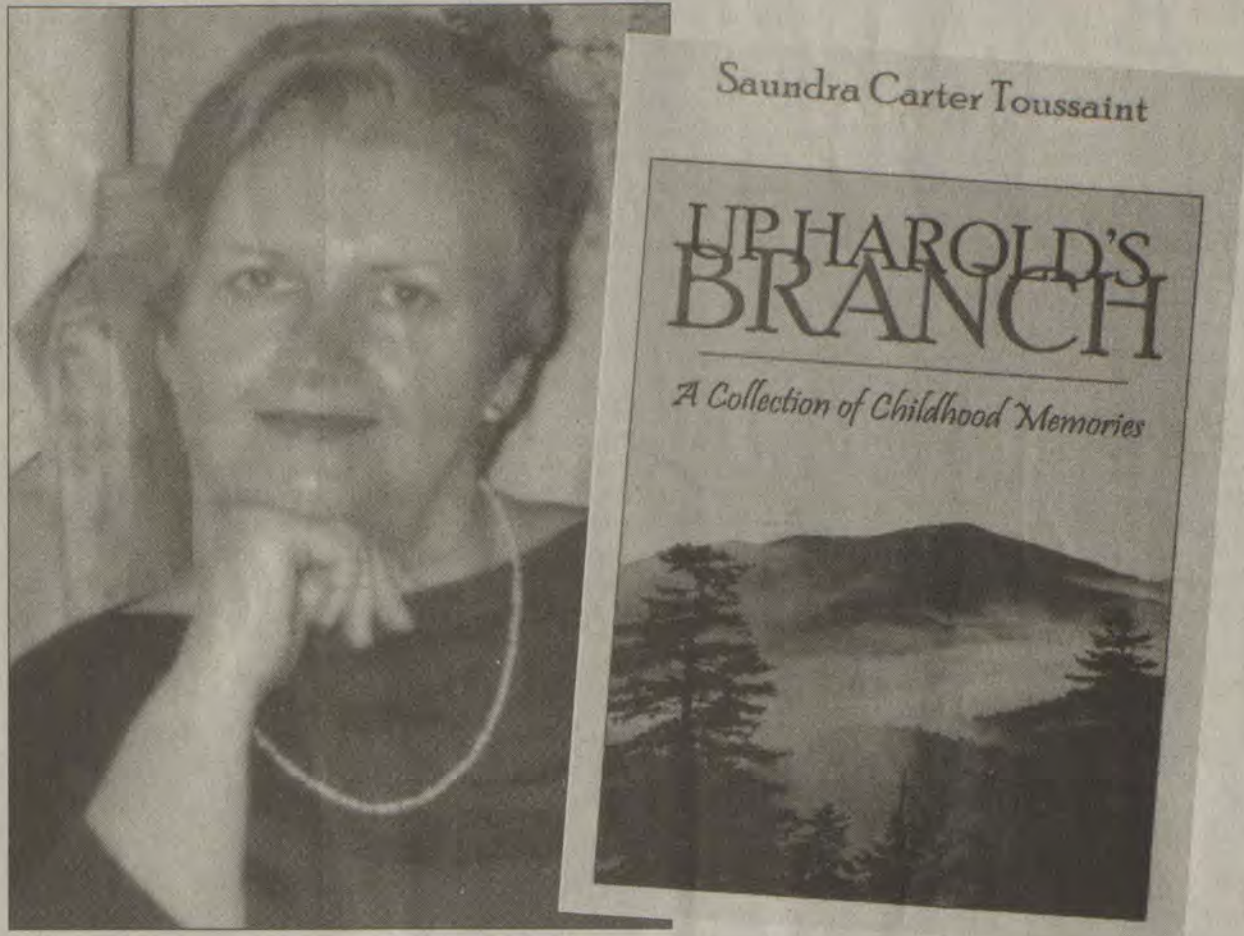
The only record we have of one of these people ever getting even with the unsympathetic world he had departed, is a will which a certain man wrote, providing that his monument should bear these words: I TOLD YOU I WAS SICK!

### THE DIFFERENCE

The visitor to Florida, told the oldtimer there, he found the weather such that he was not able to tell winter from summer. "Oh, yes, you can," the other replied. "In winter we have Cadillacs and Lincolns, and stuffed shirts. In summer it's Fords and Chevys, and stuffed shorts."



(See ALLEN, page six)



## Native pens book about growing up in Pike County

### Sandra Carter Toussaint's 'Up Harold's Branch'

by KATHY J. PRATER  
FEATURES EDITOR

To many with a shared history of growing up in eastern Kentucky, Sandra Carter Toussaint's soon to be released book, "Up Harold's Branch - A Collection of Childhood Memories," will strike a chord of familiarity.

Recollections of outdoor toilets, meals of soup beans, cornbread and fried chicken (snatched straight from the family yard), and the strains of old tyme mountain music intermingled with "new time" rock 'n roll are just a few of the subjects discussed in Toussaint's book of memories.

Toussaint, a native of Pike County, was born in 1946 in a four-room house that had no indoor plumbing. In a house with only two bedrooms and seven children, Toussaint recalls that brother Junior "slept on a roll-away bed" while she and sister Dorothy shared a bed ("that could not have been fun," the author writes, "since I was a bed-wetter").

Other familiar memories include

those of family members working together to preserve and store the vegetables and fruits they had spent the warm weather days raising: "In order to eat in the winter, there had to be canning or drying of foods in the summer. Mom would stand over hot fires while she canned white half-runner green beans, tomatoes, bread and butter pickles, corn relish, pickled beets (Detroit reds), pears, apples, jellies and jams, and my all-time favorite - Mom's apple butter. No one could equal Mom when it came to apple butter, then or now. Of course, she never measured, so it was difficult to get the exact recipe, but these are her directions: MOM'S APPLE BUTTER - Peel, core and slice apples (wine sap or Rome beauty); add water and cook on top of stove; rub through colander; add sugar, oil of cinnamon, and red-hots (candy); bake in slow oven (300 degrees); put loose foil on top so it will not splatter. When it drops in sheets from a long-handled spoon, it is ready. Put in sterilized jars and seal.

"She also dried vegetables and fruits. Dried green beans (shuck

beans) were a staple. This was one of my jobs. I would string the beans and re-string them using a big needle and twine. Occasionally, we would break-up (snap) the beans, and she would dry them on a piece of tin. Whichever way we did it, once they were dry, the beans would be stored in a pillow case with red pepper thrown in to keep out hungry bugs. Mom would also dry apples. In the winter, she would make stacked apple cake and fried apple pies using the dried apples."

Toussaint, who left Pike County to attend Berea College after graduating from Mullins High School, retired from a career as a public health nurse and administrator of the Madison County Health Department, in Richmond. She resides in Lexington, with her husband Gus.

"Up Harold's Branch - A Collection of Childhood Memories" will be released for sale on March 12. For information on how to obtain a copy of the book, visit the following website: www.publishamerica.com.

## PCC Mountain Dew Festival Reunion planning committee to meet Feb. 19

The planning committee for the "PCC MOUNTAIN DEW FESTIVAL REUNION" will have its first meeting in the Johnson Building at the Big Sandy Community and Technical College- Prestonsburg Campus on Monday, February 19, at 6:30 pm.

The Reunion date will be set at this meeting. All former students are invited to attend.

Many people are excited about returning to the former campus of PCC for this event. They want to tour the new buildings, meet old friends again, share photos and memories, and especially look forward to seeing their favorite rock group of the 60's and 70's, Exile.

There has never been a "PCC" reunion. It definitely will be a gathering long time overdue and one that

can be enjoyed by the entire East Kentucky community.

An e-mail group list has been established for quicker information sharing. It is: fred@prestonsburgky.org

Please feel free to participate in this list. All ideas and suggestions you want to send to this group e-mail will be shared at the February 19th meeting if you are unable to attend.

## MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

### 'Curse of the Swamp Creature'

Adventurous film fans will feel as if they need a bath after sitting through this lurid thriller that offers about 80 minutes of sordid drama before spotlighting the titular creature.

The action gets off to a sleazy start by centering on a laboratory, deep in the swamps of Anywhere, USA, where resident mad scientist Dr. Simon is offering encouragement to his latest failed attempt at turning men into fish.

"Breathe," he commands the unseen creature (which is secured in a bathtub filled with dry ice). No dice, however, and the next scene finds him dumping the creature in his swimming pool which is fully stocked with alligators getting fat off of his failures.



Tom Doty  
Times Columnist

On his way back to the house, a man darts out from behind a hedge and waves a knife menacingly at the Doc. He demands to know the whereabouts of his brother but is stifled by the Doc's fashionably attired bodyguard, who also leaps out of nowhere and plunges his own knife in the assailant's back. That's one more happy meal for the alligators and the scene shifts to the nearest town.

Here we spy a Texas oil man who is waiting for a geologist to arrive so the pair can scout the swamp for signs of black gold. Unfortunately, the guy surprises a thief in his room and doesn't realize, until too late, that he was local yokeled by the hotel's owner, who employs a seductive female (Brenda) to keep men at the bar while her moron boyfriend tosses their rooms. Unfortunately the boyfriend, Jerry, kills the oil man in the ensuing struggle.

The trio decide to get all "Mission: Impossible" now and enlist Brenda to pose as the oil man's wife so that they can follow the geologist into the swamp and get rich off any oil he may find.

Amazingly, the plan works and the unknowing geologist, Barry Rogers, agrees to shepherd Jerry, Brenda and a bonus goon (who doesn't even rate a name) on a swamp tour. This leads to endless scenes of people sitting on a boat while it charges through the swamp. You get one or two distorted shots of swamp life but this amounts to 10 minutes of filler and is about as exciting as getting an automated phone call extolling the values of a second home mortgage.

Meanwhile, back at the remote lab of Dr. Simon, things couldn't be going much worse. The Doc, who dresses in your basic lab coat with Elton John-style sunglasses, has opted to experiment on his lab assistant after the lad questioned the morality of their work. This doesn't sit well with the Doc's

(See LAGOON, page six)

## Just like Mom

by LINDA COLEMAN-WILLIS  
"CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMAN'S SOUL"

All my life people have told me I "look just like" my mother. When I was young I paid it no attention at all because I simply did not believe it. As a teenager when I heard the words "You look just like your mother," I would respond with: "No, I don't. She's an adult, and I'm not." After all, what teenage girl wants to be told she looks like her mother? Then, I would run to look in the mirror to make sure I had not changed since the

last time I had looked. Relieved that it was still me in the mirror, I'd exclaim, "Whew, that was scary."

When it happened at 25 I would respond with: "No, I don't. She is old, and I'm young," and again I would reach for the mirror to make sure things were as they should be. Relieved yet again, I'd mutter under my breath: "I don't know what those people see; they must be blind. I definitely do not look anything like my mother."

By 35, maturity had set in, and I would not respond at all when I heard those intrusive words "You look just

like your mother," but my thoughts were, Oh no, you see her hair is thinning and turning gray, her midsection is spreading and her walk is slowing. That definitely is NOT me. I can walk a 15-minute mile, I work out every day and my steps are quicker than they were at 25. No, I definitely DO NOT look like my mother. I'd still sneak a peek in the mirror, just to be sure.

As I prepared to celebrate my 50th birthday, I woke up excited and happy to be alive. As I passed the full-length mirror in the corner of my bedroom, I caught a glimpse of a startling figure. I stopped and took a good long look. I could not believe my eyes. There she was staring back at me — my mother. When did this

happen? As I looked, rather than being upset or in denial over the remarkable resemblance that had somehow eluded me all these years, I found a strange comfort in looking at my mom's and my image commingling in the mirror.

Suddenly, I saw something more than just our physical similarities. I saw beyond the thinning hair and the expanding midsection to the strength and courage she had always displayed in the face of tragedy — which she had given me. I

saw the determination that had helped her break free of the shackles of poverty and pain — a determination that she had given me. I saw her spiritual teachings — the ones that helped to shape and mold my own values and beliefs. I saw her commitment to hard work — the commitment that she taught me so that I could achieve my goals and dreams. I saw the love and appreciation that she held for her family that

(See SOUP, page six)



# Free tire program not all it's cracked up to be

by TOM and RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:  
Am I being taken for a ride? I bought a brand-new Honda CR-V and was enrolled in a "free tires for life" program with my dealership. The catch (isn't there always?) is that I have to have my tires balanced every 7,500 miles and an alignment every year, plus routine oil changes and an annual inspection at the dealership in order to qualify for the free tires. Is it necessary to have my tires balanced every 7,500 miles and get an alignment every year if I don't get into any accidents or drive over curbs? When do I need an alignment? Are they essentially getting me to "pay" for the tires through unnecessary services? Would I be better off finding a reliable mechanic and getting my oil changes and routine checkups (including rotating the tires) with him and buying my own tires as the need arises? If they are taking me for a ride, should I call them on it? — Shellee

RAY: Well, this is a very clever little program, Shellee. I'm embarrassed that I didn't think of it first!

TOM: The key part of your question is, "Are they essentially getting me to 'pay' for the tires through unnecessary services?" The answer is, yes, of course they are! Dealerships are not nonprofit, public institutions. They're businesses.

RAY: Let's do the math. Let's say the new tires are worth \$75 each, or

\$300 a set. And let's say you drive 15,000 miles a year. So, if you have cheap tires, you'll need new tires after two years.

TOM: To get your free tires, the first thing you have to do is come in every 7,500 miles and have your tires balanced.

RAY: Do you need to have your tires balanced every 7,500 miles? No. Once tires are mounted and balanced, they almost never need rebalancing, unless a customer complains about a high-speed vibration. So at 10 bucks a wheel, that's \$40 each time you come in, and at twice a year, that's \$80 a year.

TOM: Then you have to get a wheel alignment once a year, which you also don't need. An alignment is \$99. Let's call it \$100. So you're in for \$180 a year, times two years is \$360 worth of service that is most likely unnecessary — or \$60 more than the new tires would cost you.

RAY: But the dealership actually gets even more out of it. Because when you come in at 7,500 miles, that — conveniently — happens to be the exact mileage at which Honda calls for your car to be serviced. So they get to sell you the 7,500-mile service, the 15,000-mile service, the 22,500-mile service and the granddaddy of boat-payment services, the 30,000-mile. They make a nice profit on those.

TOM: Plus, they get you to come in for your required "inspection" once a year, where they have the opportunity

to sell you other services. So it's a great way for the dealership to keep you coming in. They figure that if they can get you in the door regularly, they'll probably get all of your automotive business.

RAY: There's nothing inherently evil about the free-tire program, Shellee. So you don't need to "call them on it." They're just trying to build a relationship with you. But it might not be a relationship you want, since it requires you to buy services you don't need and limits your choice of service locations.

TOM: Right. So just plan to buy your own tires when the time comes. That leaves you free to have your car serviced wherever you want. You can do it at the dealership, or use an independent mechanic to save some money. And every 7,500 miles when you have your car serviced and your oil changed, tell your mechanic to rotate your tires, too.

RAY: Now, if you'll excuse us, we have to go set up a free-tire program at our garage!

insist that she have back support, the practice continues. — Danny

TOM: Danny, this is one of those situations where you're the parent, she's the child, and what she wants is tough Shinola.

RAY: The rules of law and society put us in charge of our kids until they're 18. Why? So we can keep them from killing themselves or anyone else until they're old enough to assume that responsibility themselves. Since your daughter is learning to drive, I going to assume she's 16. In which case, if she doesn't know enough to protect her own life, you have to do it for her.

TOM: I can't begin to understand why she wants to set her seat back like a building contractor's (you've seen them leaning way back with a cigar in one hand). But she can't do it.

RAY: If she's in an accident without a seat back, one of two things will happen. The momentum will send her forward, then backward; when she goes back, there will be nothing to support her back or neck — one or both of which might then break.

TOM: Or, if she's hit from behind, she might go backward first, end up in

a reclining position, and then slide out under the seat belt and be completely unprotected.

RAY: When engineers design safety equipment for cars, they start from the assumption that the driver will be properly belted in against a rigid seat back. Otherwise, the seat belt and air bags can't do their jobs.

TOM: So don't ask her anymore. Put the seat up in the correct position for her, and then take the fuse out! And if she refuses to cooperate, let her take the bus. Last time I checked, seats on the bus don't recline either.



Which is cheaper, buying or leasing? Should you keep a car forever or dump it after three years, before trouble starts? Find out in Tom and Ray's pamphlet "Should I Buy, Lease, or Steal My Next Car?" Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Next Car, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk Web site at [www.cartalk.com](http://www.cartalk.com).

### Please place your seat back in fully upright position

Dear Tom and Ray:  
Please print this to save my daughter's (and other learners') lives. She drives with the back of her seat positioned so far back that she's almost lying down. She insists that because she leans forward, she is in total control. Regardless of my attempts to

## Odds & Ends

■ SAN JOSE, Calif. — A man with a habit of jogging in a park wearing nothing but a pair of running shoes said he would keep his clothes on after he was fined \$95 for indecent exposure.

Darryl Delacruz, a Silicon Valley engineer, said he would miss the "liberating feeling" of running naked in Fremont Older Open Space Preserve. But he conceded his personal comfort was less important than the discomfort he caused others.

"I'll go back, but I'll be wearing clothes," he said. "I don't want people to have the wrong impression."

After other park users complained about Delacruz streaking, park rangers kept an eye out for him and finally caught him in the buff Jan. 9. People are allowed to sunbathe naked in the park, but only out of eyeshot of others.

"We don't see it as appropriate behavior," said Kerry Carlson, president of the

Midpeninsula Rangers Peace Officers Association. "A significant number of people feel uncomfortable with a nude person running around."

Delacruz, 43, said his preferred jogging attire was "about getting in touch with nature, not meeting people."

■ CONNELLSVILLE, Pa. — A woman gave birth to a boy outside a western Pennsylvania hospital — a delivery that happened so quickly that the newborn wound up in his mother's sweatpants.

"It happened so fast," Rebecca Johnson, 24, told the Daily Courier in Conneltsville. "I didn't know what happened until he was in my pant leg."

Johnson had just gotten out of the car at Highlands Hospital in Conneltsville and was still in the parking lot when her 5-pound, 15-ounce son, Mason Matthew Parkinson, arrived Wednesday.

An emergency room physician cut the umbilical cord in the parking lot, and doctors attended to Johnson until she could be taken to Uniontown Hospital, which has a maternity unit.

Mason, Johnson's fourth child, was doing well.

■ WALHALLA, S.C. — A Walhalla man might have had a good reason for not responding to officers who surrounded his home: He was asleep in a recliner when the SWAT team found him after a four-hour stand-off, authorities said.

"He did not know we were there until we put our hands on him," Oconee County Sheriff's Capt. Steve Jenkins said.

The 26-year-old had run his mother from her home Tuesday night by firing several shots, deputies said.

Officers surrounding the home first heard breaking glass and other noise, but then heard nothing from the man, despite making calls on

a telephone they were able to get into the house and talking to him over a patrol car's loudspeaker, authorities said.

A second SWAT team went around the back of the house after about four hours

and saw him asleep in a chair, Jenkins said.

Officers entered stealthily and woke the man up to arrest him. He's been charged with discharging a firearm into a residence, but could face additional

charges, Jenkins said.

No one was injured, but the home had bullet holes in the walls and ceiling, he said. Deputies said they recovered about 15 guns in the house.

Continued from p3

Gooch said he doesn't expect the mountaintop removal bill to be considered in the current legislative session.

"I'm not yet convinced that it's the real problem that these people describe," he said.

The legislation would restrict mountaintop removal by banning the practice of filling valleys with discarded dirt and rock. Currently, the practice is regulated by the federal government, and has been the subject of lawsuits in Kentucky and West Virginia.

Kentuckians for the Commonwealth claims coal companies have already buried more than 420 miles of streams with soil and rock from the mountaintop removal process.

Cherise Williams, a Louisville woman, said lawmakers and advocates from outside the mining region have an interest in the issue because many of the rivers that run through Kentucky originate in the mountains of eastern Kentucky.

"We should all stand together to top this," she said. "It is not a Republican issue. It is not a Democrat issue."

The legislation is House Bill 385.

### Mining

### Lagoon

gorgeous wife, Pat, and it doesn't help matters any that native drums indicate that a group of travelers are heading their way. The Doc takes the news well, noting that he needs more humans for his experiments, so they roll out the welcome wagon.

The mosquito bitten oil seekers are only too happy to have a roof over their heads and agree to stay the night. Things get lurid again in a hurry as the Doc decides to experiment on Brenda while Jerry takes an ill-advised walk and runs afoul of the locals who are busy planning to end the Doc's reign of terror. Despite all of this drama Rogers gets a good night's sleep and doesn't even stir as

Simon slips right by him while carrying the tranquilized Brenda.

The finale is as down and dirty as the opening scenes and finds the Doc torn between dealing with a band of locals armed with machetes while his first successful swamp creature walks out of his laboratory and appears none to happy with her makeover. Ultra-violence ensues and just about everyone who has done wrong perishes, including the bonus goon, who gets in the way of a warning shot fired by the rampaging mob.

There's only one way to

save material this awful and that is through masterful execution. Unfortunately, that doesn't happen here and the material is so badly produced that this can only be enjoyed for the sheer incompetence evident in every frame of this low-budget monsterfest.

The curse of this swamp creature even extends to the latest company that has repackaged it for DVD. It is part of "The Family Values Collection," which has to be a misnomer since the film wallows in sleaze. The company, at least, put it out on one of those two-sided dollar DVDs

(alongside the technically superior "Snowbeast") but they botched the labeling so you will see "Snowbeast" only if you put in the side that lists "Swamp Creature."

The Family Value people also claim that the film is remastered, but that's tantamount to saying your suit was also martinized at the dry cleaners since this film looks like it was shot through stained glass. All this and they have the nerve to offer a painted image on the box of a cool looking creature that doesn't even appear in the film.

The good news is that there

are enough technical blunders herein to make for a great party game. The audio gaffs are a hoot and include one scene where an actor is too far to be recorded as well as his cohorts.

The monster is no bargain either. First off it's obviously a man decked out in rubber clothes and sporting two ping pong balls for eyes. Then there is the quicksand scene where the actor is obviously in a lake and merely lowering himself while he screams for help.

Top that off with the brief, I'm-just-here-to-get-paid appearance by screen veteran

John Agar as Rogers and you have all the ingredients for a cheesefest that will leave a stink in your DVD player that will linger for days.

Fans of awful dialogue will have a treat here, but more demanding monster film hunters should stay far away.

Best line: "You are ready to make your debut in the world of humans, my beautiful, indestructible fish man." (Actually it's technically a fish woman, but it's a moot point since it only lives for 30 seconds before becoming alligator chow.)

1966, unrated.

Continued from p5

### Allen

One fellow here became so confused by the changing weather, that he couldn't decide whether to wear flippers or snowshoes to work.

### STEADY, FELLOWS!

Tom Dings and I have played (?) a couple of rounds of golf recently. I tell this to set all rumors at rest and forestay disciplinary action from the Exalted Order of Anglers, Liars and Alibi-Makers:

### Soup

Continued from p5

she passed on to me so that I may honor and cherish my own family. Yes, as I looked in the mirror, I realized that it was her love of life that taught me to live my life to the fullest and that allowed me to wake up that very day thankful to be alive.

Today, when I look at my mother, I am amazed at how much she looks like her mother and, yes, how much I look like her.

Now, when people say to me, "You look just like your mother," a loving warmth spreads through me, and I simply smile, nod and proudly say, "Thank you."

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# FLOYD COUNTY Sports

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## Ladycats pushed, but prevail over South Floyd

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

HI HAT - Many times this season, Betsy Layne Coach Cassandra Akers has commented on the youthfulness of her basketball team. Not one to make excuses, Akers has taken into consideration that many of her key players are youngsters. None of this season's Ladycats are seniors and at times that youthfulness shows. If this set of Ladycats has nine lives, they used most all of them on Thursday night against South Floyd in the Floyd County Conference/58th District regular-season finale for both teams. Showing the signs of both a good team

and a well-coached squad, Betsy Layne found a way to win. After leading at the end of each of the first three quarters, Betsy Layne held off South Floyd in the final quarter, winning 49-48.

Junior Kaitlin Lawson led Betsy Layne with 15 points. Freshman Megan Hamilton followed with 14 points for the Ladycats. Taylor Hott gave Betsy Layne a third player in double figures as she scored 10 points. Amby Tackett and Lindsey Martin rounded out the Betsy Layne scoring effort with five and four points, respectively.

Betsy Layne improved to 14-9 overall and ended the Floyd County

Conference portion of the season undefeated at 6-0.

The Ladycats led South Floyd 17-12 at the end of the first quarter and 24-18 at halftime. Betsy Layne remained half-a-dozen points ahead of South Floyd at the end of the third quarter, leading 39-33.

South Floyd senior Heather Dean grabbed both game-high scoring and game-high rebounding honors. Dean finished with a double-double of 16 points and 10 rebounds. The South Floyd senior was also active on the defensive end, finishing with five blocks and three deflections.

Kayla Hall followed Dean in the South Floyd scoring column. Hall hit a

trio of three-pointers and contributed 14 points for South Floyd (7-11, 2-4).

"It was a tough game to lose," said South Floyd Coach Tony Isaac. "We didn't shoot well, but still had a chance to win."

Danielle Tackett scored eight points and Chelsie Tuttle tossed in five for the Lady Raiders.

Betsy Layne 48, South Floyd 47  
BETSY LAYNE (14-9) - Lawson 15, Hamilton 14, Tackett 5, Martin 4, Hott 10.  
SOUTH FLOYD (7-11) - Conn 1, Hall 14, Dean 16, Tuttle 5, Little 1, Tackett 8, Bailey 2.  
Betsy Layne.....17 7 15 9-48  
South Floyd.....12 6 15 14-47



South Floyd's Heather Dean blocked Betsy Layne's Kaitlin Lawson during Thursday night's Floyd County battle. Betsy Layne edged South Floyd 48-47.

## Raiders upset Betsy Layne

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

HI HAT - Behind a game-high 25 points from Lyle Johnson, host South Floyd defeated Betsy Layne 52-49 on Thursday night. In a late regular-season 58th District game, South Floyd built an early lead and held on for the victory in the second half.

With the win, South Floyd snapped an eight-game losing streak. The Raiders (4-20) will play host to this year's 58th District Tournament.

South Floyd outscored Betsy Layne 14-10 in the opening quarter. South Floyd limited the Bobcats even more in the second quarter, outscoring the Raiders 19-9 to take a 33-19 lead into halftime.

South Floyd hadn't won since beating East Ridge 62-52 on Jan. 19 in a non-district game.

Six different players stepped up and provided scoring for host South Floyd. Wes Akers added 11 points for the Raiders. Ethan Johnson scored eight points, pulled down seven rebounds and dished off four assists as host South Floyd won.

The Raiders were outscored in each of the last two quarters, but still managed to win.

Brennan Case paced Betsy Layne with a team-best 23 points. Justin Collins added 13 points for the Bobcats. Samuel Keathley followed with five points for homestanding Betsy Layne. Trai Witt and Jarod Newman pushed in four points apiece for the Bobcats.

Adam Slone scored four points and hauled in six rebounds

(See RAIDERS, page eight)



photo by Steve LeMaster  
Betsy Layne guard Brennan Case scored 23 points in the loss to South Floyd.

## DIXIE DELIGHT



photos by Jamie Howell

Alex Hammonds (pictured above going for a loose ball) scored a game-high 21 points to lift Allen Central to the conference/district win over Prestonsburg. Ryan Collins (No. 23, pictured below) had 20 points for the Rebels.

## Rebels top P'burg for 19th win

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

EASTERN - In front of a fired-up home crowd on Thursday night, Allen Central didn't disappoint its home fans. The Rebels never trailed after the first quarter and defeated visiting Prestonsburg 71-58 at J.E. Campbell Arena.

Alex Hammonds helped preserve the win for South Floyd, hitting for 14 points in the last two quarters. Hammonds had a game-high 21 points for the Rebels.

Ryan Collins hit three second quarter three-pointers and totaled 20 points for Allen Central.

Josh Prater scored 12 points and Josh Martin added 10 for the Rebels.

Allen Central pulled away after the two teams ended the first quarter deadlocked 17-17. The Rebels got 13 points from Collins in the second quarter, outscoring Prestonsburg 23-10.

Allen Central maintained a lead throughout the entire second half.

Senior center Trevor Patton paced Prestonsburg with 16 points. Jordan

Hall followed with 12 points for the Lady Blackcats. Chayse Martin worked his way into double figures for Prestonsburg, dumping in 10 points.

Freshman Michael Burchett gave Prestonsburg a lift in off of the bench, adding five points for the Blackcats. Bobby Hughes fought foul trouble and also finished with five points for the visiting team.

The loss to Allen Central pushed Prestonsburg down to 9-12 overall and 2-4 in the conference/district.

Allen Central wrapped up a Floyd

County Conference championship on Monday when it defeated Betsy Layne. The Rebels exited Thursday night's game against Prestonsburg 19-5 overall and 6-0 in the Floyd County County Conference/58th District.

Allen Central 71, Prestonsburg 58  
PRESTONSBURG (9-12) - Hughes 5, Hall 12, Patton 16, Clark 4, Vance 6, Martin 10, Burchett 5.  
ALLEN CENTRAL (19-5) - Martin 10, Collins 20, Slone 4, Hammonds 21, Prater 12, Joseph 2, Robinson 2.  
Prestonsburg...17 10 11 20-58  
Allen Central...17 23 11 20-71



## Eldora Speedway building momentum for '07 season

TIMES STAFF REPORT

ROSSBURG, Ohio - Eldora Speedway's shifting of the Old Spice Summer Sizzler date from its traditional August time slot to July 10 has made for an interesting week of Sprint Car racing at the venerable southwestern Ohio speed plant.

The unique Tuesday night Sizzler, which features NASCAR drivers Tony Stewart and Kasey Kahne in competition with the Sprint Invaders of the National Racing Alliance (NRA), falls just four days prior to Eldora's annual Kings Royal by Crown Royal festivities (July 13-14).

"This is a win-win situation for Sprint Car fans", commented Eldora's General Manager, Larry Kemp. "With the number of fans that flood our campgrounds in the days leading up to the popular Kings

Royal, it was only a natural that we switch the Old Spice date from August to July to add more punch to the week. And, with our neighbor, Limaland Motorsports Park, running the Brad Doty Classic for World of Outlaw (WoO) Sprints on Wednesday night, this is going to be one busy week of Sprint Car racing in the area", continued Kemp.

The temptation to race against Stewart and Kahne has triggered a desire among many of the Outlaw members to compete in the Sizzler; thus the field for the Tuesday special could be interesting.

Joining Stewart and Kahne will be NASCAR counterparts Kenny Wallace and Ken Schrader as they jump behind the wheel of United Midwest Promoters (UMP) Modifieds in Tuesday's (July 10) doubleheader. While those four have confirmed their intentions, the NASCAR fla-

vored field could increase prior to race time, hinted Stewart, who doubles as Eldora's owner.

Kahne has been interested in the week's festivities, as he is the defending car owner of the fabled Kings Royal. His driver, Joey Saldana, captured the \$50,000 top prize last year.

Two nights of WoO Sprint racing spice up the Kings Royal weekend, with a full points show on Friday (July 13) in the Knight Before the Kings Royal, followed by the Kings Royal by Crown Royal and the annual crowning of the King on Saturday (July 14). That event, sanctioned by the WoO Tour, is run under Eldora's time-honored race format. The NRA Sprint Invaders are included each night, as well.

Tickets for the Kings Royal events are available at www.eldoraspeedway.com.

## McCarty shoots JC past Tigers

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PAINTSVILLE - Senior Jamie McCarty pumped in a game-high 33 points as Johnson Central held on to beat host Paintsville 71-62 on Thursday night in a 57th District meeting between two crosstown rivals. McCarty was one of six different scorers for the Golden Eagles. Only one other Johnson Central player reached double figures in the district tilt.

Johnson Central, the underdog in the district game, outscored Paintsville in each of the first three quarters, forcing the Tigers to play from behind. The Golden Eagles outscored Paintsville 15-10 in the opening quarter and led 29-21 at halftime.

Mike Conley added 10 points and 10 rebounds for the Golden Eagles.

Johnson Central held a commanding 50-32 lead at the end of the third quarter.

Landon Slone and JD VanHoose each had 17 points to

(See MCCARTY, page eight)

## Valley turns back Panthers

TIMES STAFF REPORT

ROBINSON CREEK - Jacob Bryant scored 16 points and Elisha Justice added 14 on Thursday night to help Shelby Valley defeat Pikeville 60-50 in a 59th District matchup.

Shelby Valley led at the end of every quarter. The Wildcats outscored Pikeville 16-15 in the opening quarter. Shelby Valley stretched its lead out in the second quarter and was ahead 34-23 at halftime.

Eight different Shelby Valley players broke into the scoring column in the district matchup.

Tim Honaker scored 16 points and Daniel Harmon had 13 for the Panthers. Matt Clevenger followed with nine points for visiting Pikeville. Deven Adams, a Floyd County native, added seven markers for the Panthers.

Shelby Valley led 44-35 at the conclusion of the third quarter.

Taylor Hatfield scored six points and Logan Bryan added five for Shelby Valley. Jonah Justice netted four points as the

(See VALLEY, page eight)



NUMBER FIVE IN THE STATE: South Floyd guard Wes Akers (23) ended the week ranked fifth in the state in three-point shooting.

**Raiders**

Continued from p7

for the Raiders. Tommy Joe Hall added three points and Kyle Brown scored on a free throw for South Floyd.

The Raiders led 42-33 at the end of the third quarter.

Betsy Layne slipped to 10-14 after suffering the setback.

South Floyd 52, Betsy Layne 49  
**BETSY LAYNE (10-14)** – Case 23, Collins 13, Keathley 5, Newman 4, Witt 4.  
**SOUTH FLOYD (4-20)** – E. Johnson 8, Hall 3, L. Johnson 25, Akers 11, Stone 4, Brown 1, Betsy Layne....10 9 14 13-49  
 South Floyd.....14 19 9 10-52

**McCarty**

Continued from p7

lead Paintsville. Van Ferguson scored 14 points and Shane Grimm added 11 for the Tigers. Blake Bundy rounded out the Paintsville scoring as all of Paintsville's points came from its starting five.

The Tigers struggled from the outside – especially early in the district tilt.

Johnson Central's backcourt was very effective against Paintville, one

of the 15th Region's top teams.

Justin Murray aided the Golden Eagle scoring effort with eight points.

Jaryd Crum and Jesse Meek each had five points for Johnson Central.

Following the win, Johnson Central improved to 9-17. Due to the loss, Paintsville dropped to 17-8.

**Valley**

Continued from p7

Wildcats posted the win.

Shelby Valley upped its record to 21-3 and Pikeville fell to 12-8.

Shelby Valley 60, Pikeville 50  
**PIKEVILLE (12-8)** – Harmon 13, Honaker 16, Bell 2, Sword 3,

Clevenger 9, Adams 7.  
**SHELBY VALLEY (21-3)** – E. Justice 14, L. Bryant 5, Newsome 11, Hatfield 6, J. Bryant 16, Jackson 3, Goodson 1, J. Justice 4.  
 Pikeville.....15 8 12 15-50  
 Shelby Valley.....16 18 10 16-60

**Samford downs Morehead State 58-48 in OVC**

TIMES STAFF REPORT

**MOREHEAD** – Samford forward Alex Munday scored 24 points and Taryn Towns contributed a double-double of 11 points and 10 rebounds as the Samford Bulldogs ousted the host Morehead State Eagles on their home court Thursday, 58-48. Morehead fell to 12-14 and 11-6 in the OVC and missed an opportunity to lock up a top four spot and a home game in the upcoming O'Reilly OVC Tournament.

Senior forward Holly Williams was the only Eagle player in double figures as she hit seven-of-nine from the field and hit three charity tosses for 17 points. Samford, however, limited the rest of the Eagles to just 11-of-50 (22 percent) shooting, includ-

ing Morehead State shooting just one-for-16 from behind the arc. The Bulldogs improved to 15-11 and 10-7 in the OVC with their fourth consecutive win.

Munday was eight-of-17 from the floor and was an unblemished 8-of-8 from the free throw line. Her efforts overcame an 0-for-15 three-point shooting performance by the Bulldogs. Samford, however, outscored the Eagles 22-11 at the free throw line. Towns, meanwhile, pulled down all 10 of her boards on the defensive end as both teams grabbed 38 rebounds.

For the game, Samford shot 39 percent (18-of-46), while MSU hit just 31 percent (18-of-57). The Bulldogs led 22-18 at the half and moved on top by as much as 12 at one point in the second half. The Bulldogs essentially sealed the Eagles' fate with a 10-0 run midway through the final 20 minutes. With the game tied at 39 with 6:31 left, Samford held MSU scoreless for the next three minutes and hit three field goals and four free throws to move out by 10.

**Louisville FB squad places 12 on Big East Academic Team**

TIMES STAFF REPORT

**LOUISVILLE** – Twelve University of Louisville football players have been named to the Big East All-Academic Football Team.

The Big East All-Academic Team recognizes letterwinners who have posted a cumulative grade-point average of 3.0 or better. Student-athletes who have completed a minimum of two semesters of academic work and earned a letter are eligible.

Quarterback Brian Brohm, centers Eric Wood and Michael Sturgeon and fullback Deriontae Taylor were honored for the second time in the last two years.

The Cardinals' other honorees were guard Daniel Barlowe, running back Brock Bolen, offensive lineman Nick Borgelt, safety Daniel Cameron, placekicker Art Carmody, tight end Scott Kuhn, offensive tackle Brian Roche and fullback Joe Tronzo.

Name (Class, Pos., Major) Daniel Barlowe, Jr., OL Exercise Science Sports Medicine Brock Bolen, So.,

RB, Sports Administration Nicholas Borgelt, So., OL, Sports Administration Brian Brohm, Jr., QB, Finance Daniel Cameron, RFr., FS, Political Science Art Carmody, Jr., K, Finance Scott Kuhn, Jr., TE, Communications Brian Roche, RFr., OT, Finance Michael Sturgeon, Sr., C, Biology Deriontae Taylor, Jr., FB, Computer Info. Systems Joseph Tronzo, RFr., FB, History Eric Wood, So., C, Political Science

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**FLOYD COUNTY CONFERENCE GIRLS:** South Floyd eighth-grader Chelsie Tuttle lofted a pass Thursday night against the defense of Betsy Layne's Taylor Hott.

**Bengals put franchise tag on DE Justin Smith**

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**CINCINNATI** – Defensive end Justin Smith, who has led Cincinnati's line in tackles in each of the last five seasons, was designated as the Bengals' franchise player Thursday.

Smith would have become an unrestricted free agent March 2 if he doesn't reach a contract agreement with the Bengals before then. The

franchise tag means the Bengals could keep Smith by matching any offer sheet he signed with another team.

If they choose not to match another offer, the Bengals would get the other team's first-round draft picks in 2007 and 2008 as compensation. He would be guaranteed \$8,644,000, the average salary of the top five defensive ends next sea-

son.

"This move helps us keep our core players together, and it gives us an opportunity to continue negotiating for a longer-term contract with Justin," coach Marvin Lewis said.

Smith had 110 tackles in the 2006 season and ranked second on the team in sacks with 7.5. He has played all six of his NFL seasons with Cincinnati.

**Ligtenberg gets minor league deal from Reds**

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**CINCINNATI** – Right-handed reliever Kerry Ligtenberg agreed to a minor-league deal Wednesday with the Cincinnati Reds, who will give him a chance to win a spot in their bullpen.

The 35-year-old reliever hasn't

pitched in the majors since 2005, when he appeared in seven games for Arizona. He had 18 saves and a 3.57 earned run average in 53 appearances for the Cubs' Triple-A team in Iowa last year.

Ligtenberg has played eight seasons in the majors. His best was 1998, when he became Atlanta's

closer and went 30-of-34 in save opportunities. He missed all the 1999 season after surgery for a torn ligament in his elbow.

John Rocker took over as the Braves' closer after Ligtenberg got hurt. Ligtenberg saved 12 games in 2000, but has only five saves in the majors since 2001.

**Food City builds legacy with BMS**

TIMES STAFF REPORT

**BRISTOL, Tenn.** – In 1992, when Food City signed on as sponsor of Bristol Motor Speedway's spring race, little did they know that 15 years later they would become the second longest running sponsor of a Nextel Cup race in all of NASCAR.

Likewise, when they staged the very first Food City Family Race Night at their Kingsport, TN Eastman Road Food City 20 years ago, they had no idea the event would turn into the biannual race week spectacle, attended by tens of thousands, it has become. It's been a heck of a ride for Food City and one the company has gladly taken.

"It's hard to believe that it's been 15 years since we sponsored our first Cup race here at Bristol Motor Speedway," said Food City President and CEO Steven C. Smith. Smith will watch the green flag fall on the Food City 500 for the 15th time on March 25. "We originally became involved with racing through sponsors, working with Dale Earnhardt and several other drivers. I've always been a big race fan and felt we needed to play a

larger role in NASCAR. Sponsoring Bristol Motor Speedway's spring Cup race was the perfect solution. We've been looking forward to commemorating our 15th anniversary for some time and we hope to continue bringing fans to the Food City 500 for many years to come."

Bristol Motor Speedway president and general manager, Jeff Byrd couldn't be more appreciative of the Speedway's relationship with Food City, who also sponsors the August Busch Series race.

"It's very, very difficult these days to find sponsors who'll stick with you for a couple of years, let alone 15," he said. "We have a tremendous relationship with the folks at Food City – they are part of the Bristol Motor Speedway and their support has been invaluable to us. Fifteen years in the sport as the sponsor of one of the most popular races in NASCAR says an awful lot about Food City's commitment, not just to Bristol Motor Speedway but to racing, as well. We feel very fortunate to have them as a partner and also a great friend."

Before Food City began sponsoring Bristol's Nextel Cup race, the Abingdon-based company was already testing the waters with fans, not just with driver sponsorships, but Food City Family Race Nights. Back in 1987, Food City decided to set aside a special night dedicated to the fans each Thursday prior to BMS's race weekend. What began as an event that drew a few hundred fans has now grown into one of the

largest fan-related off-track event in the country, with crowds in excess of 50,000. Over the past 21 years we have raised over \$450,000 for local non-profit groups and children's causes.

"If any event were to stand as testament to how the racing world has evolved, Food City Family Race Night would surely be it," said Smith. "We wanted to do something special for the fans all those year ago and 20 years later they've helped it grow just as the sport has grown. Race fans continue to support Food City Family Race Night and we couldn't be more proud that we're able to do something special like this for them."

Food City is also introducing new race logo for the spring event. The new Food City 500 logo will be used for the first time in conjunction with this year's event.

"We wanted to create a new logo to commemorate our 15th anniversary," said Smith. "We plan on being part of Bristol Motor Speedway and this wonderful sport for many years to come. Our name is synonymous with Bristol and the Food City 500 and Food City 250. When you're part of an event that's been voted best on the circuit, it doesn't get much better than that."

Headquartered in Abingdon, Virginia, K-VA-T operates 95 retail food outlets throughout the Tri-State regions of Southeast Kentucky, Southwest Virginia and Northeast Tennessee.

**Kids tell comeback stories nobody in football should forget**

by JIM LITKE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**CHICAGO** – Football breaks bodies, not just bones, more than most of us want to remember.

Play stops for a few moments, the crowd goes silent and prayers follow the loaded-up cart rumbling off the field. Some of those players never climb down or walk again.

It happens rarely in the NFL – on average, only once every four years – but 10 times a year in high school games across the country. Worse still, we forget about nearly all of those soon enough.

That's what made a football banquet being thrown Thursday night by the Chicago chapter of the American Football Foundation so different. Thanks to tireless campaigning by a retired high school administrator named Don Grossnickle, and a little help from some high-profile friends, a handful of former players in wheelchairs were invited to tell comeback stories nobody in the audience will ever forget.

"Think of your own son being paralyzed, with no insurance, and what that would do to your family, your job, your whole life," said Bears coach Lovie Smith, who's been instrumental with both his time and money in helping Grossnickle's "Halftime Book Project" reach a wider audience.

"It's something we all live in fear of, but until you see it, or deal with it," Smith added, "it doesn't really hit home. And as good as football has been to a lot of us, it's time to do a lot more. Especially at the grass-roots level."

Progress has been slow, but signs the game is coming to grips with that shameful part of its legacy are scattered throughout recent headlines.

All during Super Bowl week, Mike Ditka lobbied poignantly on behalf of broken-down, destitute former players too proud to beg for the medical benefits they deserve for helping build the game. Just Wednesday, former Green Bay Packers great Jerry Kramer announced that donations and an

auction he put together to assist some of those same pros brought in \$125,000, including \$12,200 for a ring Ditka put on the block.

But none of those funds will trickle down to where Grossnickle and the young men he helps are struggling. And while raising money is a short-term goal – to help families deal with the trauma and cost of a catastrophic injury; to make sure high school coaches, referees and school officials are more knowledgeable and better prepared about how to avert them in the first place – Grossnickle has something grander in mind.

What he envisions is a "high school warrior alliance," a national clearinghouse that provides not just information and resources, but counselors in the form of kids who have been paralyzed themselves. That way, he explains, it's not just help, but self-help.

"Fortunately, it doesn't happen to a lot of kids, but it's a byproduct of the game we all still love, and these kids need and deserve a reason to get up in the morning, too," he said. "At some point, football has to step up and say, 'We take care of our own.'"

In Grossnickle's case, that happened shortly after he heard the story of Rob Komosa, who was paralyzed while playing on the scout team in practice at a nearby high school, then spent months trapped in his bedroom while his parents, Polish immigrants who spoke little English, tried to cope with medical and financial problems overwhelming them.

Grossnickle began by helping widen the door frame in Rob's bedroom. Next, he helped build a ramp at the front door, and then started in on the paperwork. Eventually, it consumed so much time that Grossnickle resigned his job as an assistant principal – "I'm lucky," he recalled, "I'm old enough, with enough put away to do this" – and made it a full-time cause.

In no time, other paralyzed high school athletes started finding him. So Grossnickle talked former Bears coach Dick Jauron and the late Randy Walker, Northwestern's foot-

ball coach at the time, into helping out. When Smith replaced Jauron with the Bears, and Pat Fitzgerald picked up the mantle as Northwestern after Walker's sudden death, those organizations' bonds to the "Halftime Book Project" got even stronger.

"We need to remember the opportunity the game gave us," said Fitzgerald, one of the speakers at the banquet. "This gives us an opportunity to give something back to those kids."

Bears community relations director Caroline Guip plans to bring the "Halftime Book Project" to the attention of the league at business meetings in the spring and proposed each team in the league explore setting up a similar initiative in their towns. Grossnickle has found only one other project up and running, in Texas, where Eddie Canales started out looking after his son, Chris, who was paralyzed in a high school game, and now ministers more than a dozen kids.

"We could both use some help," Grossnickle said.

It could be on the way. At most football banquets, from Pee Wee leagues on up to the NFL, some awards or scholarships are handed out, a few people speak and the luminaries in the crowd take a bow. All of that happened Thursday night in Chicago, too.

But somewhere in the middle after Grossnickle passed out copies of an inspirational book he self-published to raise money for the project and told the stories of the kids in the wheelchairs surrounding him, the game took an important first step.

It's not enough to just look at these kids and say, "There but for the grace of God go I." What we're asking people in football to do is help us pull together a safety net," he said, "because nobody knows when they're going to fall."

Jim Litke is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at jlitke@ap.org



# Georgetown beats Bears in classic conference battle

TIMES STAFF REPORT

GEORGETOWN — It was classic Mid-South Conference basketball at its best, and in the end, the league's best team had just enough.

No. 4 Georgetown wrapped up the regular-season title Thursday night by piling out a thrilling 95-92 win in overtime over the Pikeville College Bears.

Georgetown (22-3, 7-0) placed six players in double figures, including all five starters in pulling out the

win. Pikeville had four in double digits, including senior Will Holloman, who poured in a career-high 32 points.

The teams went to overtime tied at 84, and after the Tigers took a quick two-point lead, the Bears scored eight straight, ending with a three by freshman Brad Lowe, to lead 92-86 with 3:10 left.

But the Tigers scored the last nine points of the game, beginning with four by senior Kevin Reinhardt. He had six of the nine, as the Tigers

made 7-of-8 from the line in the final 2:24 to secure the win.

Pikeville (12-4, 3-4) had the ball for the final 46 seconds and got off two shots, but got none of them to go and dropped the heartbreaking decision.

The Bears led 45-41 at the break, and neither team led in the second half by more than seven.

Senior Steve Sickler hit a free throw to put the Bears on top 79-72 with three minutes left before senior Craig Schoen scored five straight on

his own to cut it to two. The game was tied at 81 when Pikeville took an 84-81 lead on a three by Holloman with 55 seconds left.

But Georgetown got a three from Kyle Saxton with 36 seconds left to tie the game and send it to overtime.

Holloman's 32 led a huge night which saw him add 12 rebounds and five assists. Senior guard Donald Thomas finished with 19, 17 coming after the half. Bo Harris, a sophomore from Winchester, had 15, while Lowe tossed in 11.

Georgetown got 19 from Reinhardt, who also had eight boards, and 18 from senior Brian Silverhorn, who was four-of-seven from the arc and also had seven rebounds. Schoen finished with 17 to go with eight assists.

Sophomore Eric Fields and junior Donovan Brown finished with 13 apiece, with Brown pulling nine rebounds and Fields five for the Tigers. Kyle Saxton came in off of the bench and added 12 points for the Tigers.

# Women's basketball: Pikeville road rally finishes short of victory

TIMES STAFF REPORT

GEORGETOWN — The Georgetown Lady Tigers survived a 22-9 run in the middle of the second half to hold on for a 73-61 win over Pikeville College on Thursday night.

The win pushed Georgetown above the .500 mark to 4-3 in the league and into a third-place tie with the losing team from the Cumberlands at West Virginia Tech

in the Mid-South Conference standings.

Pikeville, meanwhile, dropped to 0-7 and 8-19 with three games remaining in the MSC slate.

Pikeville pulled within 16-10 in the middle of the first half before the Lady Tigers exploded. The rest of the half, they outscored the Lady Bears 26-11 to take a 42-21 edge to recess.

Georgetown stretched its lead to 25 for the second time when Katie

Filiatreau hit a three with 12:17 to play, making it 55-30. But Pikeville went on its run, beginning with two free throws by freshman Heather Martin and ending with a jumper from the same player at the 4:36 mark to make it 64-52. In between, Pikeville got six from sophomore Whitney Hogg on a pair of threes and went 7-of-8 from the line.



Heather Martin

The Lady Bears got as close as 11, 72-61, when Martin scored with 24 seconds left before settling with the 12-point loss.

Pikeville's balanced scoring attack was led by Martin's 12 points. The Kite native also had nine rebounds and four assists to lead the Lady Bears in all three cat-

egories.

Sophomore Vicki Hall tossed in 11, getting nine after the break, while Hogg hit for 10.

Georgetown also put three players in double figures, with junior Megan Gray leading the way with 21 thanks to 9-of-10 shooting from the line. Junior Kim Ingle flipped in 14 with sophomore Maddy Lewis finishing with 11.

# No. 11 Bulldogs cage Wildcats 87-72 in overtime

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON — Tasha Humphrey had a game-high 28 points and 10 rebounds as No. 11 Georgia survived with an 82-72 overtime victory against Kentucky on Thursday night.

Humphrey had 12 points in the first half and scored 10 of Georgia's first 13 points.

Five different Bulldogs scored in double figures and in overtime as

Georgia outscored Kentucky 16-6 in the extra period.

Georgia's Janese Hardrick finished with 12 points, six of them in overtime.

The Bulldogs (22-5, 9-3 Southeastern Conference), who led by as many as 11 points in the second half, have won three straight games.

The Wildcats (16-11, 5-7) took their only lead in overtime, 70-69, when Sarah Elliott made a jumper,

but the Bulldogs answered with seven straight points.

Tied 64-64 in regulation, Kentucky's Sam Mahoney missed a jumper and Hardrick was fouled grabbing the rebound, sending her to the line for two free throws with 10.4 seconds left.

Hardrick made both giving Georgia a 66-64 lead before Kentucky's Carly Ormerod made a driving layup with 5.1 seconds left to

tie it at 66-66.

On the Bulldogs' last possession in regulation, Hardrick missed a turnaround jumper forcing overtime.

Mahoney finished with a team-high 23 points and Elliott had 17 for the Wildcats, who had four players score in double figures.

Trailing 56-45, Mahoney ignited a 12-2 run for the Wildcats, scoring nine points and Ormerod added a 3-pointer cutting the Bulldogs' lead to

58-57.

Kentucky will return to action today when it plays host to Arkansas on Senior Day. Tip-off is set for Noon EST in Rupp Arena and the game will be carried live on the Big Blue Sports Network (radio and television). Seniors Nastassia Alcius, Jennifer Humphrey and Jenny Pfeiffer, as well as managers Emily Jones and Freddy Perry will be honored prior to tip-off.

# Eagles claim key OVC win

TIMES STAFF REPORT

MOREHEAD — Brandon Callahan and Quentin Pryor scored

15 points each, and Jamyron Steward added a career-high 14 points to lead the Morehead State University men's basketball team to a 71-58 Ohio Valley Conference win over Samford Thursday evening in Johnson Arena.

The Eagles broke a nine-game losing streak with the victory and are now 11-15 overall, 7-11 in the OVC. MSU moved into a seventh place tie

with Tennessee State and both are a game ahead of ninth place Jacksonville State (6-12). Only the top eight teams advance to the OVC postseason tournament.

Samford lost its third consecutive game and is 14-12 overall, 11-7 in the league. The Bulldogs are tied with Murray State for fourth place in the current standings.

Samford got 17 points from

Randall Gulina, 15 from Jerry Smith and 13 points from Travis Peterson.

After suffering through an extremely cold shooting night in a Tuesday night loss to Jacksonville State, MSU shot a red-hot 55.3 percent (26-of-47) against the Bulldogs and made six-of-14 from behind the arc. Samford managed only 34.7 percent (17-of-49), including 10-of-33 from three-point range.

"This was obviously a big win for us," said MSU Head Coach Donnie Tyndall. "I thought we played well defensively. Our man-to-man defense was very good tonight."

"We did a good job on the backboards, out-rebounding them 34-to-25. It was great to see our shooting come around, especially in the second half."

# Football rules changes focus on illegal helmet contact

TIMES STAFF REPORT

INDIANAPOLIS — In its continuing emphasis on illegal helmet contact in high school football, the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Football Rules Committee reorganized and clarified several rules with the intention of further reducing the risk of injury in the sport.

Rules revisions regarding illegal helmet contact were among 14 rules revisions made by the committee at its January 20-21 meeting in Indianapolis. The rules changes were subsequently approved by the NFHS Board of Directors.

In Rule 2, the committee placed butt blocking, face tackling and spearing under the heading of "Helmet Contact — Illegal" to place more emphasis on risk-minimization concerns. In Rule 9-4-3, the committee added a note that lists examples of some types of illegal helmet contact that could result in disqualification.

Examples of illegal helmet contact that could result in disqualification include, but are not limited to: a) illegal helmet contact against an opponent lying on the ground; b) illegal helmet contact against an opponent being held up by other players; and c) illegal helmet-to-helmet contact against a defenseless opponent.

In addition, the committee formulated a definition of a flagrant foul, an often-used term in the rules book but which previously was not specifically defined. A flagrant foul will be defined as a foul that may or may not involve physical contact, but involves such acts as fighting, contacting a game official, fouls so severe as to place an opponent at risk, persistent or extreme abusive conduct and the use of vulgar language or gestures.

"While these changes mostly involve reorganization, the committee is confident that the rules now place a stronger emphasis on flagrant

acts and illegal helmet contact," said Bob Colgate, NFHS assistant director and liaison to the Football Rules Committee. "These revisions continue our ongoing emphasis on risk minimization and good sportsmanship."

"Annually, the NFHS Football Rules Committee has sought ways to better promote the health and physical welfare of the participants and cultivate the high ideals of good sportsmanship," said Brad Cashman, executive director of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association and chair of the NFHS Football Rules Committee. "The rules committee has again raised the standard in regard to both areas of concern."

Changes in the football game jersey specifications that were approved last year for implementation in 2010 were revised slightly this year, and the implementation date was moved back to 2012. The revised rule will still require the visiting team's game jerseys to be white and contrast with the home team's jersey.

"The changes made this year by the committee will provide manufacturers and schools a clearer direction on the specifications," Colgate said. "The committee extended the implementation date to give schools an opportunity to make the necessary adjustments during the normal uniform rotation and replacement cycles during the next five seasons."

In Rule 8-2-2, an enforcement option has been added when there is a foul by the opponent of a team scoring a touchdown. In addition to its previous option of accepting the result of the play and having the penalty enforced on the try-for-point, the scoring team may choose to have the foul enforced on the ensuing kickoff.

Two changes were made in Rule 1-2-3 regarding "The Field and Markings." A 4-inch-wide broken restraining line is now required around the outside of the field, and the line must be at least two yards from the sidelines and end lines. The only exception to this rule will be in stadiums where the total field enclosure does not permit the line. In addition, a line, 4 inches wide by 12 inches long, that bisects the limit line at each 5-yard line extended, may be used.

"These lines are used to assist

line-to-gain crews, as well as providing additional safety features for players, officials and sideline media; helping game officials with an unobstructed sideline operating area; and providing coaches with an unobstructed view from the coaching box," Colgate said.

Rule 1-2-3 now will also provide rule support for the location and dimension of a three-yard line marking that appears on the field diagram. A line, 4 inches wide by a minimum of 24 inches in length, shall be centered and placed three yards from each goal line.

The committee added two new articles to Rule 10-4 regarding basic spots for enforcement of penalties. The basic spot will be the 20-yard line for plays when the end of the related run is in the end zone followed by a loss of possession and the ball re-enters the playing field and then goes out of bounds.

Following are other changes approved by the Football Rules Committee:

- Added the word "legal" to the definition of a passer to help clarify Rule 2-31-11.

- Provided an opportunity for a coach who assumes the head coaching responsibility during a game (when the head coach has been disqualified) to call a time-out.

- Beginning with the 2008 season, required forearm pads to meet same specifications as gloves and hand pads as set forth by the Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association in 1994. The new rule will require forearm pads to have the NFHS/NCAA label attached beginning in 2008.

- In six-, eight- and nine-player football, reduced the free-blocking zone to a zone three yards on either side of the snap and three yards behind each line of scrimmage.

In terms of the number of participants, football is the most popular high school sport for boys. According to the 2005-06 NFHS High School Athletics Participation Survey, 1,071,775 boys played 11-player football, with another 25,000 involved in six-, eight- and nine-player football. In addition, 1,264 girls played high school football in 2005-06.



photos courtesy of MU and UC  
**LOCALS SHINE ON THE DIAMOND:** Eastern Kentucky natives Jeremy Stone (Paintsville) and Steve Blevins (Louisia) are each NCAA Division I pitchers. Stone (above), a senior, pitches for the Marshall University Thundering Herd. Blevins (left), a sophomore, hurls for the University of Cincinnati Bearcats.



**CONCENTRATION:** Piast School senior Matt Doyle eyed a free throw attempt during a recent late regular-season game.

# Most fishing, hunting license fees stairstepping up

by STEVE VANTRESE  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The cost to engage in fishing or hunting in Kentucky is going up.

Sporting license fees will step up smartly for the 2007-08 license year that goes into effect March 1. Licenses from the 2006-07 year fittingly become invalid with the passing of Feb. 28.

As almost everything in life, licenses are subject to inflation. Fishing and hunting license increases, however, change only at intervals, the stairstepping invoked only by action of the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission and approval of the state legislature.

Some examples of the new fees: Kentucky resident fishing licenses as well as resident hunting licenses are jumping from \$15 to \$20 each, a 33 percent hike. For someone who does both, the combination fishing-hunting license will be \$30, up from \$22.50.

For specific pursuits, the state's

deer permit goes up from \$25 to \$30. The spring turkey permit is being hoisted from \$20 to \$30 for the new year.

It's not just Kentuckians who will bear a heavier load. Nonresidents will find themselves paying \$50 for an annual fishing license, up from \$35. An out-of-stater's vacation fishing license, a 15-day nonresident license, is now \$40, increased from \$21.

The nonresident annual hunting license has inflated from \$115 up to \$130.

There are some exceptions to rising costs. The resident combination fishing and hunting license for seniors age 65 and older as well as those documented as disabled remains at a bargain basement \$5.

Youngsters, whom the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources is trying hard to enlist as sportsmen and future stewards of conservation, will find that their junior hunting license is going down from \$8.75 to \$5 under the new schedule.

Likewise, junior deer permits and junior turkey permits each are decreasing from \$15 to \$10, while there is a new discounted junior sportsman's license that, at \$25, covers them for all Kentucky game and fish pursuits.

The reasoning behind the fee increases for most licenses and permits is simply increased costs for everything in fish and wildlife management with no others but sportsmen paying the bills.

"Conservation is totally funded by user fees in Kentucky," department spokesman Mark Marraccini said. "Some fish and wildlife agencies in other states are paid for by the general fund or supplemented by money from the taxpayers. Here, it's the sportsmen who pay for fish and wildlife management through license and permit fees and federal excise taxes on equipment that are charged of hunters and fishermen."

"I think most people who buy licenses understand that they're paying their own way, and they'd rather

be doing it than depend on tax money," he said.

The increase in fees is the first since 2000 while department operating expenses have risen about 3 percent annually since, agency officials say.

Fish and Wildlife Resources Commissioner Jon Gassett said periodic license increases typically are necessary every five to six years to keep pace with inflation, while the agency has stretched its last increase to cover seven years.

"However, we have reached a point where operating expenses will force us to reduce or terminate the quality programs and services that our customers have come to expect" if the fee increases were not implemented, Gassett said.

Gassett said the increased fees leave licenses and permits for Kentucky at a level that are similar to those of other states that are user-paid systems.

Gassett said Kentucky sportsmen

are getting their money's worth. He cited burgeoning interest in Kentucky's quality whitetail deer hunting, the largest elk herd east of the Mississippi River — from which a new world record bull elk is being predicted — a booming turkey flock and quality fishing for both warm-water and cold-water game species as fruits of license and permit fees well-managed.

Marraccini said a rise in license fees typically means a decline in licenses sold during the first year of the new rates. Most of the downturn usually is recovered the next year, he said.

Meanwhile, a fee increase routinely puts the state agency ahead of expenses for a time during which money can be accumulated, Marraccini said. That inevitably is followed by a period when costs again overtake income and the department for a time operates off the cushion — until the point comes that yet another round in fee increases is dictated, he said.

## AND THERE'S MORE TROUBLE IN THE GARAGE AREA: Gordon's winning car fails inspection

by MIKE HARRIS  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Just when it looked like racing would snatch the spotlight from the cheaters at Daytona, Jeff Gordon's winning car failed inspection.

Gordon, who won the second of Thursday's two 150-mile qualifying races, now will start the Daytona 500 in 42nd place.

NASCAR inspectors said his Chevrolet was almost an inch too low but blamed it on a part failure — not cheating. He was not stripped of the victory.

"We feel it was unintentional, and actually fairly unsafe," said NASCAR competition director Robin Pemberton. "We feel that it was a part failure, and we feel that it was unintentionally done. I think it would be marginal at best if there was any advantage."

"I am 100 percent sure this is unintentional."

NASCAR said it believed a mechanic made a mistake when the shocks were installed before the race.

Gordon's was the sixth team in three days to be caught with technical violations. The earlier problems led to expulsions, suspensions, fines and loss of championship points — and the

season hasn't even begun.

The most serious of the violations was committed by the new team of Michael Waltrip, whose Toyota failed inspection after an illegal substance was found in the gas line. His crew chief and team director were suspended indefinitely and kicked out of Daytona International Speedway. Waltrip was docked 100 driver and car owner points.

That was on the heels of lesser violations by the teams of Matt Kenseth, Kasey Kahne, Elliott Sadler and Scott Riggs, whose crew chiefs all were fined and suspended. All drivers also lost points.

"You couldn't stage this stuff, even if you wanted to," Pemberton said.

Roush Fenway Racing president Geoff Smith said the team "clearly" is going to file an appeal for the penalty assessed to driver Matt Kenseth earlier in the week, on the basis that NASCAR's system of assessing penalties is inconsistent.

"I'm sitting here, and Michael Waltrip gets two thirds the penalty of the last fuel additive alteration situation, and (Kenseth) got an unprecedented, never-seen-before penalty," Smith said. "Now you've got Jeff Gordon, who gets absolutely nothing

for a deal that was similar to ours."

Gordon learned his car had failed inspection while finishing his post-race news conference.

"Are you serious? That sucks. I'm mad about that right now," he said with a look of disbelief on his face.

Asked what the penalty should be, Gordon wasn't sure.

"I mean, what do I think it should be? It's whatever NASCAR decides for it to be. That's what it should be. I mean, I think I should start the Daytona 500 on Sunday, but where I start will be the other thing."

Turns out that will be next to last.

"We're not going to take a win away from anybody," Pemberton said.

Tony Stewart was the day's first winner, taking the first 150-mile qualifying race to firmly establish himself as the Daytona 500 favorite. There were no questions about his victory as he easily held off former 500 winner Dale Earnhardt Jr. in the closing laps.

To add the Daytona 500 to his 11 other Daytona wins, Stewart likely will have to beat Earnhardt. It's expected that three-time Daytona winner Gordon, who charged from fourth to first on the final lap of the second race, still will be a top chal-

lenger, even starting from the rear.

Stewart said he gladly would give up his other Daytona wins for a triumph Sunday.

"Yeah, the qualifying races and the Shootouts and the July race are great, but I really want this race on Sunday badly," he said.

Four drivers — two from each race — raced their way into the lineup Thursday, including Michael Waltrip, who got what he wanted — a chance to prove he didn't need to cheat to make the 500.

With an eighth-place finish, Waltrip and Boris Said, who nosed out Mike Bliss for 12th, advanced in the first qualifying race. They'll be joined in the 500 by Joe Nemechek and Mike Wallace, who finished ninth and 11th in the second race.

Kyle Busch led most of the second race but lost the lead to his older brother Kurt, the 2003 series champion, and fell all the way to sixth on the 54th lap. Meanwhile, Gordon hung around the leaders throughout the race but seemed to come out of nowhere for the victory.

He pitted for two tires during a caution period 10 laps from the end, while the eight cars in front of him stayed on track. Gordon was 11th on the restart on lap 54 and slowly moved back into contention.

Gordon said it took some luck and some drafting help from J.J. Yeley to

get to the front on the final trip around the 2.5-mile oval.

Kurt Busch wound up second, followed by David Stremme, Kyle Busch and former series champion Matt Kenseth, who raced from the rear of the 30-car field after his qualifying speed Sunday was disqualified.

The first race was slowed by six caution flags, while there were only two in the second 150.

For a while, it looked as if James Hylton, the 72-year-old hoping for a comeback at Daytona, would make the field for his first Daytona 500 since 1983. After running as high as second by staying on the track when others pitted during a caution, he got shuffled back on a late restart and faded out of contention.

Others who failed to make the race included former open-wheel star A.J. Allmendinger, his teammate Brian Vickers, two-time Daytona winner Bill Elliott, 2002 Daytona 500 winner Ward Burton and 1990 winner Derrike Cope.

AP Auto Racing Writer Jenna Fryer, and AP Sports Writers Mark Long and Chris Jenkins contributed to this report.



Jeff Gordon

## Waltrip begins rebuilding process by racing into Daytona 500

by JENNA FRYER  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Michael Waltrip cheated, apologized and then vindicated himself the only way he knew how: He drove his way into the Daytona 500.

The two-time Daytona winner — almost too embarrassed to get behind the wheel after his team was caught in NASCAR's biggest cheating scandal — capped a roller-coaster week Thursday by earning a spot in the Great American Race.

"I know I am good enough to do it without having any cheating on my car," he said. "I don't need it. I can go fast without it. I think we proved that today."

Waltrip's eighth-place finish in the first qualifying race at Daytona International Speedway was good enough to get him in the field.

Because of NASCAR's complicated qualifying format for this event, it also guaranteed rookie David Reutimann a spot along with the two other Toyota Camrys that Waltrip owns. Reutimann would have had to race his way in otherwise.

But there was little celebration at the finish line, where Waltrip sat stone-faced inside his car as he battled a wave of conflicting emotions.

"I'm probably the most depressed guy you have ever seen make the Daytona 500," he said with a sigh. "I'm thankful. I'm sad. I'm happy at the same time. Daytona does that to you."

So does cheating. Waltrip's humiliating debut with Toyota began last Sunday when NASCAR found a suspicious substance in his intake manifold. After three days of examination, it was determined to be a fuel additive designed to dramatically boost horsepower in a car that previously had struggled with speed.

NASCAR tossed out two key Waltrip employees, handed crew chief David Hyder a \$100,000 fine — the largest in series history — and docked Waltrip 100 points.

But NASCAR didn't kick him out of the garage, something other drivers questioned.

"To tell you the truth, I think he got off easy," Joe Nemechek said. "It gave the sport a black eye. I think Michael Waltrip is very fortunate to be in this race."

Waltrip expected that reaction from some and said president Mike Helton encouraged him to race Thursday when all Waltrip wanted to do was go home and hide.

"I came real close to not racing

today," Waltrip said hours before his qualifying event. "I just felt like there would be a cloud over whatever I accomplished today because of what happened."

He was contrite at his morning news conference, and that didn't change after he secured his spot in the field.

Toyota officials, conspicuously absent in his morning apology session, gathered around him after the race.

"I couldn't be happier for Michael and his organization. ... What a turn of events," said Lee White, general manager of Toyota Racing Development. "Michael Waltrip carried two cars in — that's 7,000 pounds — a pretty heavy load for the guy."

Teammate Dale Jarrett rushed to Waltrip's side on a chaotic pit road, grabbing his boss in a bear hug.

"Proud of you. Want you to know that," Jarrett said.

"I appreciate that," Waltrip said, lips quivering.

"I knew you could handle it, anyway," Jarrett replied.

But someone on Waltrip's crew thought otherwise, worrying so much that Waltrip wouldn't make the race that the team member broke the code of the Nextel Cup garage by tampering with the fuel.

NASCAR suspended Hyder and competition director Bobby Kennedy indefinitely; Waltrip blamed an

unidentified individual or individuals within his team, adding that no one had been fired.

But Waltrip's profession of innocence has not gone unquestioned — even by former teammate Dale Earnhardt Jr.

"There's a fine line there because when the driver is the owner he should have quite a bit of knowledge of what's going on," Earnhardt said. "It makes me want to kind of believe Michael when he says he was unaware of it. As a driver, I would take that for what it's worth. But it's hard to imagine as an owner that you wouldn't know something about that."

Jarrett defended his boss, however, pointing out Waltrip has worked tirelessly to put together the flagship Toyota team.

"He's worn so many hats coming in here. It's incredible," Jarrett said. "He proved right there how good a race driver he is. I told him before the race that if anybody here could get the car in he could do it, and he went out and did it."

Waltrip now will focus on Sunday's race and trying to restore his image.

"We've just got to start trying to rebuild people's faith and trust," he said. "For all those fans who bought a NAPA hat or a Michael Waltrip shirt, I just hope you can wear it proudly again soon."



Micheal Waltrip

## Eldora's Nextel Prelude, Old Spice Sizzler ticket info released

TIMES STAFF REPORT

ROSSBURG, Ohio — Reserved seat tickets for Eldora Speedway's popular Nextel Prelude to the Dream (June 6) and Old Spice Summer Sizzler (July 10) will go on sale Sunday, April 1 at 11 a.m. (EDT), as announced recently by track officials. For quickest response, fans are

encouraged to use Eldora's online ticketing service online at [www.eldoraspeedway.com](http://www.eldoraspeedway.com). Orders will also be accepted by calling the track office at 937-338-3815.

While the June Nextel Prelude and the July Old Spice Sizzler are both highlighted with NASCAR talent recruited by Eldora owner and two-time NASCAR champion Tony Stewart, that is where the similarities end.

In the Prelude, the imported talent is pitted against each other in borrowed Late Models in a full program of events that includes time trials, preliminary heats and the main event. Kenny Wallace was victorious in 2005's inaugural Nextel Prelude,

while Stewart ruled the roost last year. The charity driven event has grown to become Eldora's largest drawing race of the year, having played to sold-out audiences each of the past two years.

Although Stewart has not revealed his crop of drivers for this year's edition, he promises that an exciting and colorful group will be on hand.

July's Sizzler annually finds the NASCAR talent racing right with Eldora's weekly warriors. Each of the past two years, Stewart, Kasey Kahne and Dave Blaney have strapped themselves into winged Sprint Cars to do battle with the National Racing Alliance (NRA) Sprint Invaders, while Kenny Wallace and Kenny

Schrader joined the fray last year with the addition of the United Midwest Promoters (UMP) Modifieds to the Sizzler.

Despite rising costs of operation, Stewart has held steadfast on the pricing for these two events. As in 2006, the reserved seat pricing for adults will remain at \$25 for adults (ages 16 & up), at the Prelude, and \$20 for adults at the Sizzler. Teens (12-15) will be \$15 (Prelude) and (\$12) Sizzler, while the Children (0-11) pricing will be \$10 at the Prelude and \$8 at the Sizzler.

Complete time schedules and other information surrounding these two major events will be updated on [www.eldoraspeedway.com](http://www.eldoraspeedway.com) as they become available.

## 2007 NASCAR Nextel Cup Early Schedule

Feb. 10 — x-Budweiser Shootout, Daytona Beach, Fla. (Tony Stewart)  
Today — Daytona 500, Daytona Beach, Fla.  
Feb. 25 — Auto Club 500, Fontana, Calif.  
March 11 — UAW-Daimler Chrysler 400, Las Vegas.  
March 18 — Atlanta 500, Hampton, Ga.  
March 25 — Food City 500, Bristol, Tenn.  
April 1 — Goody's 500, Martinsville, Va.  
April 15 — Samsung 500, Fort Worth, Texas.  
April 21 — Subway Fresh 500, Avondale, Ariz.  
April 29 — Aaron's 499, Talladega, Ala.  
May 5 — Crown Royal 400, Richmond, Va.  
May 12 — Dodge Avenger 500, Darlington, S.C.  
May 19 — x-NASCAR Nextel All-Star Challenge, Concord, N.C.  
May 27 — Coca Cola 600, Concord, N.C.

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**Position Location: 620 Broadway, Paintsville Min. starting pay, \$8.14 per hour**

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 Interested applicants may apply to the Human Resources Department  
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