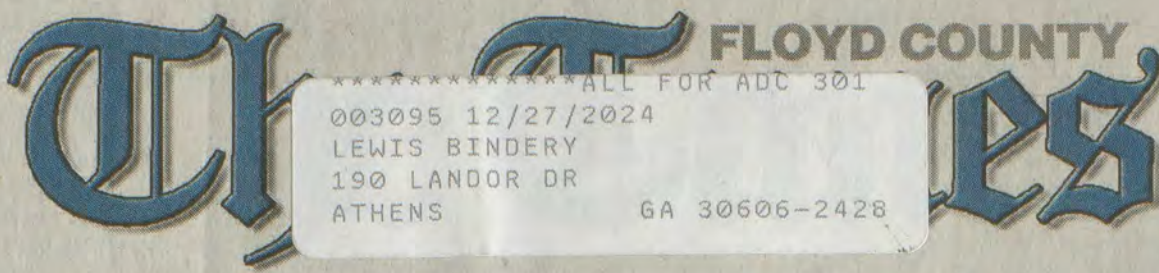




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Did you forget?

Daylight Saving Time began at 2 a.m. this morning.

briefs

Safety forum to be held at BSCTC

Big Sandy Community and Technical College will host an open campus forum to discuss campus safety, on March 13, from 7 to 9 p.m. The forum will be held in the Gearheart Auditorium, in the Pike Building on the Prestonsburg campus.

In November, Gov. Ernie Fletcher established the Governor's Task Force on Campus Safety.

The Task Force is charged with undertaking a comprehensive review of all aspects of campus security policies and practices. The objective is to institute adjustments and improvements to maintain a safer and more secure campus environment at the public and private postsecondary education institutions throughout the Commonwealth.

The Task Force is to complete its work and deliver its recommendations to the Governor in July.

The executive order creating the Task Force provides that, as a part of its work, the Task Force will conduct open forums where students and staff

(See FORUM, page three)

2 DAY FORECAST

Today



High: 58 • Low: 33

Tomorrow



High: 63 • Low: 35

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Pension debate might head to special session

by JOE BIESK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — Gov. Ernie Fletcher warned lawmakers Friday he would consider calling the General Assembly into special session if they didn't take action on a proposal to overhaul the state's financially strapped pension system.

Fletcher issued a statement Friday afternoon urging lawmakers to agree on the Senate-endorsed pension proposal. The governor, who was not in Frankfort at the time, offered to work with legislative leaders over the weekend to find compromise.

"This matter is too important to let personalities and politics stand in the way," Fletcher said in the statement.

The governor's warning comes as leaders in the Republican-led Senate and the Democrat-controlled House are at odds over the fate of a proposal to overhaul the pension system.

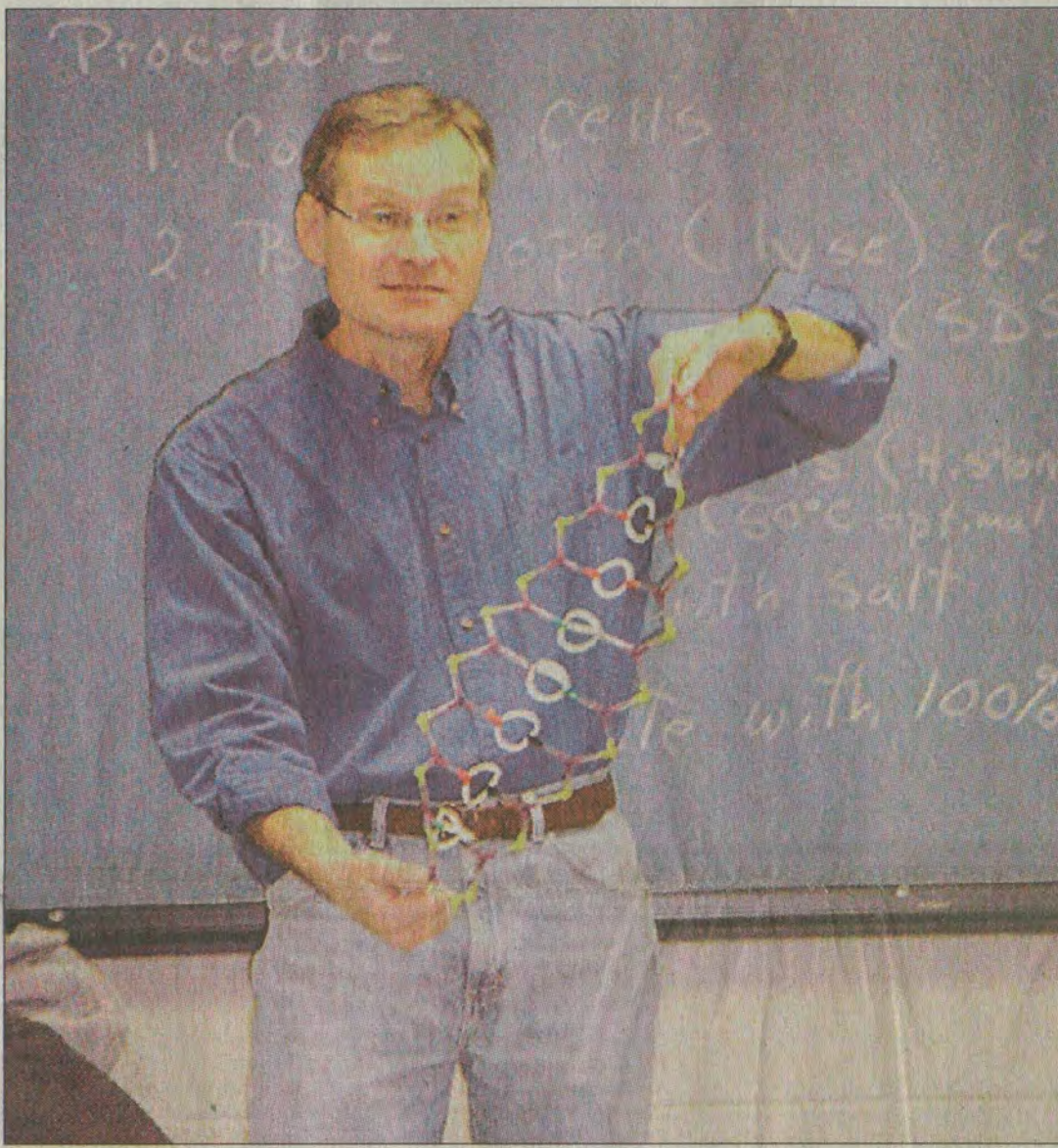
The Senate-backed plan, which had support from both Democrats and Republicans, called for the state to sell more than \$800 million in bonds to put into the retirement systems for public

employees and teachers. That plan would also limit pension benefits for future employees, but would not affect current state employees and retirees.

Senate President David Williams, R-Burkesville, has said the state's pension system would go broke by 2022 if action is not taken. If that happened,

(See PENSION, page three)

UNLOCKING THE SECRETS



Students from Prestonsburg High School conducted a real "hands-on" experiment at Big Sandy Community and Technical College when they collected a sample of their own DNA. DNA is the molecule of heredity. With Prestonsburg High teacher Georgeann Parsons facilitating, the students followed a series of laboratory procedures to isolate and collect DNA from their own cells. Drs. Chenzhao and Thomas Vierheller, BSCTC biology professors, offered a lesson on DNA and guided students as they learned new techniques in molecular biology. The final step was each student actually making a glass necklace with their own DNA proudly displayed. Another activity this Spring Term will include a laboratory on crime scene investigations and the use of DNA technology. Finally, Prestonsburg High students will be introducing a gene for a glowing fluorescent protein normally found in a jellyfish into bacteria cells. Big Sandy Community and Technical College is partnering with Prestonsburg High School to provide activities through the Kentucky Appalachian Higher Education grant.

Speed limit bill headed to governor

by BRUCE SCHREINER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — Kentuckians have always appreciated speed on the racetrack. Now the pace on their major rural highways may accelerate.

A bill allowing the state to raise its speed limit to 70 mph on rural interstate highways and most parkways won Senate

approval on a 35-2 vote Friday.

The measure, which earlier passed the House on a 69-27 vote, now heads to Gov. Ernie Fletcher, who remained non-committal about whether he'll sign it into law, though he supported a previous attempt to raise the speed limit from the current 65 mph.

Truck driver Mike Tucker of Charlotte, N.C., who travels

Interstate 75 in Kentucky as part of his route, thought the higher speed limit was a good idea.

"It would be better for getting up the hills," he said in a telephone interview while stopping for fuel at Williamsburg in southern Kentucky. "You can drive 70 and still drive safe."

(See SPEED LIMIT, page three)

Murder, drug charges top indictments

by KATHY J. PRATER
FEATURES EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG — Murder, drug trafficking, burglary, stolen property and violent behavior all brought cause for a grand jury to hand down 13 indictments Thursday.

Charges of murder were brought against Mickey McKinney, of Craynor, in relation to an incident in which McKinney was the operator of a vehicle that crashed head-on into a vehicle operated by Janet Lovely, thereby killing her.

The indictment alleges McKinney was driving under the influence at the time, and that he was also driving on a suspended license.

Drugs were cause for indictments to be handed down against Paul Tackett of Melvin, Samuel C. Williams of Betsy Layne, Brandon Combs of Allen,

and Kim Walters of Meally.

Tackett is charged with trafficking in a controlled substance; he and Williams are both charged with possession of cocaine. Combs is charged with the criminal offense of promoting contraband for allegedly taking drugs and drug paraphernalia into the Floyd County Detention Center. Walters is charged with fraud in regard to obtaining controlled substances through fraudulent prescription.

Burglary charges brought down against Jerry Moore of Orient, Ohio, in regard to incidents related to unlawful entry and unlawful taking of property that took place on the properties of Red Top Market and B&C Hardware.

Donnie Bentley, of Martin, was also charged with burglary in regard to a private residence.

(See CHARGES, page three)

Child porn case sees 33-count indictment

by JESSICA HALE
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A Staffordsville man who was arrested last week when officers discovered he was in possession of photos of minors engaged in sexual acts was indicted Thursday.

Brian K. Gilbert, 33, was pulled over by police for a traffic stop on University Drive in Prestonsburg on Feb. 28, when during their search of his vehicle they discovered nearly two dozen of the photos of chil-

dren under the age of 16 engaged in sexual acts. Additional photos were also discovered on Gilbert's cell phone and it was suspected that he may have been using computers at Mayo Technical College in Paintsville to distribute them.

The indictment turned over by the grand jury charges Gilbert with 33 counts of distribution of matter portraying a sexual performance by a minor.

Gilbert's bond has been set at \$100,000 cash.

Newspaper accused of unfair competition

by RALPH B. DAVIS
MANAGING EDITOR

PIKEVILLE — A Letcher County newspaper has sued Pikeville Medical Center, alleging that a newspaper published by the hospital engaged in unfair competition by operating a for-profit business while benefiting from the advantages of the hospital's nonprofit tax status.

The Whitesburg-based Mountain

Eagle filed the complaint against Pikeville Medical Center and The Medical Leader newspaper in February in Letcher Circuit Court. On March 2, the case was moved to U.S. District Court in Pikeville.

In the complaint, Mountain Eagle attorney Ronald G. Polly argues that The Medical Leader operated as a nonprofit organization to take advantage of "attendant economic and other advantages and benefits, including less taxes

or no taxes, less costs, tax-free donations, favorable public perception and other advantages not enjoyed by other private enterprise newspapers in the area in which they publish." However, Polly argues, The Medical Leader's business practices demonstrate that it should not be considered a nonprofit organization.

"... [T]he defendants' utilization of nonprofit status by which it obtains economic advantage and, in turn, tak-

ing plaintiff's advertisers, in wrongful, unfair and illegal ..." Polly wrote. "[T]he defendants are operating a newspaper as a profit organization by obtaining paid advertisers while misrepresenting it as a nonprofit organization and obtaining wrongful advantages therefrom."

The complaint further accuses The Medical Leader of taking away

(See LAWSUIT, page three)

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Regional Obituaries

FLOYD COUNTY

■ Paul Garry Caudill Sr., 53, of Parkersburg, West Virginia, a native of Prestonsburg, died Wednesday, March 7, at St. Joseph's Hospital in Parkersburg. He is survived by his wife, Nellie Spradlin Caudill. Funeral services were held Friday, March 9, under the direction of Hatfield Funeral Chapel.

■ Clara Ellen Cross, 73, of Drift, died Saturday, March 3, at Our Lady of the Way Hospital, in Martin. Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 7, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Henry Harvey, 56, of Martin, died Thursday, March 8, at King's Daughters Medical Center, in Ashland. Funeral services will be held Sunday, March 11, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Ricky Daryl Hicks, 43, of Prestonsburg, died Monday, March 5, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. He is survived by his wife, Shirley Collins Hicks. Funeral services were held Thursday, March 8, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Arthur R. Newman, 63, of Lima, Ohio, a Floyd County

native, died Tuesday, March 6, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Shelley C. Wright. The funeral service was Friday, March 9, at Bayliff and Son Funeral Home, Criddersville.

■ Polly Allen Price, 77, a native of Prestonsburg, died Sunday, March 4, at Jewish Hospital, in Louisville. A memorial service was held at 2 p.m., Saturday, March 10, at St. John United Presbyterian Church, 1307 E. Elm St., New Albany.

■ Freddie Shepherd, 37, of Langley, died Thursday, March 1, following an accident on the job at Delphia. He is survived by his wife, Recilla Slone Shepherd. Funeral services were held Monday, March 5, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ William Isaac (Ike) Skeens, 61, of Prestonsburg, died Friday, March 2, at the Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Monday, March 5, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Ancil Stumbo, 76, of Minnie, died Wednesday, March 7, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Lenore McCarthy Stumbo. Funeral services were held Friday, March 9, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Thomas Jackson "Jack" Webb, 62, of Allen, died Wednesday, February 28, at Our Lady of the Way Hospital, in Martin. He is survived by his wife, Mary June Prater Webb. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, March 4, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Haley Prater Whitaker, 83, of Hueysville, died Thursday, March 1, at Rockcastle Community Hospital, in Mount Vernon. Funeral services were held Sunday, March 4, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

PIKE COUNTY

■ Freddie Anderson, 61, of Kimper, died Sunday, March 4, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Shirley Keene Anderson. Funeral services were held Thursday, March 8, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ Clara Newsom Bartley, 87, of Hellier, died Friday, March 2, at Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 6, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ Alma Belcher, 71, of Belcher, died Saturday, March 3, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 6, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ Veronica Click, 87, of Frankfort, a native of Long Island, N.Y., formerly of Pikeville, died Wednesday, February 28, at her home. Funeral services were held Saturday, March 3, under the direction of LeCompte-Johnson-Taylor Funeral Home.

■ Ima Johnson Compton, 71, formerly of Pikeville, died Saturday, March 3, at Clark Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 6, under the direction of Scobee Funeral Home of Winchester.

■ Edwin Burford Cool, 75, of Belfry, died Wednesday, March 7, at St. Joseph's Hospital in Lexington. He is survived by his wife, Melita Justice Cool. Funeral services were held Saturday, March 10, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Bessie T. Elkins, 79, of East Shalbiana Road, Pikeville, died Friday, March 2, in Pikeville. Funeral services were held Monday, March 5, under the direction

of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ Arthur Gibson, 91, of Pikeville, died Thursday, March 8, at Cedar Creek Assisted living. Arrangements, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ Viola Gilliam, 84, of Worthington, a native of Pike County, died Monday, March 5, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, David Gilliam. Funeral services were held Thursday, March 8, under the direction of Evans Funeral Home.

■ Kyle E. Howell, 77, of Hendersonville, N.C., a native of Pikeville, died Friday, March 2, at the Brian Center. He is survived by his wife, Ruth K. Howell. Funeral services were held in Hendersonville, North Carolina. Arrangements were under direction of Shepherd & Son Funeral Home.

■ Odie "Big O" Johnson, 50, of Rockhouse Fork of Virgie, died Sunday, March 4, at his home. Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 7, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

■ Clayton Maynard, 71, of Lower Johns Creek, died Saturday, March 3, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 6, under the direction of Community Funeral Home.

■ Myrtle Runyon Maynard, 70, of Raccoon, died Sunday, March 4, at Parkview Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, Robinson Creek. Funeral services were held Thursday, March 8, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ Augustine Phillips, 81, of Daytona Beach, Florida, a Pikeville native, died Sunday, March 4, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Geraldine Phillips. Arrangements, under the direction of Volusia Memorial Funeral Home of Ormond Beach, Florida.

■ Phillip Dean Ray, 67, of Pikeville, died Saturday, March 3, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 6, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

■ Donna Slone, 62, of Lower Pompey, died Wednesday, February 28, at Pikeville Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Matt Slone. Funeral services were held Sunday, March 4, under the direction of Community Funeral Home.

■ Josie Raelynn Slone, infant daughter of Joshua and Tiffany Slone of Pikeville, died Monday, March 5, in Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Thursday, March 8, under the direction of Pikeville Funeral Home.

■ James Joseph "Jimmy" Varney, 67, of Kennett, Mo., a native of Pike County, died Sunday, March 4, at his residence. Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 7, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Homer Williams, 35, of Kermit, West Virginia, a Pike County native, died Wednesday, February 28, at Jennies Creek, West Virginia. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, March 3, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

MAGOFFIN COUNTY

■ Earl Marshall, 84, of Grayson, a Magoffin County native, died Tuesday, March 6, in Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Barbara Marshall. Funeral services were held Thursday, March 8, under the direction of Sparks Funeral Home, Grayson.

JOHNSON COUNTY

■ Mitchell Cantrell, 86, of Paintsville, died Thursday,

March 1, at his residence. Funeral services were held Sunday, March 4, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

■ William H. Cromartie, 60, of Van Lear, died Monday, February 26, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. Arrangements, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Marda Crum, 86, of Boons Camp, died Sunday, March 4, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. He is survived by his wife, Liz Brown Crum. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 6, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

■ Anna Ruth Daniels, 85, of Nippa, died Thursday, March 1, at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center, in Paintsville. Funeral services were held Saturday, March 3, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Ruth Dawson, 96, of Dayton, Ohio, died Sunday, March 4, at Hospice of Dayton. Funeral services were held Thursday, March 8, and burial was in the Johnson County Memorial Cemetery at Staffordsville, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

■ Robert P. Rowland, 74, of Staffordsville, died Thursday, March 1, at

■ Faye Sadler, 68, of Degraff, Ohio, died Thursday, March 1, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, Joseph Sadler. Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 7, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

■ Charles Edward Spears, 80, of Hager Hill, died Thursday, March 1, at St. Mary's Medical Center, in Huntington, West Virginia. He is survived by his wife, Billie Marie Poole Spears. Funeral services were held Monday, March 5, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Frank B. Webb, 95, of Paintsville, died Sunday, March 4, at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center, in Paintsville. He is survived by his wife, Elva Spears Webb. Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 7, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

LAWRENCE COUNTY

■ Edith Hackney Miller, 85, of Charley, died Saturday, March 3. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 6, under the direction of Wilson Funeral Home.

MARTIN COUNTY

■ Jeffery Thomas Goble, 54, of Tiro, Ohio, a native of Develva, died Thursday, March

of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

■ Edith Johnson, 67, of Kermit, West Virginia, passed away, Wednesday, February 28, at King's Daughters Medical Center, in Ashland. Funeral services were held Saturday, March 3, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

■ Warren G. Jude, 84, of Pilgrim, died Tuesday, February 27, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Sally Reed Jude. Funeral services were conducted Friday, March 2, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

■ Nona Dials Mills, 91, of Inez, died Thursday, March 1. Services were held Sunday, March 4, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home, Inez.

■ Ked Mollett Jr., 64, of Tomahawk, died Wednesday, February 21, at King's Daughters Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Menzie Turner Mollett. Funeral services were held Saturday, February 24, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

■ Dollie Muncy, 78, of Pilgrim, died Monday, March 5. Funeral services were held Thursday, March 8, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

Obituaries

Ramey Wireman

April 26, 1927-March 5, 2007

On the 5th day of March 2007, Ramey Wireman left this world for his home in heaven. He left behind his devoted wife, Bessie Allen Wireman, whom he married on May 12, 1949.

Other survivors include one son, Herbert (Bonnie) Wireman of Elida, Ohio; six daughters: Glenda (Kenneth Fugate) Keith of Irvine, Sharon (Robert) Holliday of Gunlock, Karon (Lonnie) Robinson of Martin, Judy (Gerald) Salyer of Puncheon, Brenda (Bud) Leach of Mascot, Tennessee, and Anita (Jeffery) Lykins of Salyersville; one brother, Dave Wireman Jr., of Gunlock; two sisters: Betty Salyer of Gunlock, and Julie Marie Wireman of Albion, Michigan; one sister-in-law, Stella Wireman of Gunlock.

He is also survived by 12 grandchildren, Travis (Melissa) Holliday of Gunlock, Stuart (Sherry) Robinson of Langley, Toby Robinson of Langley, Tandy (Chad) Kibbler of Boy River, Minnesota, Kevin (Leslie) Robinson of Martin, Brandy (Jr. Allen) of Fritz, Lauren Robinson of Martin, Shandy (Justin) Huff of Lakeville, Megan Howard of Lexington, Abby Howard of Morehead, Jordan Leach of Knoxville, Tennessee, and Nakia Leach of Mascot, Tennessee; five great-grandchildren: Cody Holliday of Gunlock, Madison Holliday of Gunlock, Kendal Robinson of Martin, and Justin Ryan Allen, and John Raymond Allen, both of Fritz; one step-grandchild, Jessica (Jonathon) Puckett; three step great-grandchildren: Olivia Puckett of Lexington, Leigh Williams of Langley, and Clinton Turner of Langley; and many nieces, nephews and good friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Dave and Julie Shepherd Wireman; four brothers: Floyd Wireman, Jim Wireman, Frank Wireman, and Toney Wireman; three sisters: Curtis Baldrige, Virgie Sheppard, and Susie Toler; and one son-in-law, William Larry Keith.

He will be greatly missed by all. Magoffin County Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. (Paid obituary)



Big Sandy Community and Technical College nursing students, along with faculty members Pat Crotty and Patsy Jackson attended the kick-off for Gov. Ernie Fletcher's "Get Healthy Kentucky Campaign" on Jan. 24. The nursing students are encouraging students, family, and friends to visit the website www.GetHealthy.ky.gov and join Team Get Healthy Kentucky. From left to right are Charla McKinney (KANS secretary), Gloria Caldwell, Kellie Hohenecker (KANS treasurer), Gov. Fletcher, Lisa Cheek, Pat Crotty, Patsy Jackson, Crystal Little (KANS president).

Floyd board members get ideas on strengthening learning, leading schools

LOUISVILLE — Testing before high school to measure college preparedness. Managing school budgets from uncertain funding sources. Assessing bus driver safety training. Meeting multilingual parent notification requirements.

These could have been among the headlines of a daily newspaper covering the 71st annual conference of the Kentucky School Boards Association (KSBA). They represent only a portion of the research and information Jeff Stumbo, Sherry Robinson, and Dr. Chandra Varia, were exposed to when they took part in the KSBA conference Feb. 23-25 in Louisville.

An estimated 1,100 school board members, superintendents, state officials and other education advocates participated in the more than 50 sessions and workshops during the conference. The topics, tied to the theme Kentucky public schools - Great Expectations, covered such areas as research

into raising math scores, reducing alcohol and drug use among youth, the ins and outs of merging school systems, effective superintendent evaluations, successful programs for gifted and talented students and preventing environmental accidents such as mercury spills in school science labs.

Participants heard national perspectives from Jane Gallucci, president of the National School Boards Association and Ken Kay, president of the Partnership for 21st Century Skills, a consortium of Fortune 500 businesses focused on strengthening high school graduates' skills for today's jobs. Eight of the 10 candidates to become governor of Kentucky, including the incumbent Ernie Fletcher, spoke of their elementary and secondary education goals for 2008 and beyond.

KSBA President Ed Massey, a member of the Boone County Board of Education, said, "The board members and administrators

who gave up three days for these discussions will take ideas on improving schools and learning back home. We learned, we shared and we recommitted ourselves at this conference to doing whatever it takes to give every child the skills they need to excel in school and achieve in their lives."

Kentucky law requires all school board members to receive annual professional development training. Many board members obtain a substantial portion of their training hours at the KSBA conference.

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Senate passes minimum wage bill, heads back to House

by **JOE BIESK**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — Kentucky's minimum wage would increase for the first time in a decade under a bill the Senate approved Thursday evening.

The Republican-controlled Senate voted 33-1 to pass a plan that would gradually increase Kentucky's wage floor to \$7.25 an hour by 2009.

The bill returns to the House for additional consideration.

Jim Sullivan, a pizza driver in Louisville, makes slightly more than the minimum wage, but said he hopes the increase will lift his wages, too.

Sullivan said it's tough to get by on low-end wages.

"The minimum wage only does so much. It's definitely a step in the right direction," he said of the Senate action.

Labor unions and religious groups pushed for the increase throughout the session.

Bill Londrigan, head of the Kentucky AFL-CIO, hailed the Senate action.

"It's been a long time coming and we think it will at least help some of the lowest-paid workers in the commonwealth and give them a little boost," he said.

Raising the minimum wage was among the top priorities of the Democrat-led House. But

the measure cleared the Senate with only one dissenting vote.

"Working people should be paid an honorable wage," Sen. Ernesto Scorsone, D-Lexington, said before the vote.

Currently, the minimum wage in Kentucky is \$5.15 an hour. Under the proposal, it would increase to \$5.85 when the legislation takes effect. \$6.55 an hour in July 2008 and \$7.25 an hour July 1, 2009.

Kentucky's plan to raise its minimum wage comes as federal lawmakers in Congress are pondering a similar move.

The Rev. Patrick Delahanty, associate director of the Catholic Conference of

Kentucky, said he was grateful the bill passed the Senate. Delahanty said it would help thousands of Kentuckians.

"The issue is not compassion or feeling sorry for poor people. The issue is justice," Delahanty said. "It may not be enough to keep people out of poverty, but it's the right thing to do."

Sen. Dick Roeding, R-Lakeside Park, said he voted against the bill because it was not necessary and would likely be addressed at the federal level.

"I don't think that minimum wage is necessary in this state and I think it is an intrusion into the way the free-

enterprise system works," Roeding said. "I don't think that we have to do this in this

state or any state." *The legislation is House Bill 305.*

Forum

Continued from p1

can voice their concerns about security and suggest solutions to perceived problems.

Gail Minger chairs the Task Force. She is the mother of Michael Minger, who died in a dormitory fire at Murray State University in 1998.

"We are holding these public forums to give students, other members of the campus communities, as well as inter-

ested citizens, the opportunity to share their concerns about campus safety issues with members of the Task Force," Minger said.

Interested persons from the public universities, the community and technical colleges, and the private colleges and universities are encouraged to attend the campus forums.

PC students explore the world 'Inside Washington'

PIKEVILLE — Imagine sitting in a room listening to Nebraska Sen. Chuck Hagel, or ABC News veteran Ted Koppel talking about their jobs. Four Pikeville College students, along with more than 100 students from around the country and a handful from around the world, had the opportunity to do just that and more during the Washington Center's "Inside Washington '07" academic seminar.

"It was amazing how we got to meet people from every part of the government, from senators to campaign managers," said Miranda Dotson,

Pikeville College junior.

Joining Dotson on the two-week seminar in Washington, D.C., were fellow students, Brad Nicholas, Ryan Stratton, and Tiffany Thacker, along with Nancy Cade, Ph.D., professor of history and political science.

During their whirlwind look at the political process, the students had an opportunity to listen to a variety of speakers, including Charles E. Cook of The Cook Political Report, Ann Compton and Sam Donaldson of ABC News, Brian Lamb of C-SPAN, Clarence Page of the

Chicago Tribune and Bob Schieffer of CBS News.

Students also visited Capitol Hill, the embassies of Saudi Arabia, the Netherlands, Spain, Canada, and Australia, and toured Washington. They were also among the mourners who paid tribute to President Gerald Ford as he lay in state in the Capitol Rotunda.

"By far the best trip I've ever taken to Washington," said Stratton, a Pikeville College junior. "I've been involved in politics locally and at the state level and I learned how Washington truly works on this trip. I met people I

never realized I'd be able to meet. This program allowed me to get an up-close view of what I've been studying."

The seminar was divided into two sections. Week one focused on "The New Congress" and the impact of the election year on public policy.

The second week provided a look at "Politics and the Media," specifically how the media covers national politics and policies and how candidates are using new media formats to "bypass both the traditional political process and traditional news gatekeepers."

Continued from p1

Pension

state government would have to pay \$2 billion per year on pensions.

House Speaker Jody Richards, D-Bowling Green, has said he would support the state taking on the additional debt through the bond issue, but did not want to limit future pension benefits.

State government would have to pay about \$60 million annually over the next 20 years, under the proposal. Williams has said that the state would lose \$200 million by

not enacting the change this year.

Legislators are running out of time if they want to pass the legislation this session. The legislature is scheduled to meet on three more work days before adjourning the regular session on March 27.

"Taking action now means saving millions of taxpayer dollars," Fletcher said in the release. "My staff and I will be available all weekend to work with leaders of both chambers to move this issue forward."

Charges

Additionally, Misty Ann Miller Damron, of Elkhorn City, was charged with complicity to commit robbery when she allegedly aided John Michael Keen in an armed robbery that took place at a Floyd County Cardinal Mart.

Theft by unlawful taking was the cause for an indict-

ment handed down against Amos R. Johnson, of Printer, in regard to the theft of property owned by Bellsouth Telecommunications.

Jessie E. Tackett, of Weeksbury, was charged with receiving stolen property that had been taken from Samuel S. Stimmel.

Felony charges were also handed down against Curtis Gardner, of Tram, in regard to the receipt of stolen property belonging to Keith Webb II. Gardner, a convicted felon, was also charged with possession of a handgun.

Indictments on misdemeanor charges were brought

against Kermit Murphy Jr., of McDowell, in regard to an assault with a knife in a stabbing attack perpetrated against Jody Spriggs.

Finally, misdemeanor charges were brought against Kathy Mullins, of Prestonsburg, in regard to public disorderly conduct.

Continued from p1

Speed limit

You just have to watch what's going on." Tucker said the higher speed limit reflects the habits of most interstate drivers.

"I run about 70 and most of them blow by me," he said.

Sen. Tim Shaughnessy, a Louisville Democrat who opposed the bill, said he feared the higher speed limit would increase Kentucky's highway death toll.

"It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out the correlation between speeds and accidents, and the faster you go the more likely you're going to die," he said in an interview after the final vote.

Before taking effect, the higher speed limit would need approval from the state transportation secretary following an engineering study looking at safety factors. That review would probably take one or two months for each eligible highway, said state Highways Commissioner Marc Williams. If the bill becomes law, it likely wouldn't be until late this year that the speed limit might go up on those highways, he said.

Fletcher spokeswoman Jodi Whitaker said Friday that the governor would reserve comment until he reviews the bill with advisers.

This year's bill specifies that all rural stretches of interstates are eligible for the 70 mph speed limit. The exceptions would be urban portions of interstate highways in Jefferson County and the Cincinnati suburbs in northern Kentucky.

Also, rural sections of four-lane parkways would be eligible for the 70 mph speed limit. Current speed limits would remain unchanged on the Hal Rogers Parkway and a portion of the Bert T. Combs Mountain Parkway east of Campton.

The legislation is Senate Bill 83.

Continued from p1

Lawsuit

Mountain Eagle advertisers by offering "cut rates or almost no rates at all," and of attempting to hire staffers away from the Mountain Eagle.

In a brief submitted in support of a motion to dismiss the case, Pikeville Medical attorney Pamela T. May argues that not only does The Medical Leader operate under the hospital's nonprofit status, the Mountain Eagle has no grounds

to challenge that status.

"It is beyond question that The Medical Leader is not a legal entity and is not separate from Pikeville Medical Center, Inc.," writes May. "The Medical Leader is a registered assumed name of Pikeville Medical Center ... As merely a registered assumed name and not an independent legal entity, The Medical Leader is not subject to suit separate from Pikeville

Medical Center, Inc.

"No private individual or private entity has the standing to challenge the tax-exempt status of a 501(c)(3) corporation. That is strictly a matter between [Pikeville Medical Center] and the [Internal Revenue Service]."

The Mountain Eagle is asking that The Medical Leader and Pikeville Medical Center be prohibited from continuing to engage in the alleged

wrongful actions and for triple damages losses suffered.

U.S. District Judge Gregory Van Tatenhove is presiding over the case.

Continued from p1

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Local Planning Committee Meeting

The Floyd County Schools' Local Planning Committee will conduct a meeting on March 14, 2007, at 6:00 p.m., at the May Valley Elementary School, 481 Stephens Branch Martin, Kentucky 41649. This meeting is one of a series of meetings to develop a District Facilities Plan for the Floyd County Public Schools.

The Public is invited.


FLOYD COUNTY HEAD START / PRESCHOOL

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

Guest view

We should do better

As any working parent knows, finding dependable and safe child care can be a daunting task. Locally, we are lucky to have several child care centers and lots of home caregivers available to choose from. Still, as a whole the commonwealth did miserably on a recent study ranking child care center standards and oversight across the nation. Conducted by the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies, Kentucky landed very near the bottom of the list, according to the study. Of the 52 areas ranked (including the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense), Kentucky was named 49th.

Standards measured for the study — 15 all told — included staff-to-child ratios, requirements for directors to hold at least a bachelor's degree, teacher training, parental involvement, at least four inspections annually and requirements for criminal background checks including checks of child abuse and neglect registries, state and federal fingerprint checks and sex offender registry checks.

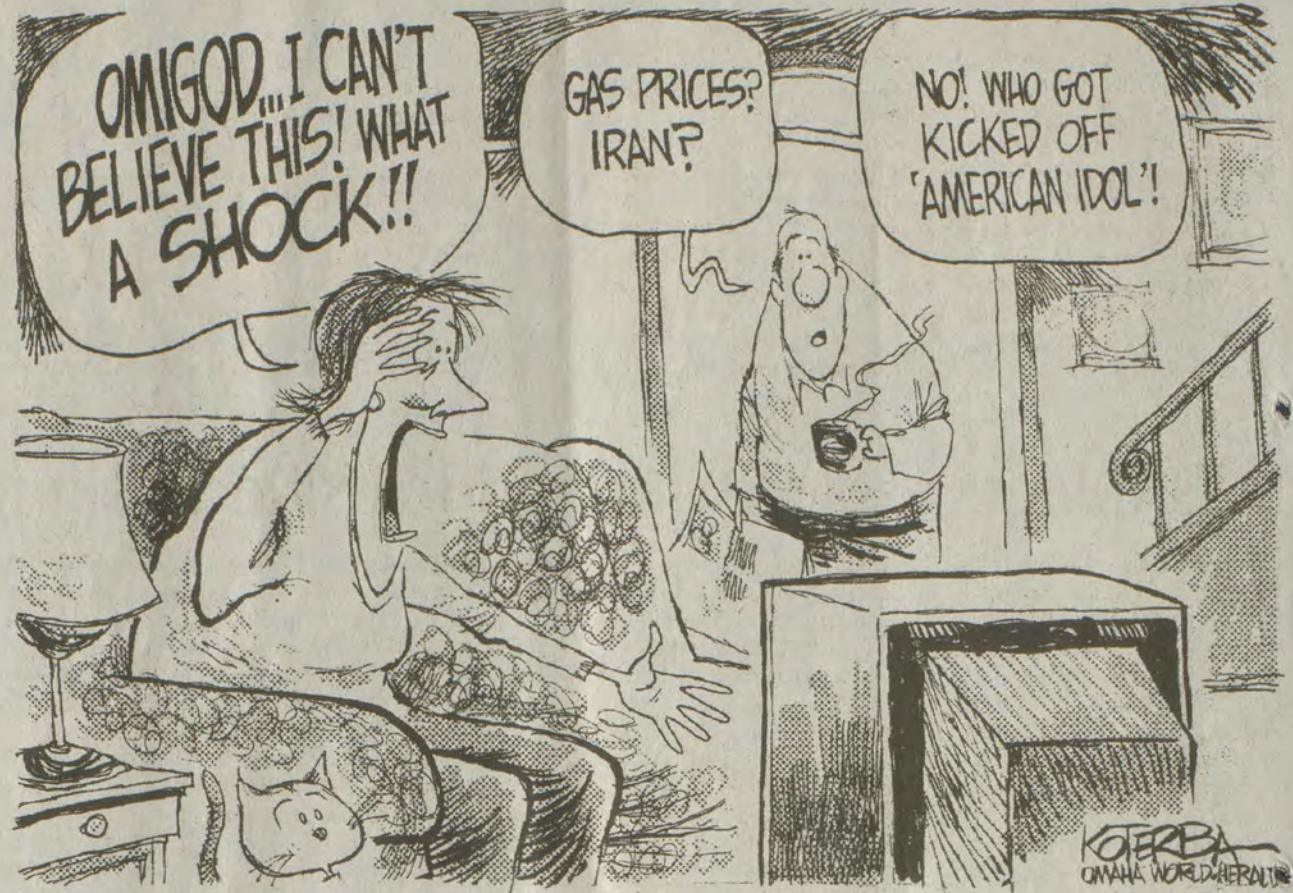
The report, entitled "We Can Do Better," points out that standards are worthless without oversight. And therein lies the problem. It's not that standards are not in place, it's simply there are few efforts to enforce them. Requiring more inspections or background checks accomplishes nothing if no one is charged with making sure the requirements are met.

Officials associated with the study pointed out that fixes are easy — simply do the basics. Lower child-to-staff ratios. Ease caseloads of inspectors so that inspections are completed promptly. Increase hiring standards. While none of the fixes come without costs, none are so expensive as to make them impossible to accomplish.

We hope state legislators take a good look at this report, available online at www.naccra.org, and come up with a plan to raise Kentucky's ranking before the next study is released.

We can do better? We must.

— The Ledger Independent, Maysville



— Rich Lowry Column

The nonscandal of CEO pay

High executive pay hasn't quite reached that status of a bipartisan "crisis," but it's approaching it. The Democratic senator from Virginia, Jim Webb, fulminated against it in his response to President Bush's State of the Union address. Bush himself, in a "State of the Economy" speech on Wall Street, urged corporate boards to "step up to their responsibilities" to better manage CEO pay.

Once something officially becomes a crisis, that means that it is certain there will be a raft of foolish proposals to address it, and sure enough, legislative measures to crimp corporate pay already are bubbling up. There are, of course, some abuses in CEO compensation packages, but the broad picture justifies the truism, "You get what you pay for." Skyrocketing CEO pay has coincided with two decades of wondrous economic performance, during which the value of all stocks traded in the U.S. rose from \$1.3 trillion in 1981 to more than \$15 trillion in 2000.

The scolds of corporate pay yearn, in effect, for the bad old days of the 1970s. Then, CEOs were paid relatively small amounts, but corporations weren't particularly innovative

and were run with little concern for the interests of shareholders. The hostile-takeover revolution of the 1980s changed all that.

As The Economist magazine puts it, CEOs had been paid like bureaucrats; now they are paid like entrepreneurs. The key innovation was tying compensation to the value of the company's stock through executive stock-ownership plans. A CEO's pay, therefore, was directly related to his performance, and his interests brought into alignment with those of shareholders.

It worked, and this model of pay spread throughout the corporate world.

The larger a company is, the greater an incentive that company will have to have the best-possible CEO, since it has more riding on it than a smaller firm. The number of people with the management skills, toughness and imagination suited to running a large corporation is small, and competition for their services is fierce. They are going to be paid a lot of money, especially when a profit or loss of billions of dollars depends on how they perform.

CEOs might be paid extremely

well, but they don't have easy jobs. Their performance is always evaluated by the inescapable taskmaster, the financial markets. When they are found lacking, they are canned — witness Kevin Rollins at Dell, out as CEO after just two and a half years. CEOs last on average about six years, in their jobs.

There are always examples of excess. The CEO of Home Depot, Robert Nardelli, stoked outrage when he left the company with a \$200-million severance package. His contract was a relic of the bull market of 2000, but it was understandable that Home Depot had desperately wanted a highly regarded former GE executive.

One theory says that corporate boards of publicly traded companies are too cozy with management, so they dole out excessive pay. This happens sometimes. But companies owned by private-equity firms with a direct stake in their success pay similarly large packages to entice and keep hard-charging CEOs. The market knows what it's doing here. Politicians don't.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.



— beyond the beltway

Is Oscar win a springboard to White House?

by DONALD KAUL
MINUTEMAN MEDIA

This late-breaking news just in: It seems that Al Gore did not — I repeat NOT — win an Oscar for his global-warming film, "An Inconvenient Truth."

Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, who ruled that the vote from Pasadena had not been properly counted, overturned the decision of the Motion Picture Academy on appeal. Scalia instead awarded the prize for best documentary to Vice President Dick Cheney for his autobiographical video, "Is Peace Necessary?"

Mr. Cheney accepted his Oscar at an undisclosed underground location, where he held up the statue and said: "I'd like to hit Nancy Pelosi over the head with this."

Other than that, the Oscars went pretty much according to plan, with few surprises. Ellen DeGeneres was a winning host and she tried her best to keep things moving but expecting the Oscars to run on time is like hoping an elephant will win the Kentucky Derby. It's just not built for speed.

I have an idea to shorten it by an hour or two, however. I would have the host issue a disclaimer at the top of the show saying that it is understood that all winners thank their co-workers, the people who hired them and all the people who voted for

them. It is further understood that they are grateful to wives, husbands, companions and children for believing in them when no one else did.

They would be allowed to thank teachers and parents for helping them along the way but not anyone who got paid for his or her help.

And if a winner thanked an agent, he or she would be shot on the spot.

This would make for a lot shorter, more entertaining show.

I guess the other thing wrong with the Oscars is that movies aren't as good as they used to be. The Oscar-nominated films this year were all pretty good, but not a patch on the movies of my youth — "Birth of a Nation," for example. One need look no further than the acceptance speech of one of the winners, Michael Arndt the screenwriter of "Little Miss Sunshine," to see what the problem is. He said:

"When I was a kid my family drove 500 miles in a van with a broken clutch. It ended up being one of the funnest things we did together."

Funnest? Movies today are not only being written for 12-year-olds, but by them.

I was just kidding, by the way, about Gore and Scalia and Cheney. Gore's film did actually win the Oscar.

There was some speculation that he might use the occasion — and his newfound Hollywood-style celebrity — to announce that he's running for president. You know, of the United States. But he didn't. He made some jokes about the idea, but in the end,

he denied he had any interest in the job.

Of course he doesn't. Like all defeated candidates for the presidency, he just walked away from it all with a shrug and a wave. Doesn't ever want to do it again. Ha! Never happens. One of the most persistence viruses known to man or woman is the presidential virus. It may not be fatal, but it's terminal.

Walter Mondale, about a year after having been beaten by Ronald Reagan in the 1984 election, asked his friend George McGovern, who had suffered a similar fate at the hands of Richard Nixon in 1972, how long before the defeat stops hurting.

"I'll let you know when it happens," McGovern answered.

Imagine then how it must gnaw on Gore, who lost the 2000 election despite the fact he got more votes than George W. Bush, an idiot.

So there he stands, an Academy Award in one hand, the other ready to accept a Nobel Peace Prize, while the Democratic candidates are fighting like kindergarten kids over who said what to whom.

And you're telling me he's not thinking about running for president?

I'm not saying it's a sure thing, mind you, but it's looking better every day.

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



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First Assembly of God, Martin; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Lorie Yannucci, Minister.

In Victory Assembly of God, West Prestonsburg; Sunday School, 10:00; Worship Service, 11:00 & 6:30; Wednesday Evening, 6:30; Gary Stanley, Pastor.

New Bethel Assembly of God, Burning Fork Rd., Salyersville; Sunday School; 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m. Arthur (Sam) Smith, Minister.

Praise Assembly, 1 mile S. of Prestonsburg, intersection of Rt. 80 and U.S. 23; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; J.M. Sloce, Minister.

BAPTIST

Allen First Baptist, Allen; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Arnold Turner, Minister.

Auxier Freewill Baptist, Auxier; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Thursday, 7 p.m.; Bobby Spencer, Pastor.

Benedict Baptist, Slick Rock Branch, Cow Creek; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Gordon Fitch, Minister.

Betsy Layne Free Will Baptist, Betsy Layne; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Tracy Patton, Minister.

Big Sandy Community and Technical College Baptist Student Union, J 102; Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.; Vera Joiner, 886-3863, ext. 67267.

Bonanza Freewill Baptist, Abbott Creek Road, Bonanza; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Jimmy D. Brown, Minister.

Brandy Keg Freewill Baptist, Corn Fork; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Roger Music, Minister.

Calvary Southern Baptist, Betsy Layne; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Doug Lewis, Minister.

Community Freewill Baptist, Goble Roberts Addition; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Paul D. Coleman, Minister.

Cow Creek Freewill Baptist, Cow Creek; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Nathon Lafferty, Minister.

Daniels Creek Baptist Fellowship Church of God, Banner Services; Saturday night, 7 p.m.; Sunday morning, 11 a.m.; Sunday night, 7 p.m.; Henry Lewis, Minister.

Drift Freewill Baptist, Drift; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 6:30 p.m.; Thursday, 6:30 p.m. Jim Fields, Minister.

Endicot Freewill Baptist, Buffalo; Sun. School, 10 a.m.; Church every Sun. Morning 11:15 a.m.; Wed. evening Bible Study & Prayer Meeting, 7:00 p.m.; Third Sun. evening Service, 6 p.m.; First Sat. evening Service, 7 p.m. Hobert Meek, Pastor, welcomes everyone.

Faith Bible Church, an independent Baptist Church, located on 1428, between Allen & Martin; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Sunday Morning - 11 a.m.; Sunday Evening, 6 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer, 6 p.m.; Pastor, Rev. Stuart E. Swenberg.

Faith Freewill Baptist, 1/4 mile above Worldwide Eqpt. on Rt. 1428; Sunday Service, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m. Buddy Jones, Minister.

First Baptist, Garrett; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Randy Osborne, Minister.

First Baptist, Martin; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Greydon Howard, Minister.

First Baptist, Prestonsburg, 157 South Front Street; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Wed., 6:30 p.m.; Jerry C. Workman, minister.

Fitzpatrick First Baptist, 1063 Big Branch, P.O. Box 410, Prestonsburg, KY 41653; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Pastor Tommy Reed.

Free United Baptist, West Prestonsburg; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.

Free United Baptist, West Prestonsburg; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Grethel Baptist, State Rt. 3379, (Branham's Creek Rd.); Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Garrett Regular Baptist, Route 550, Garrett; Worship Service, 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; Willie Crace, pastor; Assist. Larry Patton. Phone 358-4275.

Highland Avenue Freewill Baptist; Sunday School, 9:50 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; David Garrett, Minister.

Jacks Creek Baptist, Bevinville; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Pastor Roger Trusty.

Katy Friend Freewill Baptist, 2 miles up Abbott; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Jim Price, Minister.

Lackey Freewill Baptist, Lackey; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Johnny J. Collins, Minister.

Lancer Baptist Church; 71 Cooley St., Prestonsburg; Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship, 11:00 a.m., Evening Woshp, 6:00 p.m., Wednesday Prayer Meeting and Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.; Pastor Bobby Carpenter

Liberty Baptist, Denver; Sunday Service, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Merle Little, Minister.

Ligon Community Freewill Baptist, Ligon Worship Service, Sunday, 11:00 a.m. Thursday, 7 p.m.

Martin Branch Freewill Baptist, Estill; Sunday Service, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11:15 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; James (Red) Morris, Minister.

Martin Freewill Baptist, Martin; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; John L. Blair, Minister.

Maytown First Baptist, Main St., Maytown; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Bob Varney, Minister.

McDowell First Baptist, McDowell; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Gene Bracken, Minister.

Middle Creek Baptist, Blue River; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Eugene Cook, Minister.

Lighthouse Baptist, 2194 KY Rt. 1428, Prestonsburg; Sunday Service, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Donald Crisp, Minister. home phone 285-3385

Pleasant Home Baptist, Water Gap Road, Lancer; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Mark Tackett, Pastor.

Pleasant Valley Old Regular Baptist Church, Tinker Fork; Meeting time 1st Saturday & Sunday of each month, 3rd Sunday Evening at 6:00 p.m.; Moderator, Gary Compton; Assist. Moderator, Jimmy Conley.

Prater Creek Baptist, Banner; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; J.B. Hall, Pastor. Phone: (606) 874-3222.

Rock Fork Freewill Baptist; Garrett Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Wendell Crager, Minister.

Rock Fork Regular Baptist, Garrett; Worship Service, 9:30 a.m.; Jerry Manns, Pastor; Willie Crace Jr., Assistant Pastor.

Salt Lick United Baptist, Salt Lick, Hueysville; Worship Service, 2nd & 4th Sunday, 10:30 a.m.; Pastor, Allen Chaffins, phone 946-2123.

Sammy Clark Branch Freewill Baptist, Dana; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Stephens Branch Missionary Baptist, Stephens Branch; Sunday Service, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.

The Third Avenue Freewill Baptist; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m. Phillip Ramey, Pastor.

Tom's Creek Freewill Baptist, U.S. 23 (north of Layne Brothers); Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Chuck Ferguson, Minister.

Tom Moore Memorial Freewill Baptist; Cliff Road; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Youth Service, 5:00 p.m.; Evening Service, 6:00 p.m.; No Service the 1st Sunday of each month; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Jody Spencer, Minister.

Trimble Chapel Freewill Baptist; Intersection of U.S. 23 and KY 80, Water Gap; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship Service, 11 a.m. and Evening Worship Service 6 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Study, 7 p.m., Youth Services 7 p.m.; Everyone Welcome.

United Community Baptist, Hwy. 7, Hueysville; Worship Service, 2 p.m.; Friday, 7 p.m.; Carlos Beverly, Minister.

Wheelwright Freewill Baptist, Wheelwright Junction; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Louis Ferrari, Minister.

CATHOLIC

St. Martha, Water Gap; Mass: Sunday, 11:15 a.m.; Saturday, 5 p.m.; Sunday; Father Robert Damron, pastor.

CHRISTIAN

First Christian, 560 North Arnold Avenue; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Jim Sherman, Minister.

Victory Christian Ministries, 1428 E.; Sunday School, 11:30 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Sherm Williams, Minister.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Betsy Layne Church of Christ, Betsy Layne; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Tommy J. Spears, Minister.

Prestonsburg Church of Christ, 88 Hwy. 1428; Worship Service, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Richard Kelly and Nelson Kidder, Ministers.

Harold Church of Christ, Harold; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; James H. Harmon, Minister.

Highland Church of Christ, Rt. 23, Hager Hill; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.

Hueysville Church of Christ; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Chester Varney, Minister.

Return To Your Bible

Submit to God and be at peace with Him; in this way prosperity will come to you.

Job 22:21



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Lower Toler Church of Christ, Harold; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; Lonie Meade, Minister.

Mare Creek Church of Christ, Stanville; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Martin Church of Christ, Martin; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m. Gary Mitchell, Minister.

Maytown Church of Christ, 66 Turkey Creek Rd., Langley; Sunday Bible Study 10:00 a.m., Sunday morning worship 11:00 a.m., Evening Worship 6:00 p.m., Wednesday Bible Study 6:00 p.m.

Upper Toler Church of Christ, 3.5 miles up Toler Creek on right; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Tommy Dale Bush, Minister.

Weeksbury Church of Christ; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m. Mike Hall, Minister.

CHURCH OF GOD

Betsy Layne Church of God, Old U.S. 23; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Judith Caudill, Minister.

Community Church of God, Arkansas Creek, Martin; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Friday, 7 p.m.; Bud Crum, Minister.

First Church of God; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Steven V. Williams, Pastor.

Garrett Church of God, Garrett; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Donald Bragg, Minister.

Landmark Church of God, Goble Roberts Addition; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11:10 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Kenneth E. Prater, Jr., Minister.

Little Paint First Church of God, 671 Little Paint Road, East Point; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Charles Heater Jr., Minister.

The Ligon Church of God of Prophecy, Saturday Services, 7:00 p.m.; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Ralph Hall, Pastor.

EPISCOPAL

St. James Episcopal; Sunday Service, 9:45 a.m.; Holy Eucharist 11:00 a.m. Wednesday Study Group 6:00p.m., Holy Eucharist & Healing 7:30 p.m. Father Johnnie E. Ross, Rector.

LUTHERAN

Our Savior Lutheran, Sipp Bayes Room Carriage House Motel, Paintsville; Sunday Service, 11 a.m.; WKLV (600 am) 12:05 p.m.; Rolland Bentrup, Minister.

METHODIST

Auxier United Methodist, Auxier; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Garfield Potter, Minister.

Betsy Layne United Methodist, next to B.L. Gymnasium; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Randy Blackburn, Minister.

Allen Christ United Methodist, Allen; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Kenneth Lemaster, Minister.

Community United Methodist, 141 Burke Avenue (off University Drive and Neeley St.); Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Steve Pescosolido, Minister.

Elliott's Chapel Free Methodist, Rt. 979, Beaver; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Philip T. Smith, Minister.

Emma United Methodist, Emma; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m.; Pastor David Proffitt.

First United Methodist, 256 South Arnold Avenue; 9 a.m. Contemporary Service; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:55 a.m. and 5 p.m. UMYS Service; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Mark D. Walz, Pastor.

Horn Chapel Methodist, Auxier Road, Auxier; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Sunday Morning Service, 11 a.m.; Mid-week Service, 7 p.m.; Sunday Evening Service held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at 6 p.m.; Larry J. Penix, Minister.

Graceway United Methodist, Rt. 80, Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday Night, 7 p.m.; Roy Harlow, Minister.

Salisbury United Methodist, Printer; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Study, 6 p.m.; Bobby G. Lawson, Minister.

Wayland United Methodist, Rt. 7, Wayland; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Jack Howard, Pastor.

Wheelwright United Methodist, Wheelwright; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Bobby Isaac, Minister.

Vogle Day United Methodist Church, Harold; Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.; Sunday Worship Service, 11:00 a.m.; Wed. Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.; Dennis C. Love, Pastor.

Drift Pentecostal, Drift; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, Saturday/Sunday, 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Ted Shannon, Minister.

Free Pentecostal Church of God, Rt. 1428, East Point; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Thurs., 6:30 p.m.; Buster Hayton, Minister.

Free Pentecostal Church of God, Weeksbury; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 7 p.m.; Wednesday/Saturday, 7 p.m.; John "Jay" Patton, Minister.

Free Pentecostal Deliverance, Ext. 46 off Mt. Parkway at Campton; Worship Service, Saturday and Sunday, 7 p.m.; Patricia Crider, Minister.

Free Pentecostal Holiness, Rt. 122, Upper Burton; Sunday School, 11 a.m.; Worship Service, 6 p.m.; Friday, 7 p.m.; Louis Sanlan, Minister; David Pike, Associate Minister.

Goodloe Pentecostal, Rt. 850, David; Worship Service, 6 p.m.; Malcom Slone, Minister.

Parkway First Calvary Pentecostal, Floyd and Magoffin County Line; Worship Service, 6:30 p.m.; Mike D. Caldwell, Minister. 297-6262.

Trinity Chapel Pentecostal Holiness, Main St., Martin; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 7 p.m.; 2nd Sat., 7 p.m.; Thurs., 7 p.m.; Ellis J. Stevens, Minister.

Free Pentecostal Church, Dwayne; Services Saturday, 6 p.m.; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Services, 11 a.m.; No Sunday Night Service.

PRESBYTERIAN

Drift Presbyterian, Route 1101, Drift; Worship Service, 11 a.m.

First Presbyterian, North Lake Drive; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. Rev. Vicki Poole, pastor.

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

Seventh-Day Adventist, 5 miles West on Mountain Parkway; Church Service, 9:15; Sabbath School, 10:45; John Baker, Pastor, 358-9263; Church, 886-3459, leave message. Everyone welcome!

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints; Sacrament Mtg., 10:00 a.m.; Sunday School, 11:20 a.m.; Relief Society/Preisthood/Primary, 12:00 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m. Church Meeting House address, Hwy. 80, Martin, KY 41649; Meeting House telephone number: 285-3133; Ken Carriere, Bishop.

OTHER

Pastor Atha Johnson welcomes everyone to attend services at the CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY TRAM KENTUCKY. Sunday school 10 a.m., Worship service 11 a.m.

Drift Independent, Drift; Sunday, 11 a.m.; Thursday, 6:30 p.m.

Grace Fellowship Prestonsburg (next to old flea market), Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship, 11 a.m. Bill Stukenberg, Pastor 889-0906.

Faith Deliverance Tabernacle, West Prestonsburg; Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.; Thursday, 7 p.m.; Don Shepherd, Minister.

Faith Revelation Ministry, 1/4 mile above Worldwide Equipment; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Randy Hagans, Minister.

Faith Worship Center, US 460, Paintsville; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Thursday, 6 p.m.; Buddy and Maude Frye, Minister.

Full Gospel Community, (formerly of Martin) moved to Old Allen; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Sunday evening, 6:30 p.m.; Wed., 6:30 pm.; Lavonne Lafferty, Minister.

Lighthouse Temple, Main St. and Hall St.; Worship Service, 12 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday/Friday, 7 p.m.; Roy Cosby, Minister.

Living Water Ministries Full Gospel Church, Rt. 3, just before Thunder Ridge; Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Sunday Evening, 6:00 p.m. Pastor: Curt Howard.

Martin House of Worship, Old Post Office St.; Worship Service, 7 p.m., Saturday/Sunday.

Old Time Holiness, 2 miles up Arkansas Creek, Martin; Sunday School, 11 a.m.; Worship Service, 7 p.m.; Friday, 7 p.m.; John W. Patton, Minister.

Spurlock Bible (Baptist), 6227 Spurlock Creek Rd., Prestonsburg; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Jim Stephens, Minister. 886-1003.

Town Branch Church; Sunday School 10 a.m. except for first Sunday in each month; Worship Service, Sun. morning 10:00 a.m.; Evening 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; No Sunday night services on first Sunday of each month. Tom Nelson, Minister.

The Father House, Big Branch, Abbott Creek; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 6 p.m.; J.J. Wright, Minister.

The Tabernacle, Rt. 321 (Old Plantation Motel), Christian Educator, 10:00; Sunday Morning, 11:00; Sunday Evening, 7:00; Wednesday, 7:00; Pastors, Paul and Ramona Aiken.

Youth Fellowship Center, Wheelwright; Monday-Tuesday, 6 p.m.; Thursday, 7 p.m.

Zion Deliverance, Wayland; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Prayer Line: 358-2001; Darlene W. Arnette, Pastor

Taylor Chapel Community Church, formerly the old Price Food Service building, located 1 quarter mile above Worldwide Equipment, Rt. 1428. Sun. Bible Study, 10 a.m.; Sun. Morning Service, 11 a.m.; Sun. Evening, 6:30 p.m. Kenny Vanderpool, Pastor.

International Pentecostal Holiness Church, 10974 N. Main St., Martin; Rev. Ellis J. Stevens, Senior Pastor.

Rising Sun Ministries, 78 Court Street, Allen, Ky.; Sunday, 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Pastor: D.P. Curry.

Church of God of Prophecy, Sunday School 10 a.m., Worship Service 11 a.m., Sunday Night - 6 p.m., Wednesday Night - 6 p.m. Pastor Glenn Hayes. West Prestonsburg.

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FLOYD COUNTY Sports

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Belfry upends Magoffin; Lady Hornets fall short in region repeat bid

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PIKEVILLE – Magoffin County didn't get the chance to move into the 15th Region girls' basketball championship game and play for a second straight title. The Lady Hornets fell in the regional tournament semifinals on Thursday night, losing to Belfry. The runner-up out of the 60th District, Belfry maintained a lead at the conclusion of each quarter en route to a 78-59 win. Belfry (19-10) put together one of its best games of the season while Magoffin County struggled in one of its worst-shooting exhibitions of the campaign.

The Lady Pirates were able to turn back every Magoffin County rally. Merissa Pruitt led Belfry with a

game-high 28 points. Pruitt was one of three Lady Pirates to post 20 or more points. Belfry's Shae Deskins and Amanda Moon each had 20 points.

Belfry led 20-14 at the end of the first quarter. Still looking to successfully defend its position as the 15th Region's top team, Magoffin County only found itself behind 30-28 at halftime.

Belfry, a 75-51 winner over Betsy Layne in the regional tournament's opening round, got points out of seven different players.

Nikki Robinette scored four points and Paige Thacker tossed in three for the Lady Pirates. Eight-grade guard Janielle Bevins worked her way into the scoring column for Belfry when

she hit connected on a fourth quarter free throw.

Belfry clamped high-powered Magoffin County in the second half, outscoring the Lady Hornets 22-13 in the third quarter.

Brittany Manns led Magoffin County with 17 points. Michaela Howard scored 14 points and Ashley Howard added 10 for the Lady Hornets.

Magoffin County ended a brilliant season 28-4.

Belfry, thanks to the win, earned the right to play in the regional championship Saturday night. The Lady Pirates were taking on district rival Pike County Central in the title game. Results from the championship contest were unavailable at press time.



Belfry's Nikki Robinette and Magoffin County's Megan Powers each eyed a shot during the regional tournament game.

photo by Steve LeMaster

Lady Hawks vanquish Valley

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PIKEVILLE – Head coach Stephen Butcher guided the Pike County Central Lady Hawks in the 15th Region Tournament title game for a second straight season. The Butcher-coached Lady Hawks defeated Shelby Valley 77-59 Thursday night in the regional tournament semifinals at the East Kentucky Expo Center. With the loss, Shelby Valley was eliminated from the postseason. The Lady Wildcats ended the latest campaign 24-4.

Holly Harriss paced Pike County Central with a team-best 21 points. Harriss was one of four Pike County Central players to reach double figures in the scoring column. Kayla Lowe followed with 17 points for the Lady Hawks. Haley Ratliff added 13 points for Pike County Central, the reigning 60th District champion. AD Slone, one of the 15th Region's most underrated players, chipped in 11 points.

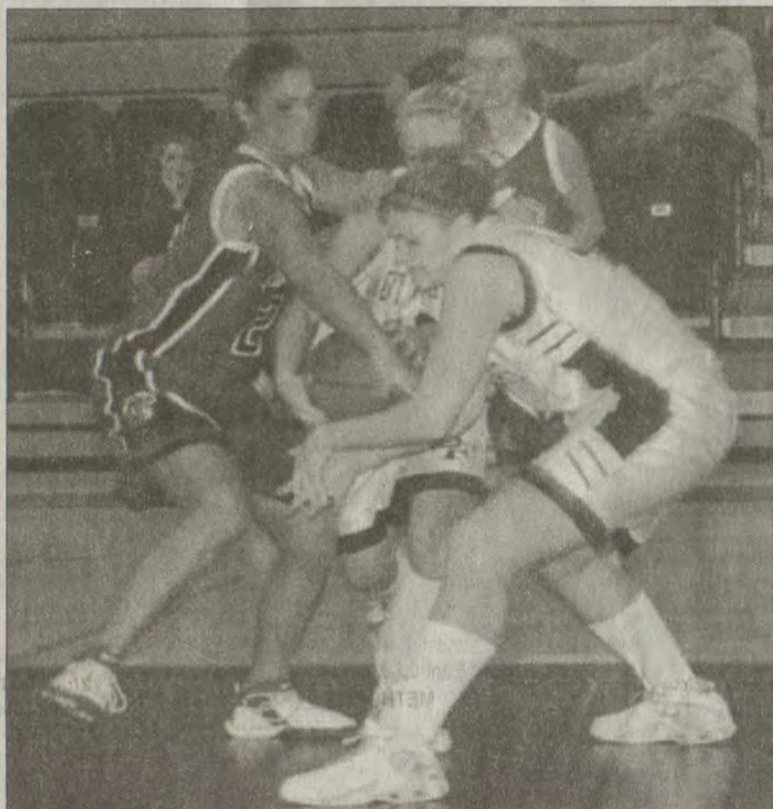
After the first quarter, Shelby Valley trailed for much of the remainder of the contest. The two teams ended the opening quarter deadlocked at 11-11. Pike

(See HAWKS, page eight)



photo by Steve LeMaster
Shelby Valley senior Esther Fleming scored a game-high 29 points in her final basketball game as a Shelby Valley Wildcat.

HONORED



STANDOUT STUDENT-ATHLETE: South Floyd High School senior Heather Dean was the recipient of this year's Judy Eversole Award. Dean is a standout student-athlete, having already accomplished many things – both in the classroom and on the basketball court – during her four-year stint at SFHS. The South Floyd senior has ranked as one of the state's top girls' basketball rebounders and shot blockers each of the last two years. Dean achieved the elusive triple-double during her playing career at SFHS.



Blackcats set to start spring practice

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG – The Prestonsburg High School football program will begin spring practice on Monday. Prestonsburg is scheduled to conduct its first set of spring drills from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Monday.

The Blackcat football program set the later practice time to work around the spring sports of baseball, tennis and track and field.

"We have several players involved with other spring sports and we didn't want to conflict with any of those," said Prestonsburg Coach John DeRossett. "Going in, we hope to get in eight practices and one

(See BLACKCATS, page eight)

Berea falls to Bethel in NAIA Tournament

TIMES STAFF REPORT

SIoux CITY, Iowa – No. 2 seed Bethel (Ind.) won a shootout with No. 7 seed Berea Thursday 98-86 in the first round of the NAIA Division II Women's Basketball National Championship at the Tyson Events Center/Gateway Arena.

Berea (22-8) led the nation in scoring (94.1 point per game) during the regular-season and averaged almost 95 shot attempts in each contest. Bethel (27-6) also could put points on the board, ranked 15th in the NAIA in scoring.

Berea edged Alice Lloyd in the KIAC title game.

It was Bethel who had the hot hand throughout the game, shooting 57.8 percent from the field, hitting 37 field goals. In the

(See NAIA, page eight)

Newman receives special visit during Kentucky Speedway test session

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

SPARTA – Penske Racing headliner Ryan Newman's Kentucky Speedway test took on a different flavor today when he received a special visit from Kentucky Lt. Gov. Steve Pence.

"I've been to the speedway several times, but it's neat to be in the garage here and see all that goes into the NASCAR races for each and every car. Ryan Newman is here today who is one of the top echelon drivers on the circuit. To have him and his crew here is very exciting. Seeing what goes into NASCAR with each and every race, it just makes the sport all that much more exciting for me."

Lt. Gov. Pence, an avid NASCAR fan, looked on while Newman turned laps in wintry temperatures to gather intermediate track knowledge that may pay dividends as early as this Sunday's race on the newly-configured 1.5-mile track at Las Vegas Motor Speedway.

"We're working on our intermediate car, some specifically for Vegas and some specifically for the rest of the season," Newman said. "We're trying to map some things out. It's a cool day here so the track is pretty quick and everything's pretty good. We're trying to collect some data. It's tough anymore to get good testing in, especially at the NEXTEL Cup tracks, and this is the closest place we could come."

Newman ended a string of top-10 finishes in final NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Series points standings at four last season. After entering the year owning 12 wins, 50 top-five and 74 top-10 finishes through three full-time series seasons, he closed out the 2006 campaign with a career-low 18th-place showing in championship standings after picking up two top-five and a total of seven top-10 finishes.

(See SPEEDWAY, page eight)



photo by Steve LeMaster

POSTSEASON BOBCATS: Under the guidance of head coach Brent Rose and his staff, Betsy Layne has become a perennial 15th Region Tournament participant. Junior guard Brennan Case (pictured shooting) helped to lead the Bobcats into the latest regional tournament.

Hawks

County Central, despite allowing Shelby Valley to go on a run at the end of the second quarter, entered halftime ahead 28-23.

Pike Central benefitted from seven different scorers. Kayla Ratliff flipped in seven points and Hannah Thompson added six for the Lady Hawks.

Shelby Valley, the runner-up out of the 59th District, struggled to keep up with Pike Central early on in the second half. The Lady Hawks outscored Shelby Valley 27-11 in the third quarter.

Senior Esther Fleming led Shelby Valley with a game-high 29 points. Laura Perkins scored 16 points and Sally Roberts added 12 for the Lady Wildcats.

Pike Central was taking on district rival Belfry Saturday night in the

15th Region championship. The Lady Hawks defeated the Lady Pirates 65-54 on Feb. 27 in the 60th District title game. The regional championship game ended too late to make this edition.

15th Region Girls' Basketball Tournament Semifinals at East Kentucky Expo Center
Pike Co. Central 77, Shelby Valley 59

PIKE CO. CENTRAL (19-10) – Harriss 21, K. Ratliff 7, H. Ratliff 13, Thompson 6, Lowe 17, Coleman 2, Slone 11.

SHELBY VALLEY (24-4) – Roberts 12, Perkins 16, K. Smallwood 2, Fleming 29.

Pike Co. Central.....11 17 27 22-77
Shelby Valley.....11 12 11 24-59

■ Continued from p7

NAIA

second half the Lady Pilots were nearly automatic, shooting at a 64 percent clip.

Berea made a late surge to cut an 80-55 Lady Pilot lead down to 94-82, but it was too little, too late for the Lady Mountaineers.

Berea had nine different players score, three in double figures. Annbruce Madden led Berea with 17 points. Shavannah Brinson added 16 points while Rebecca May and

Sarah Hughes chipped in with 13 and 10, respectively. Hughes added 10 rebounds to notch a double-double.

Salyersville 'native and Magoffin County High School graduate Calloray Howard is a freshman forward for the Berea College women's basketball team. Current MCHS seniors Ashley Howard and Brittany Manns have each signed with Berea College.

■ Continued from p7

Blackcats

spring game."

As has been the case in previous seasons, Blackcat football players haven't shied away from the weight room and offseason conditioning.

"Our kids are excited about the start of spring practice," DeRossett added. "We've had another good winter in the weightroom and our guys are hungry to get the pads on

and get in some snaps."

The Blackcats ended the 2006 season 7-5, finishing runner-up to long-time rival Belfry in Class 2A, District 8.

Prestonsburg has preseason scrimmages scheduled for the month of August against Clay County and Sheldon Clark.

■ Continued from p7

Speedway

He opened this season with a 38th-place finish in the Daytona 500 and followed with a 12th-place effort at California Speedway in the series last race Feb. 25. He plans to sustain his competitive momentum at Las Vegas Motor Speedway.

"We were happy to run 12th at California after struggling (there) last year and it was obviously a disappointment at Daytona. We had a car that was capable of winning and we were running up front 180 laps in, but we had duct work fail and that closed the radiator off. Therefore, it burnt the engine up. The bottom line is we've been competitive in both races this year. After last year, that's a great way to start."

Newman, who spent portions of last season lobbying NASCAR to change the Dodge Charger template, said he is relatively pleased with the current design of his No. 12 Alltel Dodge.

"The Dodge Charger's been pretty good. We have a new nose and a new hood. The downforce is different and balance seems to be pretty good. It's a matter of being more competitive and I think we are," he said.

He added he's eager to team with new crew chief Mike Nelson to take on the challenges presented by the Car of Tomorrow design that makes its debut at Bristol Motor Speedway March 25.

"We were middle of the road last week at Bristol speed wise in the Car of Tomorrow test. We've got some work to do to make the car ride a little better on a really bumpy racetrack. We're working with the lack of suspension travel to make the car ride good.

"It's definitely different, but it's not a huge difference. It's just a matter of getting it balanced and getting it trimmed out aero wise. Even at a place like Bristol, the aerodynamics are very important. We're just looking forward to getting back on the track and racing there," he said.

During his visit with Ky. Lt. Gov. Pence, Newman discussed the potential for NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Series schedule changes and the addition of new tracks to the circuit.

"I think there are a few racetracks that we go to that we don't need to go to twice. They don't pack the place full so there's no point in going back. Obviously, we don't want to take away from the people that enjoy having it twice, but there are other places we can go to serve the entire United States a little bit better. Some tracks are nice to go twice and some tracks

we only need to go to once, that's the bottom line," he said.

Pence asserted that a NASCAR NEXTEL Cup event at Kentucky Speedway would create a success story for both the Commonwealth and the series.

"First, I think it'd be great for NASCAR because there are so many race fans in this area and this (television) viewing area in driving distance (of this facility). There's no question that what (Kentucky Speedway Chairman and Co-Owner) Jerry Carroll has built here is a great thing and they (the fans) would fill this up. It would be a huge impact economically for the state.

"A NEXTEL Cup race is just not a one-day event. It is a week event or more. That would have the same impact as a Kentucky Derby or greater. There are that many people that come to the track, it's a televised event and it's an opportunity to market Kentucky and the great job we've done in starting to do that.

"So, I think it would be something all of the people of Kentucky would benefit from. It is a wholesome sport and it's the type of thing we want people to know Kentucky for. I hope, and I believe it will happen, that a NEXTEL Cup race will come here eventually. The sooner the better," Pence said.

He recommended the state and its race fans openly demonstrate their passion for the sport to make his belief become reality.

"Let NASCAR know that the state cares about this. That's one of the reasons I'm here today, to let the people on Ryan Newman's team know that the state does care about this and they want to see a NEXTEL Cup race here. I like to hear and talk to guys like Ryan Newman because they believe a NEXTEL Cup race would work here.

"All the drivers who test here now say it's a great track. So, if the state gets behind it with all its effort, the fans get behind it, and we have a few drivers who say it's a great place to race, it will happen eventually. You know, there's always some resistance. If we do what Jerry Carroll is doing, and that's to keep plugging along day-by-day, eventually, there will be a (NEXTEL) Cup race here."

Newman closed out the NEXTEL Cup test docket for the week at Kentucky Speedway. A scheduled session for Dale Earnhardt, Inc., driver Martin Truex, Jr., was canceled earlier in the day.

Smoking banned at Great American Ball Park

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI – The Cincinnati Reds have decided to prohibit smoking at Great American Ball Park to comply with a statewide ban approved by voters last year.

The team previously allowed smoking in seven designated areas on concourses and ramps. By city ordinance, smoking already was prohibited in seating areas.

An employee who sees someone

smoking will ask the person to stop and hand the violator a card describing the new law, vice president of ballpark operations Declan Mullin said.

The new policy, announced Thursday, also prohibits fans from leaving the ballpark to smoke and then re-entering.

The team had requested guidance from the Hamilton County prosecutor's office on how the ballpark would be affected by the law. The

office advised the Reds to ban smoking throughout the facility.

In December, the Cleveland Indians announced they would ban smoking in Jacobs Field to comply with state law.

The law, approved by 58 percent of voters Nov. 7, prohibits smoking in nearly all public buildings and work places. Exceptions include tobacco shops, designated hotel rooms and enclosed areas of nursing homes.

Conine over bad back, ready to play

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SARASOTA, Fla. – Jeff Conine didn't worry when his back started giving him problems as spring training began. Neither did his new team.

The Cincinnati Reds didn't expect an everyday player when they traded to get Conine from the Philadelphia Phillies in December. They were looking for a right-handed hitter who could share first base and occasionally play the outfield.

The 40-year-old Conine seemed to be a good fit.

"I have never been a straight bench guy," said Conine, who is playing for his fourth team in three years. "I've always played at least two or three games a week. I've started out that way but with injuries (to other players), I've played more than planned."

An injury to his back has kept him out of the lineup so far. He got into his first spring game on

Tuesday and struck out twice during a 3-1 win over Tampa Bay, once on a called third strike.

"I'll be getting some at-bats and seeing live pitching," Conine said. "I won't take long to get ready. I just wanted to track some pitches. I took one bad swing, the only swing I took, I saw a lot of strikes."

Manager Jerry Narron plans to keep him in the lineup to help him get sharp.

"I don't worry about him getting ready," Narron said.

Conine stays in shape in the off-season by playing racquetball. He developed back spasms after reporting for spring training, forcing him to sit out the first five games.

"I've done it before, so I know when it locks up I'll be out for three days," he said. "This early in spring training, we're all rusty, so the missed days won't hurt me as far as getting ready for the season."

"I got it out of the way early. The

last time my back locked up on me was 2005."

Conine has shown an ability to do whatever it takes to keep playing. Kansas City picked him in the 58th round of the June 1987 draft, when Ken Griffey Jr. was the first overall pick. He has played first base, third base and outfield for the Royals, the Marlins, the Orioles, the Phillies and now the Reds.

Along the way, he won World Series championships with Florida in 1997 and 2003.

In the offseason, the Reds were looking for someone to share first base with Scott Hatteberg, who bats left-handed. They also needed an extra outfielder. The Reds got Conine from the Phillies for a pair of minor leaguers.

"I'm right where I want to be, once the strain in my back is resolved and there are no lingering effects," he said.

ARCA Trucks set to invade Eldora

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

ROSSBURG, Ohio – Eldora Speedway and the ARCA Lincoln Welders Truck Series have reached an agreement in which the nationally recognized high-banked one-half mile clay oval will host the traveling ARCA truckers in 2006.

The ARCA Lincoln Welders Truck Series, in its eighth consecutive season of competition, will create history as they make their first-ever appearance at Eldora on Wednesday night, June 7, in conjunction with Eldora's annual Nextel Prelude to the Dream.

Larry Kemp, general manager of Eldora Speedway, is eager. "The return of ARCA to Eldora is long overdue, and their truck division will offer our fan base an exciting new twist to their racing menu."

"Eldora's reputation as a world-wide leader in short-track racing is

unprecedented", said ARCA VP of Competition, Joe Wells. "We're always looking at ways to take the ARCA Lincoln Welders Truck Series to the next level. Having Eldora Speedway on our schedule serves that purpose and adds a great deal of quality to our program."

Like the ARCA RE/MAX Series, ARCA's premier touring division, the truck series competes on a wide variety of venues, ranging from both clay and paved ovals to road courses.

The ARCA/Eldora connection reaches back to 1960, when the Rossburg, Ohio speed plant first hosted the ARCA RE/MAX Series on June 19. Harold Smith, the 1961 ARCA National Champion, won the inaugural 200-lapper at Eldora. In all, Eldora hosted the ARCA/REMAX Series nine times through 1972; producing winners such as Iggy Katona, Ralph Latham,

Les Snow and Benny Parsons. Katona won back-to-back 500 lappers in 1960 and 1961.

The ARCA Lincoln Welders Truck Series, born in 1999, emerged as an evolution of the ARCA Pro-4 Modified division, which had been a regional ARCA touring series from 1988 - 1998. The trucks feature performance-modified 4 and 6-cylinder cast iron engine blocks, bumper-to-bumper racing chassis and protective roll cage assemblies, as constructed by ARCA-approved manufacturers, and are enclosed by template stock appearing bodies. The engine block must correspond to the manufacturer body style used. Configurations approved by ARCA include Ford Ranger, Chevy S-10, Chevy Colorado, GMC-15, Dodge Dakota and Toyota Tacoma.

Brett Rowe is the defending ARCA Lincoln Welders Truck Series champion.



GIRLS' REGIONAL SHOW-DOWN: Belfry's Merissa Pruitt (15) dribbled against Magoffin County's Ashley Hall (21) in the 15th Region Tournament semifinals.

photo by Steve LeMaster



AT THE TRACK: NASCAR Nextel Cup driver Ryan Newman talked with Kentucky Lieutenant Governor Steve Pence earlier in the week during a testing session at Kentucky Speedway.

photo courtesy of Kentucky Speedway

UK FOOTBALL: Brooks addresses player issues

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — University of Kentucky football coach Rich Brooks made a series of announcements Thursday regarding the status of several Wildcat football players.

Reserve cornerback Jarrell Williams has been dismissed from the team for violation of team rules.

Williams has seen limited action the last two seasons.

Reserve linebacker Ben McGrath has decided to give up football. McGrath, a two-year letterman, left the team in early December for personal reasons and did not play in the Music City Bowl. McGrath had planned to return in spring practice but now has decided against playing.

He plans to remain in school and complete his education.

Three players, starting offensive tackle Garry Williams, starting offensive guard Christian Johnson, and reserve linebacker Micah Johnson, have been suspended indefinitely for academic reasons. Each of the players may return to the team as soon as his responsibilities have been

fulfilled to Brooks' satisfaction.

Reserve offensive lineman Micah Jones must give up football because of injury problems. Jones came to UK in 2004 and saw significant playing time as a true freshman. He has dealt with injuries the last two seasons, primarily a back injury which has forced his retirement from the sport.

"I am extremely disappointed for Micah, but I think this is a long-term decision that is best for his health," Brooks said. "We will keep him on scholarship so that he can stay in school and get his degree. I hope that things will get back to normal for him and that he will make a full recovery."

Anticipating huge demand, CBS doubles bandwidth for NCAA video streams

by SETH SUTEL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — CBS Corp. is doubling the amount of bandwidth available for viewing NCAA tournament games this year, but will still have to restrict the number of viewers to keep the system running smoothly.

The video streams proved very popular last year. CBS is also beefing up the image quality for the video and making the online video player larger, which will take up some of the added bandwidth.

Joe Ferreira, the vice president of programming at CBS SportsLine, says the site is aiming to accommodate up to 300,000 viewers at any given time, up from around 175,000 simultaneous viewers last year.

Once that limit is reached, fans will be diverted to online "waiting rooms" until enough other users

leave to allow new ones in.

CBS has been offering online viewing of the NCAA basketball games since 2003, but this is only the second year that they will be offered for free and supported with advertising. In previous years, fans had to pay for a subscription to view the games.

Steve Snyder, chief operating officer of CBS's digital media unit, said 2006 was a "year of learning" for selling advertising during the games. This year, CBS has a tighter grasp of how much ad time will be available and how to sell it, Snyder said.

Showing the NCAA games online is starting to turn into a real business for CBS. With as many as four different games being played simultaneously during the early rounds of the tournament, offering video streams over the Internet allows CBS another way to make money.

In order to keep their affiliated stations happy, however, CBS has to observe local "blackout" rules that prevent Internet users in a given area from watching a game online that is already appearing on their local CBS-affiliated station. That prevents users and advertising dollars from being leached away.

There are a total of 56 such "out-of-market" games during the first three rounds of the tournament, but after accounting for the blackout rules most viewers would have a choice of about 37 games, CBS said.

CBS took in about \$4 million in online advertising from the games last year, and Chief Executive Leslie Moonves told investors last month that the company expects to double those revenues and increase profits sixfold, but he didn't provide an exact profit figure.

The Hartford, a financial services

company, has signed up to buy ads online for the first time this year, though the company declined to say how much it's spending.

"As consumers change their media consumption habits, we're constantly looking for ways to get our message in front of them," said Michael Johnson, vice president of advertising at The Hartford.

Only the first three rounds of play are being offered online, with many of the games concentrated during the afternoons of Thursday the 15th and Friday the 16th.

Ferreira calls those times a "sweet spot" for video streaming since many fans will still be at work, often with access to the high-speed Internet connections required to watch the video.

Borrowing a trick from computer games, CBS will offer a "Boss" button on the player that viewers can hit

if they see their supervisor coming, which causes a fake spreadsheet to pop up and silences the audio feed.

The ruse could backfire, however, if bosses take the time to actually read the items listed on the spreadsheet, which purports to list, among other things, the millions of pounds of pizza, peanuts and other snack foods, including sushi, that were consumed while watching sporting events in 2006.

As for whether CBS will be encouraging slacking off at work, "employees and employers across the country are going to make individual decisions about what they do," Ferreira says. "We think it's a great perk."

In case some employers disagree, CBS does explain in a Q&A page on its Web site how companies can block online access to the video player.

SEC TOURNEY: Kentucky 79, Alabama 67

by PAUL NEWBERRY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA — Kentucky would have preferred to wait another day to start the Southeastern Conference tournament. Fortunately for the Wildcats, they were at a place that feels just like home.

Ramel Bradley and Randolph Morris scored 17 points apiece to lead five players in double figures and Kentucky romped to another victory in Atlanta, overcoming a slow start to beat Alabama 79-67 in the opening round of the SEC tournament.

The Wildcats (21-10) solidified their expected NCAA berth in a season that hasn't lived up to expectations so far. They finished fourth in the SEC East, forcing them to play on the opening day of the tournament for the second year in a row.

But Kentucky always seems to do well at the Georgia Dome, winning for the 19th time in 23 appearances at the football stadium-turned-basketball arena that is a frequent host of the SEC tournament.

After Alabama (20-11) raced to a 21-11 lead just past the midway point of the first half, the Wildcats put in a smaller, quicker lineup that took command with a 13-0 run, capped off by Morris' dunk. Bouncing back from a 3-of-15 shooting start, Kentucky made 11 of its last 15 attempts in the first half.

The Crimson Tide claimed its last lead at 27-24, but Kentucky responded with three straight 3-pointers — two by Bradley, another by Jodie Meeks. The Wildcats closed the half with an 11-0 spurt for a 35-27 lead at the break.

Kentucky pulled away with yet another run in the second half.

Bradley hit a jumper, then another 3 to spark a 9-0 run that put the Wildcats up 61-47. Alabama never got closer than 10 the rest of the way.

Joe Crawford added 16 points for Kentucky, while Meeks had 12 and Bobby Perry 10.

"We're a much more dangerous team when everybody's scoring," Bradley said.

Meeks, a freshman guard from the Atlanta suburb of Norcross, energized the Wildcats during his 24 minutes on the court.

"He's instant offense when he comes in there," Kentucky coach Tubby Smith said. "He plays with a lot of emotion, a lot of heart."

Morris took care of things on the inside, also pulling down 11 rebounds for his 10th double-double of the season. The Wildcats controlled the boards 34-26, pulling down 13 at the offensive end.

The loss likely cost the Crimson Tide, which got as high as No. 4 in The Associated Press rankings early in the season, any hope of making the NCAA tournament. Alabama will go down as one of the year's biggest disappointments, the slide caused by injuries, erratic play and a lack of toughness.

"You hold out that last glimmer of hope," coach Mark Gottfried said. "But if we get invited to the NIT, we'll give it our best shot."

Richard Hendrix led Alabama with 21 points. Alonzo Gee had 15 and Jamareo Davidson, who played with a bad back, managed 12. Point guard Ronald Steele played only 12 minutes because of an ailing knee; he was held to 2 points and one assist. "I was in a lot of pain," said Steele, who missed the final two games of the regular season. "I wasn't able to move or be effective."



photo by Steve LeMaster
FLOOR LEADER: Alex Hammonds moved the basketball during the regional opening round game against Phelps.

No. 12 Louisville 82, West Virginia 71, 2 OT

by VIN A. CHERWOOD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Having won several close road games down the stretch, Louisville didn't panic after squandering a 17-point lead in the second half. The 12th-ranked Cardinals kept their composure and outlasted upset-minded West Virginia.

Terrence Williams scored 21 points and Earl Clark added 17 as the Cardinals beat the Mountaineers 82-71 Thursday night in double overtime in the quarterfinals of the Big East conference tournament.

"We've been in this situation before, going on the road to Marquette and UConn," Williams said. "Every situation you face, you're going to be in that situation already."

Louisville (23-8) won its season-high seventh straight and 11th in the last 13 games. The Cardinals, who were 6-2 on the road in conference play, advanced to a semifinal matchup against Pittsburgh, who beat Marquette late Thursday night.

During the winning streak, the Cardinals also won by 13 at Pittsburgh, by two at Marquette and seven at Connecticut.

"Playing those six games that we won on the road helped us tonight

because it got to the time where you can't be nervous out there," Williams said. "You have to play basketball."

Edgar Sosa drove the length of the court through most of the West Virginia team and made a left-handed layup at the buzzer to force overtime for the Cardinals.

"Normally, we want to make one pass, but there wasn't enough time," Louisville coach Rick Pitino said. "Everybody's afraid to foul, and Sosa did a great job of getting to the rim. He's a very confident young man and made a great play, just a fabulous play."

Frank Young had 19 points and Da'Sean Butler added 17 for the Mountaineers (22-9), who used an 18-0 run in the second half to take their first lead of the game.

Louisville had lost nine straight at Madison Square Garden since beating Iona on Jan. 5, 1984. The Cardinals, who beat West Virginia in OT in NCAA regional finals in 2005, scored the first nine points of the second overtime to take a 75-66 lead on Clark's 3 with 1:24 to go.

Jamie Smalligan, who finished with 13 points and eight rebounds, hit two free throws for the Mountaineers' first points of the period. However, Louisville then went 7-for-8 from the line to seal the win. Williams and Clark, who finished with nine rebounds apiece, each scored five points in the second OT.

One day after making a tournament-record 17 3-pointers in a win over Providence, the Mountaineers were just 6-for-25 from beyond the arc.

"It's a painful loss when you do everything and then you come back and take the lead," West Virginia coach John Beilein said. "They made some breaks go their way. We did not have many breaks in that last overtime."

Sosa, a New York native, tied the score twice in the final 27 seconds of regulation, and then hit three free throws in a span of 33 seconds late in the first overtime. The last pushed Louisville's lead to 66-64 with 32 seconds to go.

"(Sosa) epitomizes what you've

heard for the last 30 years about a New York City point guard," Pitino said. "He has no fear of anything, he's going to play with a lot of emotion and a lot of passion. More than anything else, what I think it means is he's faced the best competition, whether its on the playground or AAU or at his high school."

Darris Nichols hit the tying free throws 11 seconds later when Sosa fouled out, sending it to a second overtime.

Smalligan's 3 started a 9-2 run, and West Virginia took a 54-51 lead on Nichols' basket with 3:13 left in regulation. Williams hit a 3 to tie it with 2:50 to go.

Butler's layup pushed the Mountaineers ahead with 46 seconds left. Sosa's basket tied it 19 seconds later. Nichols made a go-ahead layup with 4.3 seconds to go, but Sosa tied it again with his driving layup.

"I don't know if as a team we realized how much time was left," Young said. "I tried to help Darris and get the all from Sosa, and the next thing I see he has an open lane to the basket."

Louisville opened the second half with a 9-0 run to stretch its lead to 44-27 on Clark's basket. But West Virginia scored the next 18 points and took their first lead on Nichols' layup with 8:59 to go.

David Padgett's layup with 8:03 regained the lead for Louisville, and Brandon Jenkins' 3 nearly 2 minutes later made it 49-45.

"We've been in a lot of games like this," Padgett said. "We've played in tough situations before. As long as we kept being aggressive on offense and being as active as we could on defense, we knew we would be right in the game."

Louisville scored the first eight points of the game and led 14-2 with 13:01 left in the first half.

The Mountaineers pulled within two on Young's free throws with 4:12 left. Louisville went on a 10-2 run before Smalligan hit two free throws with 0.4 seconds left to pull the Mountaineers to 35-27 at halftime.

BETSY LAYNE LADYCATS



CLIMBING BACK UP THE LADDER: The Betsy Layne Ladycats ranked as one of the 15th Region's top girls' basketball teams this season. Betsy Layne, a first-round loser to Belfry in the regional tournament, will return all of its players for the 2007-08 season. The Ladycats finished the 2006-07 campaign 18-11.

photos by Steve LeMaster



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Third Nextel Cup race could be pivotal for some stars

by MIKE HARRIS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

This is not the kind of start to the 2007 NASCAR Nextel Cup season that Dale Earnhardt Jr. envisioned.

Heading into Sunday's UAW-DaimlerChrysler 400 at Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Earnhardt has failed to finish the first two Cup races of the season and is 40th in the points, two spots behind Dale Earnhardt Inc. teammate Martin Truex Jr.

"We're not happy about it, but we're keeping our heads up," Earnhardt said. "We've had some rough starts before and came back strong. We were 38th in the points after two races in 2003, and we came back to finish third.

"It seems like we always get better as the year goes on. Don't forget, we had back-to-back last-place finishes in the middle of the summer last year and dropped out of the top 10 in points, but we fought back into the Chase when we needed to."

Still, Earnhardt can't be feeling comfortable after crashing out and finishing 32nd in the Daytona 500, then winding up 40th with a blown engine at California.

"We found out what caused the engine failure at California, and our

guys have been busting their butts to make sure we don't have that problem again," Earnhardt said. "The most positive thing we took from California is that we had a car that was really fast."

Earnhardt is not alone among NASCAR's stars who have struggled at the start of this season.

Defending Cup champion Jimmie Johnson, usually a fast starter, is 15th in the standings. Perennial contender Greg Biffle is 17th and two-time Cup champion Tony Stewart is 21st, 149 points behind surprising series leader Mark Martin.

It appeared Stewart turned things around in California with an eighth-place run after finishing last at Daytona. But he is looking at the Las Vegas race as a pivotal one, particularly since the 1.5-mile LVMS oval has been reworked with higher banking and reconfigured turns, making it a much faster track.

"These early races teach you very quickly where your program is compared to the competition," Stewart said. "If your cars are good, you'll run well at California, Vegas, Atlanta, Texas and so on.

"Everybody wants to know where they stack up and shake out right now. If you can get off to a good start, it shows that your program is really where it needs to be. This is a huge week."



Dale Earnhardt Jr.

It's also the third of five races in which last year's car owner points determine the 35 entries guaranteed starting spots and those that must get in on qualifying speed.

The new Toyota teams are keeping a close eye on those numbers.

Right now, the only Toyota drivers guaranteed a spot in the lineup each week are Dave

Blaney, whose Bill Davis Racing No. 22 entry was among the top 35 last year, and Dale Jarrett, who has made each of the first two races with the former Cup champion's provisional. And that could change soon.

Under a new NASCAR rule, Jarrett only can use that provisional to make the lineup four more times in 2007, while Blaney is 42nd in the points so far, with three races until the current top 35 goes into effect.

Jarrett, the 1999 Cup champion, has gotten off to a decent start and is 28th in the points going into Las

Vegas. Michael Waltrip Racing teammates Waltrip and rookie David Reutimann are not in such good shape, though. Waltrip, who failed to qualify at California, is 46th in the points, while Reutimann is 41st.

Blaney's teammate, Jeremy Mayfield, has yet to qualify for a race this season. Neither has rookie A.J. Allmendinger, who drives one of two Toyotas for the new Team Red Bull. His teammate, Brian Vickers, raced at California, finishing 10th and moving up to 34th in the points.

"It's not time to panic yet, (but) it almost is," said Waltrip, who has bitten off a huge chunk as a new team owner with a new manufacturer. "We're going to make a few subtle changes and ramp up everything we do. Hopefully, we'll show some steady improvement. We haven't done a good job at the race track.

"We have a lot to do. Toyota needs to continue to work their rear ends off on their end and we're going to continue to work our rear ends off on our end. That's how we're going to be successful. Work real hard, learn from and not dwell on mistakes, keep our head down and keep digging."

Stewart, who failed to make the Chase last year and is eager to see improvement this season, said you can't go into races this early in the

year thinking about points.

"As a team, you can't let it be a distraction," he said. "We have to go out and run every lap as hard as possible and not worry about it. This team has always performed well when the pressure is on, and I expect nothing less this week."

NASCAR Nextel Cup Driver Standings

1. Mark Martin, 335
2. Jeff Burton, 330
3. Jeff Gordon, 309
4. Kevin Harvick, 307
5. David Ragan, 270
6. Clint Bowyer, 264
7. Joe Nemechek, III, 259
8. J.J. Yeley, 251
9. Kyle Busch, 239
10. David Stremme, 236
11. David Gilliland, 235
12. Matt Kenseth, 232
13. Johnny Sauter, 224
14. Robby Gordon, 218
15. Jimmie Johnson, 216
16. Elliott Sadler, 216
17. Greg Biffle, 211
18. Denny Hamlin, 209
19. Kurt Busch, 196
20. Juan Pablo Montoya, 191

NASCAR NEXTEL CUP: Bobby Ginn has new team on top

by JENNA FRYER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — There were times when the situation was so bleak at MB2 Motorsports that no one was sure the midlevel NASCAR team would survive. The budget was blown, payroll was low and the team fought weekly to stay afloat.

"I really couldn't see a light at the end of the tunnel," crew chief Ryan Pemberton said. "I thought we were headed toward being a team at the back of the pack every week, and there didn't seem to be any way of avoiding it."

In stepped Bobby Ginn, a Florida land developer and lifelong NASCAR fan who wanted to join the team-owner ranks. So he gambled on MB2 and became the majority shareholder last summer, immediately pumping life into the fledgling organization.

The payoff has been immediate. Just two races into this season, the team now known as Ginn Racing is on top of the Nextel Cup points standings for the first time in its 11-

year existence.

Mark Martin is off to the best start of his career, nearly winning the Daytona 500 and following it with a fifth-place finish in California — a pair of top-10 finishes that match the team's total for all of last year — and he's on top of the points standings for the first time since 2002.

Joe Nemechek and Sterling Marlin are 2-for-2 in making races this season, and Nemechek is seventh in the points.

But Ginn refuses to celebrate just yet, insisting it's way too early to pronounce the turnaround complete.

"Certainly we are on a high right now," Ginn said. "But it's way too quick to call this a success. This is a sport where tenths of a second is an eternity, and luck plays a big part of everything. We always said this was going to be a five-year plan, and a strong start to the season hasn't changed that for us."

At least there is a five-year plan — a luxury team manager Jay Frye rarely had in the years he struggled to keep the team afloat. Martin, in his first year with the team, heard stories

of Frye reaching into his own pocket to make sure paychecks didn't bounce while working tirelessly to bring new financing into the organization.

No matter how dire the situation, the team made it to the track each week — an accomplishment not lost on Ginn.

"It was a team that was struggling, but it had good bones," Ginn said. "It had good people, the shop was there. There were a lot of things that needed improvement, but the blocking and the tackling was already there."

Ginn went right to work on building the team, hiring about 75 new employees while laying out plans to expand the existing shop. He signed off on the multimillion dollar purchase of a seven-post rig, a device that simulates stress on a car that only the top Nextel Cup teams possess.

And he agreed to let Martin run a partial schedule, the key to getting the highly acclaimed driver away from owner Jack Roush after 19 successful seasons. The team also beefed up its driver development program,

with motocross star Ricky Carmichael now in the fold.

Although resorts and golf developments are his business, Ginn has proved that racing is more than just a hobby.

"NASCAR is absolutely a business for me," he said. "What I do in my day job is also my hobby. It has to be that way to keep things fun for when you wake up in the morning and go to work. The race team is no different.

"We want to win. Whether it's at real estate, hospitality or racing, we will always want to win."

It's been almost three years since the team last visited Victory Lane — Nemechek at Kansas Speedway in 2004 — but there's a companywide drive to break the streak.

"There's a lot going on there, a lot of progress being made and I'm very fortunate to be a part of it," Martin said. "One of the



Mark Martin



Sterling Martin



Joe Nemechek

things I liked about coming to this team was that there was a need for me beyond just being the driver. There are roles for me that will help this race team far beyond my time in the car."

It's all shaping up to be a big year for the rejuvenated team and Frye, the general manager largely credited with holding the team together before Ginn arrived and leading the push to sign Martin, finally is able to relax.

"It's much more exciting to be working on planning for the next couple years rather than the next couple of weeks," said Frye. "When you're planning for two weeks, your stress level is pretty high. When you're planning for the next couple years, that's exciting."

Montoya's Busch win highlights push for Hispanic fans

by IOAN GRILLO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MEXICO CITY — "Viva Montoya!" screamed a euphoric Mexican crowd of 70,000 as Juan Pablo Montoya zoomed past 20 cars in 17 laps and became the first Hispanic driver to win a NASCAR race.

"This is huge for the Latin community," the Colombian star said after he climbed out of his No. 42 Dodge and cracked open the champagne.

Montoya's win last Sunday in the Busch series Telcel-Motorola 200 was seen as a victory for both the aggressive, fearless driver who switched from Formula One late last season and for Latino drivers and racing fans in general.

NASCAR officials hope it will open the flood gates to the budding Hispanic market it has been trying to court.

"It's an important milestone," said Andrew Giangola, NASCAR's director of business communication.

"People get into a sport when they have winners they can identify with. Juan Pablo is one of those winners."

NASCAR has been pushing for a broader fan base as a long-term growth strategy in the last four years, opening events in Canada and Mexico City and running a program to train minority racers.

But inroads into the 40-million-person Hispanic community in the U.S. have been modest. Between 2001 and 2005, the number of Latinos as a percentage of the sport's total fan base grew from 8.1 percent to 8.9 percent, according to Scarborough U.S.A.

Montoya's success could change that.

"Sunday's race is a tremendous turning point. A spectacular and emotional comeback that connects to Hispanics," said Lino Garcia, head of ESPN Deportes, which simulcast the race live. "The moment for Latino NASCAR fans has truly arrived."

Inspired by Montoya's switch to stock cars, Deportes has begun

broadcasting NASCAR races in Spanish in the United States this season.

The Spanish-speaking commentators explain the races with more basic details than in the English broadcasts, to encourage viewers who have less knowledge of the sport. They also add some Latin flavor, hammering out words at breakneck speed and bursting into song in the tradition of lively Latin American sports commentary. During Sunday's bonanza, they reached fever pitch.

"There are many Hispanics all over the U.S. who used to watch NASCAR without even understanding the commentary," said Mexican racing driver Carlos Contreras, who provides commentary for ESPN from the seat of his car. "Now they can watch it in Spanish, its popularity will boom."

The atmosphere in many speedways is also changing with the inclusion of Montoya. Contreras remembers going to a recent race in Iowa and expecting to see an all-white

crowd. But suddenly a group waving a Colombian flag appeared.

The attendance of a few Hispanics at the races encourages others to go, creating incremental growth, said marketing manager Juan Tornoe, a Guatemalan who has lived in Austin, Texas, for five years.

"When I first went to the Texas Speedway I really stood out as a Hispanic among pure white people. I would have been an easy target for a sniper," Tornoe said. "Now there is more of an effort to cater for a Hispanic crowd, and I feel a lot more relaxed."

Some tracks, such as the California Speedway, have bilingual English-Spanish Web sites.

Tornoe believes NASCAR could become as important to Latinos as baseball, boxing and soccer. The sport's traditional fans live in many of the same states and have many of the same values as Hispanics, he says.

"The traditional racing fans like to go early to church, go home for a family meal and then watch their

sport with religious passion," he said. "Hispanic fans have just the same frame of mind."

However, Montoya's victory was bittersweet for some fans.

The last car in his way was his own teammate, Scott Pruett. Montoya passed with an aggressive move on the inside that led to Pruett spinning out of control. Montoya said he was sorry about the incident and would apologize to Pruett, who dropped from first to 18th with the spin and had to do some spectacular driving to rally for a fifth-place finish.

But Pruett's initial reaction was of pure anger.

"That was just lowdown, nasty, dirty driving," he said.

Some fear that while encouraging Hispanic drivers, Montoya also will give them a bad reputation.

"The victory is definitely going to get people's attention," Tornoe said. "But pushing out his partner — that is giving us a bad name. We don't normally do that kind of stuff."

Dirt Late Models return to SPEED

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — The Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series will return to SPEED Channel today at noon as the 10th Annual Commonwealth Cup from Kentucky Lake Motor Speedway in Calvert City will be broadcast. The Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series event from Kentucky Lake will mark the 11th different race track to be on SPEED Channel this winter joining East Bay (Florida) Raceway Park,

Florence Speedway, Cedar Lake (Wisconsin) Speedway, Columbus (Mississippi) Speedway, Knoxville (Iowa) Speedway, Lucas Oil (Missouri) Speedway, La Salle (Illinois) Speedway, Tri-City (Illinois) Speedway, Brownstown (Indiana) Speedway and Dixie (Georgia) Speedway. The 2006 season in review for the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series will air March 17.

The Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series telecasts on SPEED feature in-depth profiles, exciting in-car camera footage and wheel-to-wheel action from the 2006 Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series season in which Earl Pearson, Jr. of Jacksonville, Fla.,

claimed his second consecutive points championship.

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PREP TIME: Everyone involved with NASCAR Nextel Cup is preparing the upcoming Food City 500 at Bristol Motor Speedway. photo courtesy of Bristol Motor Speed



INSIDESTUFF

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CAR TALK:

Prioritize needs when buying a car

see pg. A12

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This Town, That World

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

Every spring I get started fishing a little later. I have just had a horrendous thought: A spring will come when I'll not get started at all.

WISE GUY

The guy gravely shook my hand, reminded me that he knew I am in the newspaper business, and am supposed to know a few things, then suggested that he would like to ask me a question. I condescended to hear it by that time I was in a condescending mood). Then he asked:

"Tell me, how did the fool get his money in the first place?"

CLEAN UP ON THE CLUTTERUPPERS

It's clean-up time again—as if these ever were a time when it wasn't that three—and still the law forbidding dumping at roadsides, into streams, etcetera, gets broken, yea, shattered, every day. The warning signs get covered up, the few who work at cleaning up the countryside are threatened with being buried alive—and yet nothing is done.

□□□

Time changed with enforcing the law of education and leading the public might consider why it was that men have almost stopped the once-common practices of dynamiting streams, seining fish, hunting out of season, disregarding size and bag limits, etcetera. Did culture and high ideals catch up with these fellows? No, it was the law. Officers made arrests, officials prosecuted, juries handed down verdicts, men went to jail or were fined, or both.

And that incidentally, is the only procedure by which many of us will ever learn lot to dump garbage along our roadsides, pollute streams and generally create havoc with the natural beauty of the countryside.

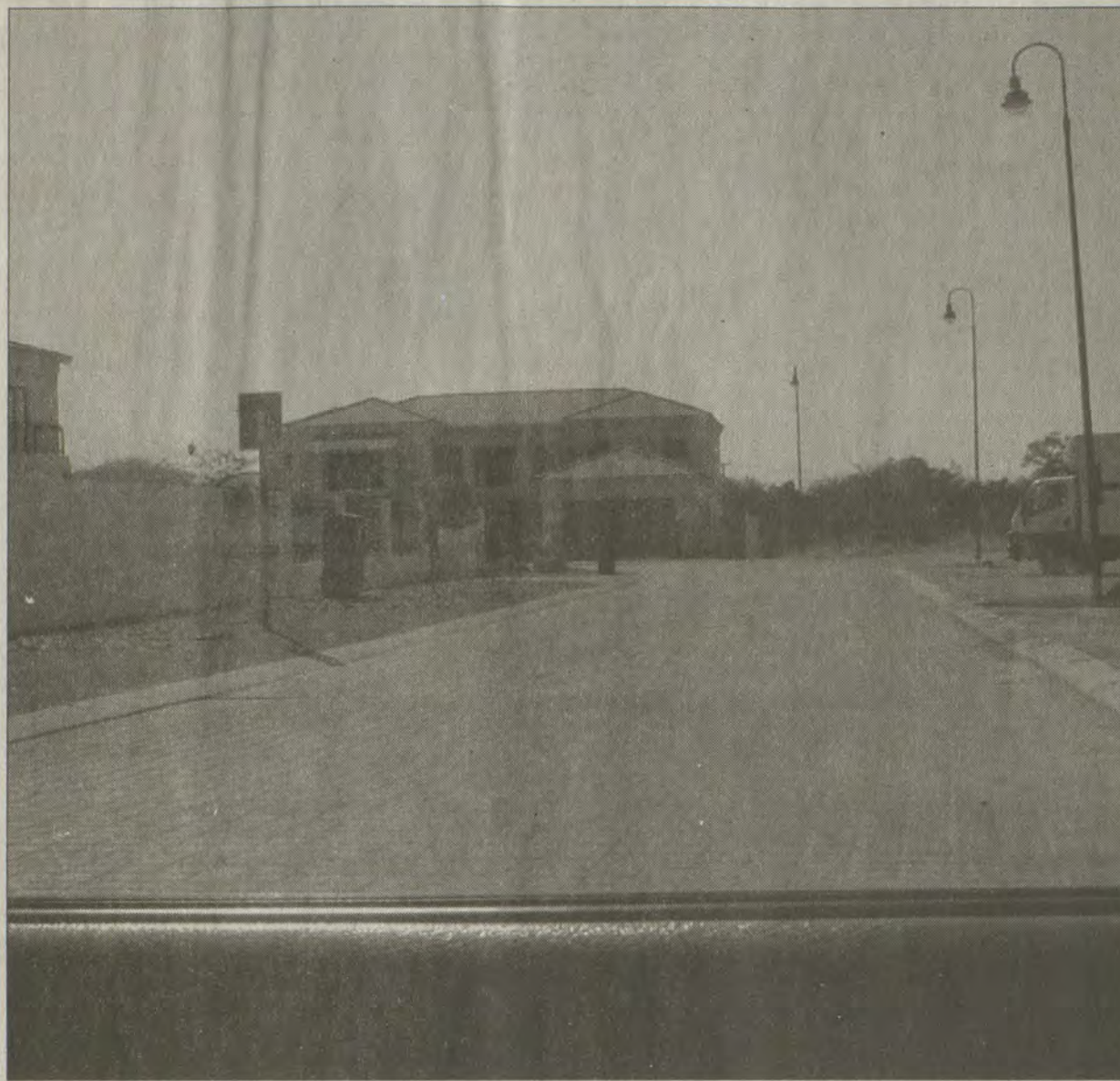
Education is wonderful. Patience is a virtue, almost as golden as silence. But patience can become toleration of intolerable conditions and the only education some folks ever get is in the dear school of experience.

If the law will make a clean sweep of some of these violators, there will be less cleaning up left to be done by those who respect the law and take pride in the appearance of what would be one of the most beautiful places in the world if nobody lived here.

HEREWITH MY APPLICATION

It has just occurred to me that every golf club should have a new kind of pros. The swankiest course needs a professional duffer. Your ordinary club pro with his 5-month swing, his intricate knowledge of the mechanics of the swing end all

(See ALLEN, page six)



The view from the car as the sociologists traveled toward the spacious home in Gaborone's wealthy district where the two dogs live.

photo by Phyllis Puffer

Teddy Bear Courage

by DR. PHYLLIS PUFFER

(Author's note: This story comes from my experiences conducting survey research on social structure in Gaborone, Botswana June/July 2006.)

The metal gate set into the strong cement wall rattled softly as it began its slow glide open. On the other side dogs were barking loudly, lunging and scratching at the gate to get through. One barked with the high pitched yip yip of a small dog. The other barked with the deep tones of a very laaarge dog. I could see his huge head and brown/red eyes looking at me through the decorative opening of the gate. The three women in the parked car behind me screamed, rolled up the windows as fast as possible, and covered their eyes.

I admit to a twinge of fearful chill as the gate opened farther and the two dogs squeezed through. The small one was a black Scotty. His ears were pointed straight up in excitement. He raised up on his back paws and waved his front ones in the air.

The large dog had no need to raise up on his back paws or any other paws. His head came to the level of my diaphragm. One bite and he could have destroyed one quarter of my rib cage and sent one lung to the operating room. Furthermore, he was chunky and strong. This was no slim jim

Greyhound. Two four year olds could ride on his back.

The large (huge) dog was a Boer Bull. Since "boer" in Afrikaans means "farm," I suppose he was bred to protect livestock out in the bush. I have no idea which animal(s) he had been bred to fight, but judging from his size and the strong, square, Boxer-muzzle, I would guess lions. On the other hand, he wasn't as aggressive as he seemed or might reasonably be expected to be. He reminded me of the description a friend had given of his Great Dane, "He would lick the burglar to death."

I reached out my hand to pet his welcoming head. He was light beige. His fur was very short and lay close to the skin. He kept close to me and nuzzled against me for attention. He, the Scotty, and I walked toward the house a good 40 feet away.

The dogs and I had met a couple of days before when I had dropped off a questionnaire for a member of the household to answer. It was clear then that both dogs were loving pets, and I was glad to see them again. The other interviewers and I had come by to pick up the questionnaires left in the neighborhood. We were in the wealthiest section of Gaborone, the capital of Botswana, where security against burglaries is a constant concern and where walls and guard dogs are a part of life. Early in my research in the city, I had learned that survey interview-

ers were more than a little frightened of these dogs.

The dogs and I met Madame at the door. She wore an ankle-length, cream-colored, linen dress decorated with crewel work in the same thread. Over it she wore a black, long sleeved top tied in a knot at the waist. She wore sandals, in the rather cool weather. Her hair was straight and brown with reddish highlights. It flipped up at attractive points, and she frequently shook it and/or ran her fingers through it. She had just returned from driving her children somewhere and was about to leave to go out for dinner with her husband. She was a soccer mom.

Madame had me follow her into the house where she answered the ringing phone. She spoke to her brother in Afrikaans about getting together for an outing of some kind while I admired her Persian rugs. Then we filled out her questionnaire together as some of the questions hadn't been clear to her.

We walked back to the car with the loveable Boer Bull. The Scotty had found more interesting things to do.

It's easy being fearless when all you have to face is a teddy bear.

Editor's note: Dr. Phyllis Puffer is a professor of sociology at Big Sandy Community and Technical College. She enjoys travel and the observance of people as they go about their routine daily activities.

MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

'Snakes on a Plane'

by TOM DOTY
TIMES COLUMNIST

A passel of airline passengers find that they have more to worry about than jet lag when their red eye flight is invaded by a horde of poisonous serpents in this by-the-numbers thriller.

The action begins when a sportsman stumbles onto the murder of a prominent prosecutor by an Asian drug lord. He barely escapes (which is more than can be said for the unfortunate attorney). A few days later he is surprised to notice that three Asian hit men are breaking into his apartment. The fight-or-flee impulse kicks in and he finds himself bolting out through the back door, where he runs smack dab into an FBI agent named Flynn.



Tom Doty
Times Columnist

Apparently, the FBI does not follow the protocols observed by your average police officer, as evidenced by Flynn, who calmly waits for the men to break into the apartment before cutting loose with a volley of lead. He does, however, reveal that he is an officer of the law to his witness, whom he promptly talks into becoming the state's witness against the drug lord. The next thing you know Flynn is accompanying his witness, Sean Jones, on a flight from Honolulu to L.A. where Sean will the grand jury about the killing.

Unfortunately for everyone on board the flight, it just so happens that drug dealers are apparently privy to Flynn's itinerary and smuggle a ton of killer snakes on board despite the fact that Flynn went to a lot of trouble to conceal which plane they would be using. In fact, the news doesn't even get to the flight crew until after the snakes have boarded.

They are then stuck with the unenviable task of turning away first class customers and directing them to coach seating. The first classers are a diverse bunch, which include a Paris Hilton type, a rapper named 3Gs (riding the success of his latest hit "Thump the Booty") and a pompous English businessman.

The rest of the passengers are summarily introduced and include a pair of lovers anxious to join the "mile high club," newlyweds, a young mother traveling with an infant and, eventually, a gang of very angry snakes.

Turns out that this is one drug dealer who never hedges his bets and as such has loaded the cargo bay with a time release trap which frees all of the poison ropes after take off. He has also made sure that they are very angry by arranging to have all of the complimentary leis, handed out to passengers, liberally sprinkled with pheromones which raise the aggression level of the beasts by fooling them into thinking it's mating season.

It doesn't take long for the snakes to announce their presence with

(See LAGOON, page six)

Comfy pajamas

by JODIE HALEY

"CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE SHOPPER'S SOUL"

When my son, Thayne, was born, normal new-mom insecurities were compounded by being single, 17 and having very little family. Even my few friends had vanished during my pregnancy. Most of the time, it was just Thayne and me. I was plagued by doubt, fearful that I would end up as a disappointment to my son, and even questioned whether I deserved to be a mother. We had very little money, lived in a

small one-bedroom apartment, and although I knew that love was the most precious gift I could give my son, struggling to provide for him was a source of anxiety and depression.

Our lives became even more difficult when Thayne began having seizures. While I sat alone beside his large hospital-crib for weeks at a time, I daydreamed about all the wonderful things I would buy for him if I were rich. Finally, he started getting better and was able to come home. I decided we would do a little shopping and get him some

comfy new pajamas to celebrate. We spent hours in the department store, reveling in the sights and smells of life beyond a hospital room. We joked and laughed uncontrollably as we marched up and down the aisles, looking at everything from vacuum cleaners to toys. It was just the right distraction that we both desperately needed.

Our shopping adventure ended with one pair of \$8 pajamas, but that didn't matter. It wouldn't have mattered if we'd gone home empty-handed. What mattered was the time we spent together, the memories we had made and the new tradition we had started.

That night after he had fallen asleep in his new pj's, I lay beside

Thayne. I stared at his peaceful face, and I knew that even though there would always be hard times, I was good enough for this little man. We would be OK. I didn't need all the money in the world to make him happy. I just needed to be happy with him.

From that day on, I started putting a few dollars away to save for tougher times. When they came, Thayne and I would take our "tough-times cash" and head out shopping. Sometimes

we spent it, sometimes not, but we always had fun. It wasn't long before I found myself making up silly reasons why we should head to the mall. Now that Thayne is 8, he makes up his own excuses.

In quiet times, instead of daydreaming about having an infinite supply of money, I now picture my son, fully grown, ready to start a family of his own, and always ready to shop with his old mom after a bad day.



Prioritize needs when shopping for a car

by TOM and RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:

I'm a rural land appraiser in Colorado. I often bring my dogs along when inspecting land. I need a vehicle that will accommodate the dogs and take me off-road; however, I'd like to be able to hose out the dog area occasionally. Also, I need four doors, because I sometimes take clients. I thought I was stuck with a four-door pickup with a topper (this is great because the dogs can stick their heads out the back and enjoy the scenery when I am going slow enough). But I will pedal a bike before I drive anything that gets fewer than 20 miles per gallon. I have a Subaru Outback now, but I'd like to find something more accommodating, i.e. easier to clean. What's a girl to do? — Anne

P.S.: The Honda Element ain't gonna happen!

TOM: Well, a pickup is the only thing you're going to be able to hose out, Anne. Even the Honda Element — which I see you've made a pre-emptive strike against — can't actually be hosed out. It can be damped, but running water can damage the car's electronics under the rear floor.

RAY: But the gas mileage of even the smaller four-door pickup trucks is not that great. Assuming you need four-wheel drive for off-road driving and a crew cab for its four doors, I think the best mileage of the bunch comes from the Nissan Frontier Crew Cab with a V-6, which gets 17 city, 21 highway. Barely enough to hug even a sapling.

TOM: You can get four-cylinder small pickups that get better mileage, but not with four doors, and sometimes not with four-wheel drive.

RAY: So you're going to have to decide what's most important to you, Anne. I think four-wheel drive and four doors for your clients are both musts, because you can't do your job without those. But then you have to decide what's the next most important thing to you. If it's a completely walled off compartment for the dogs that you can hose out, go for the Frontier. If it's mileage, then you want something like another four-cylinder Outback (23/28 mpg), a Toyota RAV4 (24/30) or a Ford Escape Hybrid (36/31).

TOM: But those are all "wagon" style vehicles, where the cargo compartment is inside the car, and the dogs will be free to drool and rain dog hair on potential clients. Of

course, anyone considering the purchase of rural land probably won't let a little dog drool get in the way of owning his 40 acres and a mule. But it's up to you, Anne. Good luck.

Hail damage is mostly cosmetic

Dear Tom and Ray:

I'm a college student in a small Podunk town in Minnesota. Recently, we were "blessed" with a hailstorm like none other, and the damage to the cars here can only be described as impressive. I've been postponing buying a car as long as possible, but I need to get one within three months. I want to buy a used car. Here's my question: A friend told me that if I want a car cheap, I should shop around for sales on hail-damaged cars. I don't care what the car looks like, but I do want to know if there are any risks to buying a hail-damaged car. What should I look for, what should I be careful of, and how much money should I expect to be knocked off the normal price? — Michael

RAY: Well, if you really don't care what the car looks like, Michael, you might want to have a look at one of my brother's beauties.

TOM: Actually, it's a great idea, Michael. Hail damage is almost

entirely cosmetic. I mean, if it breaks or damages a window, obviously that should be fixed. But other than that, it's just dents and maybe paint damage.

RAY: Over time, if the paint is actually chipped or broken in some spots, that can lead to rust. But that's not an immediate danger. And it's something you can address yourself — you can learn how to sand down those spots and prime them if and when rust becomes an issue.

TOM: And since you don't care how it looks, you can repaint it with a roller and a gallon of Sears Weatherbeater!

RAY: I actually think all cars should COME pre-damaged. If the side of your car looked like it had been in a hailstorm, would you care if someone dinged your door in a parking lot, or if your kid's bicycle scratched the paint? It would be very liberating.

TOM: Plus, you'll save money on the purchase price, because most peo-

ple want pretty cars. While some hail-damaged cars can be repaired pretty cheaply with "paintless dent removal" systems (think "bathroom plunger"), more serious hail damage can cost thousands to fix. Dozens, or hundreds, of dents have to be pounded out or filled in individually, and then the whole car has to be sanded and repainted.

RAY: To find out how much that would cost the seller, arrange to take the car to a body shop before you buy it in order to get an estimate. You won't get quite that much off, because otherwise, the seller would just fix it himself. But you can ask for, say, half or two-thirds of that off. Then don't fix it. You'll be the only guy in Podunk who can play Chinese checkers on the hood of his car.

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.



CLICK & CLACK
Talk Cars

Odds & Ends

■ **ORANGEBURG, S.C.** — It might have been one of the easiest drug busts in the history of the South Carolina Highway Patrol: A car with 43 pounds of marijuana crashed into a trooper's cruiser, authorities said.

The easy bust happened after two patrolmen parked their cars in each lane of northbound Interstate 95 near Santee early Sunday morning following a series of wrecks that had tied up traffic, Highway Patrol Capt. Chris Williamson said.

A Chevrolet Malibu going about 70 mph hit one of the cruisers, causing minor injuries to the trooper behind the wheel, Williamson said.

Officers found two large duffel bags in the trunk with 43 pounds of marijuana in plastic bags, worth more than \$150,000, Orangeburg County deputy Warren Pendry said.

They also found a few marijuana cigarettes and cocaine, Pendry said.

The 54-year-old driver from Daytona Beach Shores, Fla., was charged with driving under the influence, possession of cocaine and trafficking marijuana, authorities said.

■ **MINNEAPOLIS** — A man faces burglary charges after police found him sleeping in the house made famous by the TV sitcom "The Mary Tyler Moore Show."

Police found the 24-year-old man asleep in a second-floor bedroom Saturday morning with the TV on and a remote control for a ceiling fan in his back pocket. His shoes were found on the third floor of the eight-bedroom, nine-bath Queen Anne Victorian.

The facade of the house was shown in the opening credits for "The Mary Tyler Moore Show," and tourists often stop by to look at it.

A cleaning crew that arrived around 10 a.m. saw the smashed front doors and called police, who arrested the man without incident.

Owner Don Gerlach, who had recently spent 18 months sprucing up the home with new floors, landscaping and an addition, spoke briefly with the suspect and said he told him he was drunk and that his friends put him up to it. The house is up for sale for \$3.62 million.

Nothing was taken from the house, police said. Three glass front doors were smashed, including a custom-made stained glass panel that could cost about \$1,200 to repair.

The house's security system wasn't hooked up over the weekend because of renovation work, Gerlach said. Police believe the suspect broke in sometime between Friday night and Saturday morning.

■ **FARGO, N.D.** — U.S.

troops in Iraq may soon be getting a deer-ly beloved taste of home.

A Veterans of Foreign Wars post here is sending venison jerky donated by hunters.

Mark Wagemann, commander of VFW Post No. 762, said he got the idea for "Jerky Worth Fighting For" from a magazine article.

The article told of a couple who made venison jerky and shipped it to their son who was serving in Iraq.

"I thought we could do the same thing for troops from North Dakota and Minnesota who are in Iraq," Wagemann said. With hunters able to draw more than one deer tag, Wagemann figured many hunters would be willing to donate one or more of their deer to the project.

"I thought we could do this on a larger scale," Wagemann says. "Nobody eats four deer a year, so I figured there would be plenty available."

More than 1,000 pounds of jerky and venison sticks have been shipped to more than 40 soldiers from North Dakota and Minnesota, and new addresses arrive every week.

"I was hoping we'd get 30 deer donated when we started this project," Wagemann says. "It's been successful beyond my wildest dreams."

■ **LAKE DELTON, Wis.**

— Good-quality snow makes some people want to make a snowman or go sledding. For one 33-year-old man, the fine powder seemed like a reasonable excuse to run naked through it.

The man was cited for disorderly conduct Sunday after a neighbor at the Woodland Park Apartment complex reported him cavorting nude. He was "running back and forth jumping up and down wearing no clothes," the police report quoted the witness as saying.

The neighbor was with her two children and a friend's child, all of whom saw the bare display. "It was disgusting," the oldest child reportedly told police.

Police located the man in the apartment complex. Through an interpreter, the snow lover said he was excited about the weather and wanted to run naked in it.

He told authorities he didn't realize the woman and children were watching. The man was charged with disorderly conduct.

■ **GETTYSBURG, Pa.** — The discovery of a tooth from a Confederate soldier killed at Gettysburg will lead to a proper memorial service for the soldier — 144 years after he fell on the field of battle.

Karin Bohleke of the Adams County Historical Society said she was going through boxes donated by a local family a few months ago when she found a small pouch

with red embroidery.

"I thought maybe there'd be a pretty piece of jewelry," she said. "Instead ... I found a tooth."

Accompanying the upper right lateral incisor was a note on yellowing paper.

"This tooth was taken out of a head lying in Roses Woods (Gettysburg battlefield) one year after the battle, at the head of a grave marked Lt. W.L. Daniel, Co. I, 2nd S.C.V.," read the note, signed by 1st Lt. W.T. King, Company G, 209th Pennsylvania.

Wayne Motts, the society's executive director, began a search that led to plans to give the soldier the kind of proper memorial service he never had.

Motts' research led him to William L. Daniel, born Jan. 30, 1833. Daniel got a medical degree and enlisted in 1861. He died at Gettysburg in 1863 and was buried where he fell.

The historical society in Saluda County, S.C., directed Motts to John Owen Clark, of Johnston, S.C., who told him that he had his great-great-uncle's tooth. In July, Motts plans to hand-deliver the tooth. It is to be buried in a box of wood taken from the part of the battlefield where Daniel died.

■ **MISSOULA, Mont.** — Hauled to the pokey here and need to post bail? Put it on plastic.

The Missoula County

Detention Center intends to accept credit-card payments for bail, as part of an effort to get people out of the building sooner and control jail crowding. For that reason, officials also want to expand telephone service for bail seekers, making it easier to call for help.

Acceptance of credit cards is set to begin Monday.

"The credit card machine is now installed at the jail, so if you get arrested and want to bail yourself out, you can put it on your credit card," said Margaret Borg, a former chief public defender here.

The Missoula County Sheriff's Department says that before long, people in custody also likely will have the option of calling cell-phone numbers. The jail telephone system now available to them allows only collect calls. Consequently, only calls to conventional phones may be placed.

Officials also have raised the amount for which inmates can write checks to cover bail. Checks for defendants in city court will be accepted in sums up to \$250. In Justice Court cases, the new limit is \$2,000.

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U.S. General Services Administration

Allen

that simply drives most of us to desperation. It's a duffer to be a sort of buffer for every other duffer that they need.

Any golf club would be surprised to know how many members would not quit the game in disgust, or wrap their clubs around the nearest tree, or blow a gasket; if they only had a competent man for this important post.

And I hereby apply. I'm very competent, and my competency is recognized by at

least a few golfers. There was Tom Dingus whom I give as a reference. He used me for a round or so at a time when he had a low opinion of his game, Thurman Hughes has switched from Southpaw to playing the game in the conventional, right-handed way, and he has had a few moments of gloom. He has invited me for a round, Clifford Boyd came all the way from Paintsville and suggested we get together for a few holes. Under severe, ques-

tioning he broke down and confessed he needed help.

I am of your service, gentlemen. I can and will help. I will trot out my well-grooved slice. I will look up to see a bull that's still on the tee, I will bury your troubles in my divots.

But I still maintain your golf club should pay me to restore your confidence to your respective games as I make you look good and feel much better about your status as golfers.

Lagoon

authority, which they do by invading the coach area and seeming even more disgruntled than the first class passengers who were forced to board there. It's an exciting sequence which sees two-thirds of the passengers wiped out as the snakes drop from the oxygen mask compartments and slither up under foot.

The situation appears pretty grim for Agent Flynn, who must now contend with frightened passengers and angry stewardesses (they aren't pleased that the FBI took over first class with little warning), all the while protecting his witness. Few people would be up for those jobs, but here is where the movie plays its ace card by casting Samuel L.

Jackson as Flynn, which is good news for the audience and very bad mojo for the snakes.

This movie may be formulaic but it obeys the rules of a good thriller by placing its one-dimensional characters in a bind that will touch a nerve in most members of the audience. Let's face it — we are either scared of flying or snakes, and this one manages to toss both of those fears in a blender. Add the fact that the special effects make it all at least look like it could actually happen and you have the makings of a crackerjack thriller.

It doesn't hurt that the film is well cast with sturdy supporting performances by Julianna Margulies ("ER") as

the chief stewardess and Keenan Thompson (forgive him for "Fat Albert" because he's very funny here as a member of Triple G's entourage). Then there are the snakes, which include live ones as well as the requisite CGI stand-ins. Not to mention this moves like lightning and will be over before you've had a chance to check your watch.

Forget the critics who dismissed this one out of hand because of the title. If you want to see a film about snakes on a plane, they don't get any better than this.

Best line: "Well, that's good news — snakes on crack."

2006, rated R.

Continued from p11

Continued from p11

AUTISM WORKSHOP

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- Include a phone number and/or e-mail address

NAME _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 PHONE #: _____

Our CLASSIFIEDS Will WORK For You!!!

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

AUTOMOTIVE

Cars

HICKS AUTO SALES
David Road March Special!
 '99 Grand Caravan \$2,950
 '02 Ranger 4 cylinder 5 speed, \$4,295
 2001 Ford Taurus SES 80,000 miles. \$4,995, Moonroof. 92 Pathfinder, automatic, \$2,495
 2001 Impala 75,000 miles LS \$5,800. 92' Buick regal 3800 engine GREAT SHAPE. \$1,695!
 886-2842
 886-3451.

FOR SALE OR TRADE
 82 Volkswagon Rabbit Convertible. 874-2421 or 259-1844.

FOR SALE
 1987 Camaro V6, T-Tops, new radiator, like new tires with original rims. DNR, needs head gasket replaced. \$850 874-8374.

FOR SALE
 1992 Nissan Sentra, 2 door 4 cyl, automatic, 36 miles to gallon. New muffler and exhaust- battery and starter. \$1,200. 606-358-0146

FOR SALE
 1998 Ford Explorer XLT, 4 door, leather, sun roof, all power, Michelin tires, 180k miles, price \$3,900. Call 791-3913

MISC.

FOR SALE
 16 Ft. coach main camping trailer. Good condition. \$1,700. Call 874-9548 or 791-0454.

FOR SALE
 Min. dozer, backhoe bucket and '97 Jeep Cherokee. Call 606-886-7896.

EMPLOYMENT

When responding to Employment ads that have reference numbers, please indicate that entire reference number on the outside of your envelope. Reference numbers are used to help us direct your letter to the correct individual.

Job Listings

JOB OPENINGS
 Heavy Equipment steam cleaning

company needs employees. Must have valid drivers license and up to date surface mining papers. Mine emergency tech is a plus. Call Mon. thru Friday 9a-5p. 606-886-1759. If no answer leave message.

JOB OPENING

Pharmacy Knowledge. Experience. They work here. Cardinal Health is the leading provider of products, services and technologies supporting the health care industry and is the employer of choice among pharmacy professionals. We currently have the following open positions in Prestonsburg, Ky:

Hospital Staff Pharmacist
 Sign on bonus available!

Cardinal Health provides a competitive total compensation package with flexible benefits that fit your life, including 104K and a stock purchase plan. For consideration contact Linsy Varughese at 800.222.2005 ext. 1455 or email linsy.varughese@cardinal.com. EOE, M/F/D/V - Diversity works here. www.cardinal-health.com

JOB OPENINGS
 Leads, Leads, Leads 50-75k first year income mortgage life insurance sales. 1-800-294-8654 ext. 4147

JOB OPENING
 Seeking F/T & P/T drivers for work in Shelby. Drug screen, clean MVR ad 7 years valid DL required. 1-800-471-2440. References required #26, EOE.

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

MERCHANDISE

FOR SALE
 Feed for sale and flea market items for sale. Call 452-9651. Located near Wheelwright off 122 on Buckingham.

FOR SALE
 Prom dress 1 Coral pouffy Tiffany dress size 2. \$200. Also, 1 coral beaded sequin straight dress size 4. \$100. Call 886-8648 or 886-0868. Ask for Denise or Missy.

Misc.

LOT FOR RENT
 Located at Old Allen Road. \$200 per month. City sewer available. 874-2421 and 259-1844.

REAL ESTATE

Houses

BACK ON THE MARKET, HOUSE FOR SALE! Two houses one three or four bedroom. The other is two bedroom with garage, workshop, all one lot. Salyers Branch, Hueysville area. No land contact. \$46,000 OBO call 358-9346.

HOUSE FOR SALE 3 BR 2 bath house completely remodeled inside and out. South River view lane. Prestonsburg. 886-8991.

FOR SALE
 5 BR house 1 1/2 bath. 2 story on approx 3 1/2 level acres with barn and out buildings. Could develop as 5 building lot. Located in banner area. \$124,900 Call 874-9456.

Sale or Lease

Prestonsburg based distribution company is seeking warehouse facility in Floyd or Johnson County of approximately 40,000 sq. ft. on 5 to 7 acre parcel to lease or buy. Contact Randy Click at 606-886-8123.

FOR SALE
 2003 16x80 mobile home. Fire place, dishwasher, garden tub, walk in shower, shingle roof, gutters, used for short time. Good price. Central air. Located outside City limits. Call 886-2474

FOR SALE
 Lot for small trailer or camper. 886-2474

FOR SALE
 Lots for sale at Emma call 874-2421 or 259-8411

FOR SALE
 Turner Branch Road 16 + acres with 2 BR house, barn + sheds. \$50,000. Call 606-768-3040.

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

FOR RENT
 Beauty shop equipt with 3 stations and tanning bed. Would consider renting for commercial use other than beauty

shop. Rt. 122 1 mile South of Martin across from Garth Technical School. Must have references. 285-9112.

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

FARM FOR SALE
 Floyd county 75 acres more or less, rt. 1100 off US 23 East Point Upper Little Paint. Lum Derosssett Branch. Call 606-325-4430 or 606-325-2809. Level- Sloping and timber.

RENTALS

APARTMENT

QUIKSILVER TOWNHOUSE 2 BR 1 1/2 bath, carpet. \$575 per month. 285-9361.
QUIKSILVER TOWNHOUSES 1 BEDROOM hardwood floors \$500 per month. Call 285-9361
QUIKSILVER TOWNHOUSES 2 BR 2Bath hardwood floors in town lots of extras. Must see \$675 per mont Call 285-9361

FOR RENT
 Furnished apartment, real clean, quiet near Jenny Wiley lake. Suitable for 2 people. NO drugs. Call 886-3941.

FOR RENT
 Branham Heights Apartments - Now accepting applications for 1 and 2 BR apts. Rent based on 30% of income. Appliances furnished. very nice, central heat and air, water, garbage and sewer included. Please contact the manager 606-452-4777. Equal Opportunity housing.

FOR RENT
 2 BR Apt for rent 2.5 bath, garage, W/D hookup, 1 year lease. \$790 per month \$790 deposit. 874-1660

APT FOR RENT
 Newly remodeled 2 BEDROOM 1 Bath apartment located in Prestonsburg, above safelite autoglass. Call 478-8100 for price.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the City of Prestonsburg, 200 N. Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Ky. 41653, has filed with the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet to repair a break in the Big Branch Road of Abbott Creek Road. Said project is located one half mile up Big Branch, and will consist of placing gabion baskets to secure creek bank, as well as resurfacing of the road. Any comments or objections concerning this application shall be directed to: Kentucky Division of Water, Water Resources Branch, 14 Reilly Road, Frankfort Office Park, Frankfort, Ky. 40601. Phone (502) 564-3410.

FOR RENT
 Efficiency apartment. \$350 per month rent, \$350 deposit. Some utilities included. Call Travis Martin at 781-4474

APT FOR RENT
 1 BR Apt for rent some utilities included. \$500 per month. Call 889-1999.

APT FOR RENT
 Newly remodeled unfurnished ground floor apartment. Located across from Floyd County Technical center on Route 122 at Martin. \$500 per month plus utilities. Must furnish references. Call 285-9112. NOT HUD APPROVED.

MARCH MADNESS Park Place apartments first month rent FREE w/deposit paid in full -\$280, 2BR - \$304. Offer valid thru 3/31/07. All electric and HUD accepted. Call 886-0039.

APT FOR RENT
 2 BR duplex for rent stove, refrigerator, W/D hookup, city limits at US 23 and 80 \$485 per month plus utilities. \$300 deposit. 1 year lease, no pets. 237-4758.

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

House

HOUSE FOR RENT located at Banner, 1 mile off US 23. Central heat and air, city utilities. \$375 per month plus security deposit plus utilities. No pets. NO HUD. 285-3252 days. 874-6030 evenings.

Mobile Home

FOR RENT
 2 BR trailer for rent W/D, refrigerator, stove. \$325, and \$325 deposit. Newly carpeted. NO DRUGS. 478-9529 after 7:00pm.

FOR RENT
 Trailer for rent. Call 874-2805

LOTS FOR RENT
 New MH park. Allen/Dwale area. Restrictions apply. paved streets, lighted area. All

sizes. 606-377-2357.

Call LeighAnn Today! 886-8506!

Be an Angel.

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

WELDING POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Excellent pay, drug screening required. Call Mon-Fri 8a-5p 285-9358.

A Little Green Goes A Long Way!

Don't let all the other newspapers fool you! Check out our **St. Patricks Day sale!**

Purchase one week of classified advertising and get 2 extra days **FREE!!!!!!!**

This special is only good until Friday the 16th. You must mention seeing this ad!

House for sale
 Very well build home with heritage. Corner lot across from old Allen Grade School. 4 BR, LR, DR, LR built in kitchen, utility room, family room. Lots of closets and storage space. Carpet covered hardwood floors. Full sized unfurnished basement and new roof. Shown by appointment. Interested buyers only. 606-874-9520 606-874-917

Accounting Clerk

Prior experience with Accounts Payable
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Black Diamond Mining LLC
 587 North Lake Drive
 Prestonsburg, KY 41653

Call (606) 889-8440 for Appointment or Apply in person or email resume to: ggroves@bdmining.com

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GRILLED SUBS

- Always made-to-order, fresh off the grill.
- 95% fat free sirloin steak
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- Real dairy cheeses
- Fresh Sliced vegetables
- Fries cooked in cholesterol-free oil
- Authentic french buns

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PRESTONSBURG
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YOU CAN WIN
\$500.00

No Leaping Tall Buildings in a single bound!
No Climbing Telephone Poles!

JUST FOLLOW THESE OFFICIAL RULES:

1. Follow the clues. A new clue will be printed in the Floyd County Times each publication day between Sunday, March 11 and Friday, April 6.
2. Each clue will be printed in paper only once. Previous clues can be found at Official Sponsor Locations. Clues are posted at Official Sponsor Locations 24 hours after each publication.
3. Discover the egg. The egg is located on public property in an easily accessible hiding place. No Fear Factor® stunts required!
4. Bring the egg and the enclosed certificate to the Floyd County Times Office at 263 S. Central Ave. Prestonsburg, between 9-5 weekdays, and you win \$500!
5. Employees of the Floyd County Times and their families are ineligible to win.
6. The Floyd County Times and the Official Sponsors are not liable for any injuries, damages, or losses resulting from your participation. Your attempt to locate the egg is acknowledgment that you agree and hold said parties harmless.

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ROADHOUSE

30 Colonel's Court
Prestonsburg KY
886-0085

MedZone
(606) 889-9003

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1079 S. Lake Drive, Prestonsburg
606-889-9441

RENO'S
ROADHOUSE

30 Colonel's Court
Prestonsburg KY
886-0085

Waggs & Whiskers
2866 South Lake Drive
Prestonsburg
886-6704

- Pet Grooming
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GRILLED SUBS

- Always made-to-order, fresh off the grill.
- 95% fat free sirloin steak
- All white meat chicken breast
- Real dairy cheeses
- Fresh Sliced vegetables
- Fries cooked in cholesterol-free oil
- Authentic french buns

889-9989

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