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#### In brief

## **Crisis heating** aid to begin Monday

PRESTONSBURG --The Crisis component of the Low Income Home **Energy Assistance** Program (LIHEAP) is set to begin on Monday.

The crisis component is designed to help poverty level families and individuals pay heating bills if they are in danger of losing their primary source of heat as a result of being unable to pay their bill.

A household is considered to be in a home heating crisis if the household is within four days of running out of bulk fuel (coal, fuel oil, propane, kerosene or wood as the primary heating source; the household has received a past due/disconnect notice if natural gas or electric is the heat source; or the household's home heating costs are included in the rent and the household has received an eviction notice for non-payment of

To be eligible for the crisis assistance, households must meet federal eligibility income guidelines and verify that a heating crisis exists.

For more information, contact the Big Sandy Area Community Action Program in your county. In Pike County (606)432-2775; Martin County (606) 298-3217; Magoffin County (606) 3492217; Johnson County (606) 789-6515 and in Floyd County (606) 886-2929.

Applications will be taken on a first come/first serve basis.

2 DAY FORECAST

Today



High: 53 • Low: 46

Tomorrow



High: 64 & Low: 48

Get up-to-the-minute weather forecasts at floydcountytimes.com

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## Republicans to pick candidate Monday

by JACK LATTA STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG - Floyd county Republicans will meet Monday to elect their candidate for the upcoming 95th District House of Representatives special election.

p.m. in the county courthouse law library at 4 p.m.

The 95th District seat was vacated when former Rep. James Brandon Spencer, of Prestonsburg, resigned in December, citing family issues. Spencer has since thrown his support behind forStumbo, of Prestonsburg.

"No fair minded citizen could deny that Floyd County reaped many benefits in the past from Greg's representation, especially as he served in a leadership position," Spencer said. "If it were not for his willingness to seek to

The meeting will take place at 4 mer seat holder and Democrat, Greg regain a leadership role in the House of Representatives, I would not make this decision."

> Tommy Dingus, Floyd County's Republican chairman, would not comment on potential candidates, but did say Republicans would find a "good candidate" for the vacated House seat.

## HOLIDAYS



Prestonsburg city workers began taking down Christmas decorations Friday, signalling the end of the holiday season.

## to Indiana by JACK LATTA STAFF WRITER PIKEVILLE - A former Floyd county resident

to be sent back

Sex offender

appeared in the Pikeville U.S. District Court Wednesday after a warrant was issued in the Northern District of Indiana.

David Lee Akers, of South Bend, Ind., was found guilty in July 2001 of sexual battery, a felony violation, and was sentenced to four years probation and forced to register as a sex offender for 10 years. According to court

records, Akers completed the sex offender registration form annually while he was living in Lorraine, Ohio, between 2001 and 2005. At each registration

signed "Explanation of Duties to (See OFFENDER, page three)



**David Lee Akers** 

Register as a Sex Offender," where he acknowledged his responsibility to register with officials seven days prior to moving to another state.

Akers' last registration in Ohio was in January 2005, where he advised

## Jenkins woman killed in head-on crash

by JACK LATTA STAFF WRITER

PIKEVILLE - A traffic accident ended in fatality for a Pike County woman Thursday evening.

Pamela Estep, 37, of Jenkins, was traveling north on Route 195, Marrowbone Creek Road, when she allegedly crossed the center line, striking an oncoming vehicle driven by Deborah Lawson.

Lawson, 43, of Elkhorn City, was wearing her seat belt and was uninjured as a result of the crash.

Estep, who was not wearing her seat belt, was pronounced dead at the scene by Pike County Coroner Earnie Casebolt.

An autopsy report is still pending and the accident is still under investigation by Trooper Brad Austin. An accident report by Kentucky State Police made no mention as to whether or not snow and ice was a factor in the accident.

Kentucky State Police trooper Scott Hopkins could not be reached for comment.

## Beshear outlines plans to cut state spending

by JOE BIESK ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT - Gov. Steve Beshear outlined his plan to rein in state spending Friday, including restrictions on state hiring and travel, attrition of state employees and a reduction in travel expenses.

Beshear said that without the cuts, the state would be short about \$300 million in the current budget that runs through June 30.

There's going to be pain," Beshear declared at a crowded Capitol press conference.

Beshear's plan whittled down about \$78 million from the more than \$430 million expected shortfall in the current budget year. The governor said he's also authorizing the state to use about \$145 million left over from the previous fiscal year and about \$42 million in unbudgeted or excess funds to cover the gap.

The remaining deficit must be dealt with by the legislature, Beshear said, because it includes new state spending for expenses such as Medicaid and corrections. The General Assembly begins its budget session next week.

Still, Beshear says the larger problem looming for lawmakers is expected money problems in the coming two years. State revenue next year is expected to fall short of the current spending levels by about \$525 million, Beshear said.

Senate President David Williams, R-Burkesville, said after a morning briefing with Beshear that he doesn't consider Kentucky's budget woes a crisis. Rather, he considers the current financial crunch an opportunity for the state to "tighten its belt," Williams

"There are always challenges in the budgeting process, but I don't particularly think that this is a crisis," Williams told reporters earlier outside Beshear's office. "You know, it's an opportunity for state government to tighten its belt."

Beshear announced last week the state was facing a \$434 million shortfall. With a carry-over surplus from last year, the state must make up about

\$290 million or risk not being able to pay its bills, Beshear said.

State agencies and public universities were told to suggest ways of slashing their current budgets by 3 percent,

The university spending cuts this year would amount to about \$34.5 million, according to the Council on Postsecondary Education. The University of Kentucky, which receives about \$335 million in state funding, is facing the largest single cut of more than \$10 million.

Universities were considering a range of options to cope, including hiring freezes, pay and benefit cuts and a reduction in travel. They're also considering tuition increases.

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## Regional Obituaries

FLOYD COUNTY

Hubert Gene Allen, 79, of Winchester, formerly of Manchester, a native of Hueysville, died Wednesday, December 12, at the University of Kentucky Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Cloteen Conley Allen. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 15, under the direction of the Hall Funeral Home.

■ Edd Bentley of Garrett, Thursday, December 26, at the Claire Hospital in Morehead. He is survived by her husband, Thelma Blanton Bentley. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 29, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Edward Burchett, 81, of Lexington, has died. He is survived by his wife, Nannie. He was a farmer and coal miner in Floyd County. Arrangements, under direction of Milward Funeral Home.

■ Georgia Faye Hall Conn, 54, of Martin, died Wednesday, December 26, at her residence. She is survived by h er husband, R.B. Conn. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 29, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Alan Wade Crum, 42, of Martin, died Wednesday, December 31, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Joanna Hamilton Crum. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 3, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Sharon Kay Risner Damron, 63, of Ivel, died Wednesday, December 31, at the Salyersville Health Care. She is survived by her husband, Ralph Damron. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 3, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Alka Fitch, 85, of Martin, died Sunday, December 9, in Highlands Regional Medical Center, at Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 12, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Ada Mills Hunter, 77, of East Point, died Tuesday, December 25, in the Community Hospice Care in 29, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Edith M. Jones, 74, of Beaver, died Tuesday, December 4, at McDowell ARH. Funeral services were held Friday, December 7, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Eddie Dean Lowe, 52, of Betsy Layne, died Tuesday, December 30, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Collady Ruth Eplin Lowe. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 2, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Irma Mae Marshall McKenzie, 91, of Auxier, died Friday, December 28, at

Give him time.

Fire him now.

He's still the man for the job.

HE'S FINE

GIVE IT TIME HE'S GONE

Funeral services were held Monday, December 31, under the direction of Carter Funeral

■ Uria Turner-Moore, 94, of Garrett, died Sunday, December 9, at King's Daughters Medical Center in Ashland. Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 12, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Eugene "Gene" Mullins, 79, of Wayland, died Thursday, December 6, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 9, under the direction of Hall Funeral

Jerlydine Tackett Petty, 56, of Weeksbury, died Monday, December 10, at home. Funeral services were held Thursday, December 13, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Herman C. Porter, 102, of Allen, died Wednesday, January 2, at his residence. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 5, under the direction of Hall Funeral

■ Belford Reitz, 91, of McDowell, died Saturday, December 22, in the Appalachian McDowell Regional Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 28, under the direction of Hall Funeral

Floyd J. Rinker, 65, of Prestonsburg, died Wednesday, December 5, at St. Mary's Hospital Huntington, West Virginia. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 8, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Calvin C. "Tab" Smith, 80, of Marshall, Michigan, died Wednesday, December 26. Craig K. Kempf Funeral Home in Marshall, Michigan. was in charge of arrangements.

Ruth Brown Spears, 77, of McDowell, died Friday, December 7, at the UK Medical Center in Lexington. Funeral services were held Monday, December 10, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Josephine Stephens, 85, Ashland. Funeral services of Albion, Michigan, a native were held Saturday, December of Dwale, died Friday, December 21, at Tendercare in Marshall, Funeral services were held Friday, December 28, under the direction of J. Kevin Tidd Funeral Home.

■ Eunice Stratton, 90, of Ivel, died Monday, December 24, in Highlands Regional Medical Center, Prestonsburg. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 28, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Ruby Mae Tackett, 74, of Prestonsburg, died Friday, December 7, at King's Daughters Medical Center in Ashland, Funeral services were held Sunday, December 9, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Georgina Y. Tackett, 86,

RESULTS FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 31 - JANUARY 6, 2008

How do you feel about UK Coach Billy Gillispie

Go online today and answer this week's question!

Who do you favor as the next state

representative in the 95th District?

· Charles "Chuck" Meade

no that the Wildcats have started poorly?

Pikeville Medical Center. of Martin, died Saturday, his wife, Barbara Dhell December 29, at the McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital. Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 1, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral

> Dallas (Big Larry) Taylor, 64, of Pinsonfork, died Thursday, December 27, at Williamson Memorial Hospital, Williamson, West Virginia. He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Iva Gibson Taylor. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 30, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Erma Gene Green Williams, 61, of Hippo, a native of Martin, formerly of County, died Wednesday, December 12, at home. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 16, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Hindman.

PIKE COUNTY Lucille Carter, 76, of died Friday, Raccoon, December 14, at the Pikeville Health Care Center. 'She is survived by her husband, Robert Carter. Funeral services were held Monday, December 17, under direction of the Community Funeral Home of

■ Dallas (Big Larry) Taylor, 64, of Pinsonfork, died Thursday, December 27, at Williamson Memorial Hospital, Williamson, West Virginia. He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Iva Gibson Taylor. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 30, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Herman Edward "Doodle" Williamson, 73, of Stone, died Thursday, December 13, at the V.A. Hospital in Huntington, W.Va. Arrangements were under direction of the R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

MARTIN COUNTY

■ James Roy Kilgore, 82, of Inez, died Friday, December 21, at Three Rivers Medical Center, Louisa. Funeral services were held Monday, December 24, under the direction of Richmond-Callaham Funeral Home.

Oudia Mae Mearer, 73, a native of Pilgrim, died Sunday, December 30, in Jacksonville, Florida. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 22, under the direction of Richmond Callaham Funeral

■ Keagan Elbic David Moore, infant son of Rachel Blackburn and Shawn David Moore, died Wednesday, December 19, at U.K. Medical Center. Graveside services were conducted Friday, December 21, under the direction of Richmond-Callaham Funeral Home.

"Snowball" Roger Lee Mullins, 55, of Adams, died Monday, December 24, at Community Hospice Center, in Ashland. He is survived by

(57 Votes, 17%)

(189 Votes, 55%)

(98 Votes, 28%)

Mullins. Funeral services were held Friday, December 28, under the direction of Wilson Funeral Home.

William Newsome, 61, of Inez, died Wednesday, December 26, at his residence. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 29, under the direction of Richmond-Callaham Funeral

Juanita Pinson, 57, of Inez, died Friday, December 28, at Highlands Regional Center, Medical Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Monday, December 31, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

Dolly Simpkins, 88, of Inez, died Saturday, December 22, at Three Rivers Medical Center, in Louisa, Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 25, under the direction of Richmond-Callaham Funeral Home.

Freelom Taylor, 82, of Louisa, died Friday, December 28, at Three Rivers Medical Center. Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 1, under the direction of Young Funeral

KNOTT COUNTY

Hiram Amburgey, 66, of Pinetop, died Friday, December 14, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Judy Thomas Amburgey. Funeral services were held Monday, December 17, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Gladys Coghill, 76, of Amburgey, died Sunday, December 2, at the Hazard ARMC. Funeral services were held Thursday, December 8, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Elder Coy Combs, 90, of died Friday, December 14, at home. Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 18, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Hindman.

Elden Hicks, 74, of Emmalena, died Wednesday, December 12, at Hazard ARH. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 15, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Hindman.

Tilda Higgins, 89, of Redfox, died Friday, Whitesburg ARH. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 22, under the direction of Hindman Funeral

■ Smiley King, 78, of Kite, died Saturday, December 8, at the Whitesburg ARH. Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 11, at the Rebecca Old Regular Baptist Church. Burial was in Mountain' Gardens, Memory

Hindman. Daniel A. Martin, 64, of Hindman, died Tuesday, December 4, at the Hazard ARMC. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 9, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Verdis Slone, 82, of Hollybush, died Saturday, December 8, at the Knott County Nursing Home in Hindman. Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 11, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Eddis Lee Smith, 84, of Sassafras, died Tuesday, December 4, at Winchester. Funeral services were held Thursday, December 6, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

Calvin C. "Tab" Smith, 80, of Marshall, Michigan, a native of Pippa Passes, died Wednesday, December 26. Craig K. Kempf Funeral Home in Marshall, Michigan, in charge of arrangements.

Amanda Brooke Worley, 16, of Dwarf, died Wednesday, December 5, at Dwarf. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 8, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral

JOHNSON COUNTY

Malvrie Blair, 74, of Sitka, died Tuesday, December 25, at King's Daughters Medical Center, in Ashland. She is survived by her husband, Arnold Ray Frank Blair. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 29, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

Joe David Fraley, 45, of Hager Hill, died Friday, December 7, at Greenrock. Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 11, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Virgil Ray Hall, 66, of Meally, died Thursday, December 27, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Christine Wells Hall. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 14, at the Dec. 30, under the direction of the Preston Funeral Home.

James Bugg Jackson Jr., 35, of Riceville, died Saturday, December 22, at St. Joseph Hospital, in Lexington.

American Heart

Funeral services were held Friday, December 28, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

Lavonna Jean Jude, 40. of Pilgrim, died Monday, December 31, at her residence. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 3, under the direction of the Phelps & Son Funeral Home.

Frank Osborne, 86, of Hager Hill, died Monday, December 31, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Flora Dixon Osborne. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 3, under the direction of the Phelps & Son Funeral

Mary Ellen Sears, 90, of Daytona Beach, Florida, formerly of Johnson County, died Saturday, December 22, at her residence. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 2. under the direction of the Evergreen Funeral Home of Louisville.

Chester C. Webb, 84, of Van Lear, died Monday, December 31, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. He is survived by his wife, Geraldine Vires Webb. Funeral services were held Friday, January 4, under the direction of Phelps & Son . Funeral Home.

Ola H. Wells, 87, of Auxier, died Thursday, December 27, at her residence. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 30, under the direction or the Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

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· Greg Stumbo



A six-pound, seven-ounce female bundle of joy arrived at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center at 7:14 p.m. Jan. 2, the first new born to arrive at Paul B. Hall in the New Year. Kyra Hope Spence, daughter of Rhea Cassady and Kyle Spence of Lawrence County, arrived to greetings of joy and a basket full of gifts provided by the hospital and a host of local merchants. Included among the gifts was: a \$50 savings bond; a \$25 gift card from Wal-Mart, a car seat, diaper bag and baby blankets from Paul B. Hall (gifts given year round to all newborns at the hospital); stuffed animal and bibs from Paintsville Floral; free setting fee from John Michael, photographer; stuffed toy and book from Amy's Hallmark, baby blanket and bib from Dawahare's; Precious Moments Bible from Master's Miracle Christian Bookstore; shampoo, soap, powder and other baby necessities from Med Zone Pharmacy; baby clothes, blanket, diapers, bottle and other items from the Johnson County Health Department. Other items in the basket included baby wipes, baby bath, baby lotion, bottles, baby clothes, bibs, socks, wash cloths, spoons and much more. Sharing in the excitement of Paul B. Hall's 2008 Baby were the infant's maternal grandparents, Billy and Jennifer Cassady and her paternal grandparents Chester and Sabrina Spence.

## Man pleads guilty to election fraud in governor's race

by ROGER ALFORD ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT Kentucky man has pleaded guilty to making illegal campaign contributions to a number of candidates in last year's governor's race, including former Gov. Ernie Fletcher who was defeated in his re-election

The case against Phillip Dufour, an employee of state road contractor Elmo Greer & Sons of London, was resolved Friday by an agreement that required him to pay a \$10,000 fine. In addition, Elmo Greer and Sons agreed to pay \$250,000 to cover the cost of

the investigation. The agreement also requires the company to cooperate in further investigations by providing names of others who may have been involved, Attorney General Greg Stumbo said.

"Protecting our political process is essential to freedom," Stumbo said in a statement. "With this criminal plea and significant fine, we have fired a shot across the bow of all who seek to taint elections with illegal contributions."

Dufour entered his guilty plea to the felony charge in Frankfort County Circuit Court. Durfour and his attorney didn't immediately return calls seeking comment.

Prosecutors alleged that between Sept. 18, 2006 and Aug. 27, 2007, Dufour made improper payments to eight people who in turn made contributions to the gubernatorial campaigns of Fletcher, former Lt. Gov. Steve Henry of Louisville, and former U.S. Anne Northup of Lousiville.

The investigation was sparked by a story last year in The (Louisville) Courier-Journal, which identified susorcious donations of up to \$1,000 to gubernatorial candidates from people working in low-paying hourly jobs.

Kentucky has a long-history of election fraud. In other cases in recent years, people have been accused of paying cash, even trading whiskey, for

In late November, four eastern Kentucky officials were arrested on election fraud charges for allegedly trading government-owned gravel, asphalt and bridge-building materials for votes in a local election last year.

Knott County Judge-Executive Randall Clinton Thompson, Deputy Judge-Executives John Mac Combs and Phillip G. Champion and former county Magistrate Ronnie Adams were accused in a federal indictment of misappropriating public funds to influence the outcome of the general election on Nov. 7, 2006. They entered not guilty

The previous Knott County Donnie judge-executive, Newsome, served 16 months in federal prison after being convicted of election fraud in

Federal prosecutors have also pursued cases in a number of other Appalachian communities, the latest of which was Bath County.

More than a dozen people were charged in an alleged scheme there to pay impoverished residents to vote for particular candidates. Among those charged were candidates for judge-executive, county attorney and sheriff, all of whom were either convicted or pleaded guilty.

## **Obituaries**

#### Marcedia Fave Stumbo Clatworthy

Marcedia Faye Stumbo Clatworthy, of Nashville, Tennessee, passed away Friday, December 21, 2007, in Nashville, following a brief

She was born on April 11, 1935, the daughter of the late Ernest and Gertrude Stumbo of McDowell. She had been living in Nashville, for many years.

She is survived by her children: Marcedia (Larry) Burns of Mt. Olivet; Ernest Terah Clatworthy of Ypsilanti, Michigan; and Goldic (Troy) Williams of Maysville; and a Sylvia (Lloyd) Reinhardt of Indianapolis, Indiana; four grandchildren: Nicole Burns Browning, Natasha Burns, Darren Williams, and Calch Williams; several aunts and an uncle; many nieces, nephews, and cousins; and many friends.

Direct cremation occurred after death at the request of Ms. Clatworthy. She also requested no service be held.

(Paid obituary)

#### ппп Sharon Kay Risner Damron

Sharon Kay Risner Damron, 63, of Ivel, died Monday, December 31, 2007, at Salyersville Health Care.

Born December 5, 1944, in Floyd County, she was the daughter of the late James and Melba Prater Risner. She was a homemaker.

She is survived by her husband, Ralph Damron.

Survivors include a son and daughter-in-law; Douglas and Suc Damron of Ivel; a daughter and son-inlaw, Latta Jo and Jeff Knapp of Concord, North Carolina; three brothers: Curtis Risner and James Lee Risner, both of Prestonsburg; and Gary Risner of Galion, Ohio; four sisters: Geneva Bates and Betty Lou Olmstead, both of Galion, Ohio: Karen Howard of Salyersville; and Kimberly Rence Goble of Ivel; her

grandchildren: Lewellen, Dustin Damron, Bobby Blevins, Kaleigh Jo Knapp, and Wesley Theodore Knapp; great-grandchildren: Jerrid Charles, Allison Paige Lewellen and Madison Lewellen.

Funeral services were held Thursday, January 3, at 2 p.m., at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Rev. T. J. McNew officiating.

Bural was in Davidson Memorial Gardens, in Ivel, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation was at the funeral

www.nelsonfrazierfuneralhome.com

(Paid obituary)



## Myrtle Alberta Skeans

Myrtle Alberta Skeans, age 92, of Martin, widow of Darbin C. Skeans, passed away Thursday, January 3, 2008, at Our Lady of The Way Hospital, Martin.

She was born August 13, 1915, in Martin, the daughter

of the late John Lee Hunter and Linda Alice Barnett Hunter. She was a retired salesperson, a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, and she was active with the Martin Senior Citizens group, where she attended trip functions and worked in parades.

Survivors include a son, LeRoy Skeans of Sylvania Township, Ohio; three daughters, Janice Anita (Arthur) Wright of Leslie, Michigan; Linda Gail (Elmo) Neilsen of Learnington, Utah: and Glenna Fay (Tom) Anderton of Martin; 22 grandchildren, 40 great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by a son, William Paul Skeans; two daughters, Darbia Jean Skeans and Alice Sue Ousley: four brothers, Ed Hunter, Newl Hunter, Clyman Hunter and Heber Ray Hunter; and a sister, Minnie Bell Shelton.

Funeral services for Myrtle Alberta Skeans will be conducted Monday, January 7, at 11:00 a.m., at the Hall Funeral Home Chapel, in Martin, with Bishop Ken Carriere officiat-

Burial will follow in the Martin Cemetery, in Martin, under the professional care of the Hall Funeral Home.

Visitation is from 6-9:00 p.m., Saturday, and from 2-8:00 p.m., Sunday, at the funeral home. (Paid obituary)

#### <u>ATTENTION, FLOYD COUNTY REPUBLICANS:</u> 95th HOUSE DISTRICT

A nomination convention will be held Monday, January 7, at 4 p.m. in the County Courthouse Law Library to elect a candidate

to fill the seat vacated by Democratic Representative James Brandon Spencer. Paid for by Floyd County Republican Party.

## Two county workers file suit against indicted Knott judge-executive

The Associated Press

HINDMAN — An Eastern Kentucky judge-executive, who was indicted on vote fraud charges, is facing new allegations in a lawsuit.

Knott County Judge-Executive Randy Thompson is accused of firing two former county workers because they did not support him in the

2006 election. Thompson ately return a phone call to his became the first Republican to office on Friday. head the Knott County govern-

The workers filed suit that after claiming Thompson's victory, they had to endure discriminatory work terms and conditions, harassment, humiliation and, ultimately, termination.

Thompson did not immedi-

In November, Thompson, deputy Judge-Executives John Mac Combs and Phillip G. Champion and former county Magistrate Ronnie Adams were accused in a federal indictment of misappropriating public funds to influence the outcome of the Nov. 7, 2006, general election.

## Offender

sheriffs that he would be moving to Floyd County, Kentucky.

In an affidavit by Laura McKesson, Deputy United States Marshal, it was stated that Akers registered with the Kentucky State Police through the Floyd County Probation and Parole office on August 3, 2005. Akers had no further contact with either Probation and Parole or KSP after that date. According to probation officials Akers was under the supervision of Pike County Probation and Parole.

According to McKesson, Akers resurfaced in South Bend in August, living with his mother and siblings, who believed he had registered as required, said he had been living there since 2006.

Commonwealth's Attorney Arnold Brent Turner said Akers was indicted In Kentucky in October and pleaded guilty to a charge of failure to maintain registration, which carries with it a sentence of two years.

According to Turner, aside from the state sentence, Akers also broke federal laws when he crossed state lines and moved into Indiana without

registering. "He may be facing a more severe charge from the federal ■ Continued from p1

government," said Turner.

On July 27, 2006, President George W. Bush signed into law the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act, which created the National Sex Offender Registry and made it a felony not to register or maintain registry as a sex offender.

The National Sex Offender Registry can be viewed at www.familywatchdog.us.





# expression

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

- Felix Frankfurter

## Guest View-

# Banks, consumers share responsibility

In hardly the time it took to tear through the packages under the tree, Americans' holiday financial concerns shifted from retailers worrying consumers weren't buying enough to consumers wondering how they'll pay for all they bought.

Sobering up from holiday credit-card benders is nothing new for Americans, but this year's economic hangover may last longer than ever and have more serious side effects.

According to an Associated Press report, Americans went into this shopping season behind on credit-card payments like never before. The number of families at least 30 days behind jumped by 26 percent last year, with the greatest increase coming in those more than three months overdue.

Overall, Americans owe more than \$920 billion in credit card debt. The average family carries more than \$8,000 in such debt

But more troubling than how much Americans owe is what they're flashing that plastic for. A growing number of families use credit cards just to make ends meet. The AP report suggests that growing mortgage problems, shrinking home values and a weakening job market are forcing families to charge necessities, like food and tuition.

With credit card interest rates as high as 36 percent and a host of surcharges, it's easy for families to dig themselves into a hole they can't climb out of. Last year, Americans defaulted on \$961 million in credit card debt, an 18 percent increase from the previous year.

Money problems lead to increased stress and family conflict. They truncate career aspirations. They exacerbate mental health problems. They rob families of vacations and leisure activities that bonds and memories are made of.

The credit card industry is a lucrative one, last year generating profits of more than \$30 billion before taxes. It also serves Americans' predilection for financial flexibility—and impulse buying. For both reasons, credit cards are not going away. The question is how to limit their potential for harm.

One step is reform in the credit card industry. Like the mortgage industry, it's flush with deceptive tactics, including terms that can change at any time for any reason, and penalties sometimes triggered by a payment even a few hours late.

The second is for consumers to exert a new measure of self-discipline — always hard to do but never more so than while they struggle with shifting mortgage rates and job uncertainties.

Young people need to grow up with good financial instruction. Colleges need to help young adults manage, rather than jump into, early credit-card debt. And adults need access to financial counseling before they've spent themselves into a corner.

Credit cards, we should all remember, make useful servants but terrible masters.

- The Kentucky Enquirer, Fort Mitchell

# The Times

Published Sunday, Wednesday and Friday each week

#### 263 SOUTH CENTRAL AVENUE PRESTONSBURG, KENTUCKY 41653

Phone: (606) 886-8506 Fax: (606) 886-3603

www.floydcountytimes.com

USPS 202-700
Entered as second class matter, June 18, 1927, at the post office at Prestonsburg, Kentucky, under the act of March 3, 1879.
Periodicals postage paid at Prestonsburg, Ky.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES PER YEAR: In Floyd County: \$59.00 Outside Floyd County: \$76.00

Postmaster: Send change of address to: The Floyd County Times P.O. Box 390 Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653

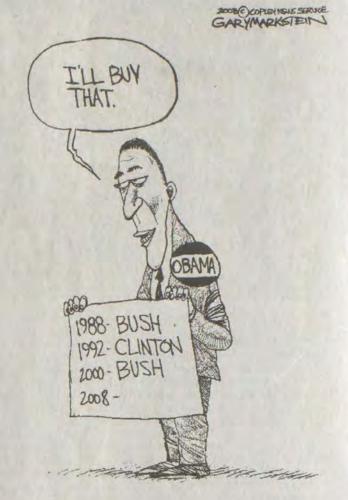
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## Rich Sowry Column

## Huck's daft tax plan

Mike Huckabee is not running a substance-free campaign based on biography and applause lines. No, the former Arkansas governor has the distinction of advocating the most radical — and politically unsalable and substantively daft — proposal of any major presidential candidate of either party.

It is the so-called FairTax. It would climinate the income and payroll taxes and replace them with a (supposedly) 23 percent national sales tax. Not given to rhetorical understatement, Huckabee says, "When the FairTax becomes law, it will be like waving a magic wand releasing us from pain and unfairness." Waving a magic wand is about right — since the FairTax is a bedtime story for IRS-hating conservatives

Huckabee adopted the plan when he, unknown and languishing far back in the polls, was a Not Ready for Prime Time Player. It probably seemed a cheap way to inoculate Huckabee from his tax-raising history as Arkansas governor. Huckabee both raised and cut taxes during his 10 years as governor, but his tax hikes outweighed his tax cuts by half a billion dollars.

Tactically, the FairTax offered Huckabee a built-in cadre of activists

in the crucial state of Iowa. Tapping in to the busloads of FairTax supporters there, he finished second in the Iowa Straw Poll in August and beat fellow social conservative Sen. Sam Brownback — who was never heard from again — by less than 400 votes.

So the FairTax has given Huckabee a convenient talking point, and it boosted him in a key test of Iowa strength five months before anyone actually votes. mind it is that unworkable and would be politically

deadly in a general election.

To avoid the risk of getting both a national sales tax and an income tax, FairTaxers would have to repeal the 16th Amendment. Good luck. Huckabee's magic wand will come in

Then, there's the rate of the sales tax. FairTaxers say that a 23 percent rate would be enough to replace current revenues. What they really are talking about is a tax of 30 cents on every dollar — what most people would consider a 30 percent rate. The government would pay the tax on all its purchases, a gimmick "done solely to make revenues under the FairTax seem larger than they really

are," writes economist Bruce Bartlett. The congressional Joint Committee on Taxation has estimated that the rate would have to go as high as 57 percent.

The tax would apply to everything, even medical expenses, so it

would amount to an incredibly regressive tax on even the most necessary purchases of lowand middleincome taxpayers. The home mortgage deduction would be gone, and instead buyers would pay a 30

percent (at least) tax on their homes. To make up for this burden, the government would send monthly "prebate" checks to all Americans based on income. (And you thought our current tax scheme was complex?)

Any of these points makes the FairTax so vulnerable to attack that it would kick away the tax issue as a Republican strength. This is why no serious candidate would ever endorse it. And why, despite his stupefying rise in Iowa and other states, Huckabee seems likable and talented — but still something less than a serious candidate.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

## - guest Column

## yard to the prison yard

by MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN MINUTEMAN MEDIA

In a number of America's upperincome communities parents, like generations before them, preregister their children at birth for blue-chip nursery schools in hopes of placing them on the path to Ivy League and other top-tier universities. By contrast, millions of Black and Latino children from poor families with no or few stimulating prekindergarten opportunities never make it onto the college track. With multiple strikes against them - low birthweight, poor single parents, absent fathers, perhaps substance abuse - many begin life already on the prison track.

A good education in America is a major determinant of what kind of life a child will have when s/he grows up. A bad education is often a sentence to social and economic death. Education determines future income and social status as well as a child's range of future options and quality of life. Sadly, too many children in economically depressed minority communities are stuck in failing schools, greatly increasing their chances of ending up in a prison cell.

A child's experiences in the dawn of life establish the foundation that will prepare him or her to learn at school. Children in America's poorest communities who lack stable parenting, quality child care and who receive little stimulation in their early years will lag behind when they start kindergarten. When they enter first grade, it's likely to be at a poorly funded, overcrowded, understaffed and low-achieving school. Inner-city schools have the highest numbers of teachers who are inexperienced or don't have degrees in the subjects they teach. Consequently, too many schools are likely to be staffed by teachers and administrators who have low expectations for children from marginalized families whom they may label as "dumb" or "bad."

Currently, 88 percent of Black children and 85 percent of Latino children in fourth grade can't read at grade level. This is when minority children with poor preschool preparation begin to be sorted out.

The lack of health and mental health care among low-income children is also an important factor in a child's educational development. A child's misbehavior may be a reflection of an unaddressed learning disability or mental or emotional disorder. Regrettably, too few schools have the staff capable of recognizing the behavior of a disturbed or disabled child for what it is, and if they do, are unable to provide treatment. More often, these children are seen as "disruptive," and instead of offering them counseling or psychological therapy, too many educators dispense "zero tolerance" discipline - usually in the form of suspensions or expulsions.

Once children drop out, or are pushed out of school, the prison pipeline is only one wrong move away. With most churches and mosques closed during the week and too many community centers boarded up, children with few positive alternatives to the streets often head for the "corner," a different type of educational institution that teaches antisocial values like violence and criminal behavior, also glamorized on many of the TV programs they watch.

High school dropouts are almost three times as likely to be incarcerated as youths who have graduated. But dropouts are not the only ones who encounter entryways into the prison pipeline. Many middle and high schools have full-time police officers who can independently arrest children on school grounds for any number of infractions like disorderly conduct, malicious mischief and fighting that just a few years ago would have been handled by families, the schools or community institutions. And now, children as young as five and six are being hauled down to police stations in handcuffs. I think we adults have lost our common sense and sense of plain decency.

There are things we can do. Congress and states must fully fund quality Head Start, Early Head Start, child care and preschool programs that target the neediest children between the ages of three and five to provide comprehensive education, health, nutrition and social services. And we can all encourage the children in our lives and celebrate their academic achievements. Finally, educators who do not love and respect the children they are entrusted with preparing for the future should go do something

Marian Wright Edelman is President of the Children's Defense National Newspaper Association

## INSIDESTUFF

 **CAR TALK:** 

Reader isn't being snowed by tire salesman

see pg. B6

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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.

Now that the Day has come and gone, I have decided Christmas is a time for thinking—of past, future and presents.

#### THOUGHTS ON THE MOON-TRIP

While we were taking what we stoutly asserted was a wellearned rest last week from publishing a newspaper, look what happened-nothing but one of the great events of all time. Man has blasted himself clear of his natural element: Into orbit around the moon, and has returned to tell the tale...In fact, told part of the tale while we earthlings, some 230,000 miles away, listened...Man flew up from the earth, then reached a point from which he began flying down to the moon... Makes the old noggin swim trying to conceive such an "impossibility"...Many have seen moonshine, but these three aboard, are the first known to have beheld earthsine...One skeptic referred to the three who dared to make this historic trip as "the astronuts"...Some of these selfsame skeptics now boldy predict that within a matter of years regular excursions will be taken to the moon...Even if it comes in my time, I'll not be a passenger. The only way I'd ever bound such a craft, outward bound, would be bound, head and foot, and screaming (unless they gagged me). And,

hijack the thing and head for Cuba...What does it all mean, now that man thas orbited the moon and may soon land there? Don't ask me. Remember, I'm the guy when, reading of the atom being smashed, gave with the erudite comment: "So what?"

## DYING IN VAIN

This gal who objected to the reading of the Bible by the three astronauts as they circled the moon, is dying the vainest of deaths—she's just dying to get her name in the papers.

## UNSYNCHRONIZED

Either the time was off in Times Square, Tuesday night, or a lot of cloceks were fast, around here. The guns began blasting away here, announcing the birth of a new year, fully five minutes before the Times Square clock reached midnight. When the witching hour came, all was silent here. Then, five or ten minutes later, some householder, apparently awakened from a nap, hauled down the family blunderbuss and blasted three holes in the night.

000

/d January, we are told, was to named for the Roman goddess <sup>IW</sup> Janus, who was depicted as hav-

/ill

(See ALLEN, page six)



Climbing Mountains, Chasing Stars

## Spotlight on Success: The Gina Goodman Story

BSCTC FACULTY

"I want to be like her," Gina Goodman said as she watched the Director of the Respiratory Care Program, Missy Skeens, walk across the campus of Big Sandy Community and Technical College. Little did she know that she had already met Ms. Skeens and that their lives would be intricately connected in the future.

Gina went to college right out of high school; however, her academic career was cut short due to her grandfather's health problems. He had broken his hip, and Gina was asked to move from Lexington to Martin in order to help her grandmother with his care. While he was in the hospital, her grandfather would do little for anyone other than Gina. One day a respiratory therapist came in to give Gina's grandfather a breathing treatment. Gina worked with her grandfather so that he would follow the therapist's instructions. The therapist noticed how Gina cared for her grandfather during the treatment and told Gina she should think about going into Respiratory Care. Gina didn't really give it much thought.

It wasn't long until her grandfather died. By this time, Gina was working at a daycare center along with helping her grandmother at home. She really wanted to go back to school. She thought about moving and getting a degree elsewhere but didn't want to leave her grandmother alone. Gina started to take a couple of courses at BSCTC; however, Psychology and Social Work couldn't hold her interest. She couldn't decide what she wanted to do with her life. What came next seemed to set her in a new direction.

One day, while she was working at the daycare center, she fell and

severely tore some tendons and ligaments in one of her ankles. She went through surgery, boots, and therapy. Throughout, she continued to work on and off. During this time, the owner of the daycare center found that she was going to have to downsize. It was agreed that Gina would be the most likely person to get laid off, perhaps a blessing in disguise because now she could go back to school full time.

However, going back to school was not easy. Gina had to get back into the study mode and rekindle note-taking and test-taking skills. At this point, though, Gina knew that she wanted to do something in the medical field. She was encouraged to attend an informational meeting for the Respiratory Care Program on campus. There she met Missy Skeens, director of the program, and recognized her as the therapist who had suggested earlier, when Gina was attending to her grandfather in the hospital, that she go into the field. It seemed now, finally, like everything was going to fall into place. She was nervous about the possibility that she wouldn't make it through the selection process. However, not only did she get selected, but she soon found herself excelling in all aspects of the program. She now knew, without a doubt, that she had found her earcer. And Missy, the therapist who had cared for her grandfather, soon

became Gina's mentor.

After graduation from Big Sandy, Gina found part-time jobs, but nothing consistent. She graduated at the top of her class and had passed her boards within a month of graduation, which is almost unheard of in the profession. In the midst of completing the program, however, tragedy struck when her grandmother, who had been her biggest supporter, died of pancreatic cancer.

Now Gina was on her own with her

Gina cares for a young boy that she has raised since he was two weeks old. She became involved with him when she worked at the day care center. She has no legal rights to the boy, but he is her son and she is his mom. It was now very important to her to find a full-time job with benefits. She had two per diem jobs, working weekends and long hours, but she desperately needed something she could depend on for her future stability. Gina wondered what could possibly be in

In October of 2004, a teaching position was about to open in the Respiratory Care Program for the fall of 2005 at Big Sandy Community and Technical College, and Gina's clinical instructor encouraged her to apply. She went through the interview process and was unanimously selected by the committee. The job is everything Gina thought it would be and then some. She loves her work and has become a mentor to her students. She understands their struggles and encourages them to do their best. She is dedicated to her profession and has brought many new ideas to the program.

Gina often wondered over the years what could ever become of her situation in life. With perseverance, patience, and dedication, she was able to climb her mountain. Missy Skeens has once again become an integral part of Gina's life and couldn't be more proud of her colleague and friend: "Gina is becoming an outstanding educator, a reflection of the respiratory therapist she was in the hospital, and the student she was during her time in this program."

Gina has become the person she wanted to be.

## MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

## 'Vacancy'

by TOM DOTY
TIMES COLUMNIST

As promised, we kick off the new year with a crackerjack thriller that should please any fan of the genre.

The best suspense yarns have to be plausible to connect with audiences and this one easily fits into that category. Most of us have had at least one road trip where we were forced to stay over at a hotel.

In my case it turned out to be a pleasant experience. We were headed to New York from Paintsville and were unable to get out of West Virginia before midnight, owing to an

accident on Route
79 and some of
the most relentless rain this side
of Noah's Ark.
Lucky for us we
found the Maple
Leal' Motel (in
Bruceton Mills,
W.Va., your last
stop before Route
68 enters
Maryland), which
turned out to be a



Times Columnist

cozy overnight oasis offering handwoven quilts on the beds and a devoted staff.

The couple in this film aren't so fortunate and wind up in a no-name hotel where they are made to feel about as welcome as an Idaho senator in an airport restroom.

The story begins with Amy and David Fox driving home after a visit with Amy's parents. David has taken the car off the interstate, to avoid a delay caused by a wreck, and regrets that decision when Amy awakens and gives him three kinds of hell for getting them lost. Turns out they are headed for divorce court, so their

nerves are frazzled anyway.

A stop at a remote gas station offers some hope when they get directions, but their vehicle conks out a mile later and they are forced to hoof it back to the station, which is now closed. They spot a rundown hotel and decide to spend the night there until their vehi-

cle can be serviced.

The hotel is no bargain and comes complete with filthy rooms, a swarm of freeloading cockroaches and a manager named Mason who sports a prison haircut and all of the charm of a graduate from the Norman Bates School of Hotel Management.

It's no surprise that the TV doesn't get any reception, which prompts David to pop in one of the grimy videotapes splayed across the top of the television. What comes on when he presses the play button looks like a serial killer's home movies, but there is something odd going on here and David tumbles to it quickly when he observes that the grainy images of murder and mayhem were captured for posterity in the same room that they have rented. It's a frightening realization which is bolstered by the presence of video cameras in several spots in the room affording the same angles as the murder tapes they just saw - and those cameras are now

The third act is where most thrillers blow it, but this one actually gets bet-

(See LAGOON, page six)

## Ready ... set ... go!

by CHEF ANTONIO FRONTERA
"CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE SOUL: KIDS
IN THE KITCHEN"

You can't go too far when you are out of gas. You need fuel!
Power! Nutrients!

If an empty car sleeps all night long, how far can it go in the morning? If it doesn't fill up, it will be slow and sluggish, and it will finally shut down. If you sleep all night and don't fill up in the morning, you'll be slow and sluggish, too!

People are always telling me that x) I should cat a good breakfast!

They're right! Eat something, but don't cat just sugar and fat, because sugar and fat won't help you get through your day. You will still run out of gas.

Breakfast is about new beginnings, new hope and the promise of a new day. No two days are ever the same, so enjoy and explore. Get fueled and get powered. Be a believer in breakfast, because it does make a difference. That's the root of the expression "Breakfast of Champions." And everyone can be a champion! Breakfast is the first meal you cat when you wake up after a night of

sleeping and fasting. In fact, "break-fast" is a compound word: break-fast. You are breaking your fast and giving nourishment to an empty stomach so you can energize yourself.

Worldwide, eating breakfast is considered the healthy way to begin a new day. It's a gift to your body. There are many kinds of breakfast you can try because breakfasts are different throughout the world in many families, regions and countries. Learning about the breakfasts of different cultures might make you curious about other people and their traditions.

Did you have cereal for breakfast today? Was it hot or cold? Did you know that it is called "porridge" in some places in the world? Do you sometimes like peanut butter on toast?

In Australia, some love Vegemite, not peanut butter.

You can learn all about foreign foods. You might even try them one day! I will share breakfast foods that T know about, and you can find others to add to the list: rice, soup, fish, noodles, peas, chutney, cheese, bagels, croissants,

more.

Lots of people eat eggs for breakfast. Eggs can be made in many differ-

yogurt, sandwiches and

for the Soul

ent ways, such as poached, scrambled, fried, over easy, over hard or as an omelet.

There are many breakfast alternatives: hot breakfast,

cold breakfast or something freshly made, from a package or put together the night before to save time in the morning. You can eat breakfast in a chair or on the run, on a plate, in a cup or in a bag. Count the number

of foods you can eat for breakfast. There are so many possibilities. You can be creative, and you can look forward to breakfast

can look forward to breakfast.

Now think about this: Next time

## Tire salesman not trying to snow reader

by TOM and RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:

I have a 2004 Mazda Miata (with rear-wheel drive). Most companies advise me that I need to put snow tires on all four wheels. Is this true for my rear-wheel-drive Miata? Or is this true only for front-wheeldrive cars? - Mark

RAY: I understand why you're suspicious, Mark. I mean, here's a guy who sells tires for a living advising you to buy four tires instead of two tires. Sounds fishy, right?

TOM: But it IS better to put four snow tires on your car, whether it's front-, rear- or allwheel drive. In the old days, we used to put only two snow tires on cars, which went on the driven wheels - the rear wheels, in your case. The idea was that the tires would help you get started and "go" in the snow. Makes sense, right?

RAY: Then people came to a funny realization. That it's ALSO good to be able to "turn" and "stop" in the snow! That's why four snow tires are

TOM: It's also a little better to have four of the same tires

more predictable, particularly in an emergency.

RAY: And many all-wheeldrive vehicles require you to have four identical tires in order to protect the differen-

TOM: So if money is a serious issue, you CAN go with two snows. You won't do any mechanical damage to your Miata. But when you're sliding on packed snow into, or under, the tailgate of a Ford Expedition, you might wish you had sprung for the other

#### Advice for surviving water immersion

Dear Tom and Ray:

You recently answered a question about what to do if your car goes into the water. You asked if any of your readers had personal experience in this matter. I do. Here's my story. On June 17, 2006 (the eve of Father's Day), at about 9:30 p.m., I accidentally drove my car into a river on the eastern shore of Maryland. I was taking a "spirited" drive down Bogles Wharf Road in the Neck Wildlife Eastern Reserve, and in the dark I didwhen there's no snow on the n't realize that it dead-ended ed about 30 feet out. I remember that my landing was very smooth, much like a log flume at an amusement park. The water cushioned the blow. I did have my seat belt on, but the air bags did not activate. I instinctively opened my window, unbuckled my seat belt, kicked off my shoes, climbed through the window and swam to safety. When I got to shore, I realized that I was in my bare feet 7 miles from the nearest town. My car had sunk to the bottom in about 4 feet of water, but the lights were still on (under water) and the top of the car was still exposed. I waded back to the car and climbed in to find my shoes, wallet and briefcase. While I was sitting chest deep in water in the passenger seat putting my shoes on, the window that I had climbed in automatically closed, trapping me in the car. I remember hearing the locks all click shut. Obviously, the electrical system was shorting out. I tried to open the windows and doors, but they wouldn't budge. climbed into the back seat and began kicking the rear driver's-side window. I kicked as hard as I could, but the win-

ground. Your handling will be into the Chester River. I land- dow wouldn't break. Totally exhausted. I gave up, assuming that it was my time to die. I said a short prayer. A few seconds later, the rear window that I had been kicking automatically went down about 8 inches. I was able to squeeze my head and chest through the opening, but when my knee hit the top of the window, it shattered. Apparently, once the window is down even a little bit, you can break it. When it's completely closed, the frame supports it and makes it almost impossible to break. Since my accident, I have done exhaustive research on auto water immersion, entrapment and escape. I've interviewed many experts and combined their knowledge with my own personal experience to try to educate the public on how to escape a sinking car. I've learned that there is ONE CRITICAL MISTAKE some people make that costs them their life. They remain in the car with the windows closed, thinking the car will float long enough for the rescue squad to save them. This is a deadly mistake. It takes at least 20 minutes (usually longer) for a rescue squad to arrive. The car sinks long before they get

**CLICK & CLACK** Talk Cars

there. I must say that your article in the newspaper gave some of the best advice I have heard for escaping a sinking car. You are correct in saying that THE KEY TO SURVIV-ING A WATER-IMMERSION ACCIDENT IS TO OPEN THE WINDOW AND GET OUT OF THE CAR AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE! Here are my five steps to surviving a water-immersion accident: (1) Try to stay calm. (2) Open the window. (3) Unbuckle your seat belt. (4) Climb through the window. (5) Swim to safety. The only preventative actions you can take (other than trying to steer away from the water) are to wear a seat belt, and to keep an auto-escape tool such as a LifeHammer or ResQMe in your car. These allow you to cut a jammed seat belt and shatter a car window in an emergency. — Archie

TOM: OK, everybody got that? Open the window, escape from the car, and DO NOT GO BACK for your wallet, your shoes or your Steely Dan CDs!

RAY: I don't know about your smooth landing, Archie. But the last time I was on a water flume at an amusement park, I got a wedgie that took me two weeks to dislodge. So, how smooth your water landing is probably depends on your speed and angle of entry. A seat belt is an absolute must so you're not knocked uncon-

TOM: Thanks for sharing your story, Archie. If anyone wants to read our original advice in its entirety, you can find our previous columns at www.cartalk.com.

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or email them by visiting the Car Talk Web site www.cartalk.com.

## Odds & Ends

■ BROWNSVILLE, Texas For nearly seven years Melina Salazar did her best to put on a smile and tend to the every need of her most loyal and cantankerous customer.

She made sure his food was as hot as he wanted, even if it meant he burned his mouth. And she smiled through his demands and curses. The 89year-old Walter Swords obviously appreciated it, leaving the waitress \$50,000 and a 2000 Buick when he died.

"I still can't believe it," the Luby's cafeteria employee told Harlingen television station KGBT-TV in an interview during which she described Swords as "kind of mean."

Swords, a World War II veteran, died in July. But Salazar learned just a few days before Christmas that he had left her the money and car.

COOKEVILLE, Tenn. - A father gave his 10-yearold daughter a Christmas present that would make Santa

Now Daryl Hill wants to know why an MP3 video player he bought at a Wal-Mart in Sparta was preloaded with pornography and explicit

Hill bought three of the players as Christmas presents

for his children. He said one of the devices had apparently been returned to the store from a previous owner who loaded sex clips and songs with lyrics about using drugs.

"Within 10 minutes, my daughter was crying," Hill said Thursday. "I wish I could take the thoughts and images out of her head."

Hill questioned why Wal-Mart Stores Inc. would sell used merchandise as new, which he said violates its own

A company spokesman said in an e-mail to WSMV-TV of Nashville that stores are not supposed to return opened packages to the sales floor and that the matter was under investigation.

Hill said he declined Wal-Mart's offer to replace the MP3 player. He said he has already bought his daughter a new one and is hanging onto the controversial one until he talks to a lawyer.

■ SOUTH BRUNSWICK, N.J. - Local police said it was a typical holiday Grinch tale: A home was broken into on Christmas Eve, and wrapped presents were stolen off a kitchen table.

Little did they know the culprits were kids.

Authorities said Friday that

old boy used a gift card to pick the lock on the back door of a home a block away. They then took about \$200 in wrapped presents that were located on a kitchen table, including Hannah Montana and Jonas Brothers CDs.

The couple who lived in the home returned from some Christmas Eve shopping to find the house broken into, and the presents gone, South Brunswick police Detective Jim Ryan said.

One of the children's relatives who also lived in the neighborhood spoke with the couple and realized the gifts matched some mysterious extra presents the children appeared to receive on

The relative contacted the children's mother, who got the them truth out Wednesday, and then contacted police.

"A 9- and 5-year-old would never be on our suspect list. For a burglary? Maybe for taking a bike or something like that, but not for a burglary," Ryan said.

The children's names were not released, and charges are not planned.

■ AMITYVILLE, N.Y. — Police arrested a man on suspi-

a 9-year-old girl and a 5-year- cion of stealing a GPS receiver after the device apparently gave him away.

Amityville police say they stopped the 33-year-old man early Saturday after they spotted him trying to ride a bicycle while carrying several items, including a car GPS unit.

Police say the cyclist gave evasive answers to questions, and when the officer pressed the home button on the GPS. the unit displayed a nearby address. The resident of that home told police the device was his.

■ BERKELEY, Calif. — Ari Derfel leads a trashy life. He just wants to remind everyone else that they do, too.

The 35-year-old Berkeley caterer said he has saved every piece of trash he has generated over the past year to see how much garbage one person cre ates. In his case, it was about 96 cubic feet.

The experiment began as a

way to examine his own consumption habits, Derfel said, but grew into a statement about consumerism and the environment.

"When we throw something away, what does 'away' mean?" Derfel said. "There's no such thing as 'away."

The refuse - including every tissue, receipt, food wrapper and plastic bottle lies in bins in the kitchen and living room of Derfel's apartment. He composts his food

Derfel said he eventually hopes to donate his accumulated waste to a sculptor.

■ NEW BEDFORD, Mass. - A burglary suspect who gave a false home address to police after his arrest didn't count on one thing - getting own recognizance. Police robbed himself.

22-year-old Daniel Cabral was arrested Wednesday and charged with burglarizing a University of

Massachusetts-Dartmouth building. He was arraigned and released until his next court date.

Hours later, he was robbed at gunpoint while walking home from a bar. He reported the robbery to police, this time giving them his real address instead of the phony address he reported earlier in the day, according to authorities.

Police arrested two suspects and a man accused of being an accomplice after the fact. They also obtained a search warrant for Cabral's real address and found computer equipment that had been taken from the UMass building as well as power tools that had been reported missing from a local theater.

Cabral was released on his were not sure if he had an phone listing for him in New

## Allen

ing two faces. Thus we get the picture of January looking backward to the old year, and forward to the new. Just like a taxpayer who looks back to the county and state debt paid,

## AMONG MY SOUVENIRS

I have been pushed into having some work done on the interior of this office. That was done on the old desk. But history was uncovered when I

■ Continued from p5

and ahead with dread to the income tax that's coming due.

followed by a cleanup job

Lagoon

had at a wire letter tray that has lain in the northwest corner of ths same desk for, lo! these many years. Into the waste basket went its entire contents, even those in the bottom which had been left untouched, since they weren't in the way. A few minutes after this task was completed, Jimmy Goble brought a letter to me which had reposed in

the tray and asked if I recalled answering it. It was a letter from the Western Newspaper Union argently requesting the return of used WNU plate.

'They're talking about boiler plate-wonder how old this letter is!" I mentally observed. Then I looked for the date of this letter, and there it was-December 6, 1950.

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## SOCIAL SECURITY NEWS

## Resolve to reach a comfortable retirement

by KIMBERLY THOMPSON SOCIAL SECURITY TECHNICAL EXPERT IN PRESTONSBURG

Happy New Year from the Security Social Administration!

Did you know that many people start off each New Year with a list of resolutions? These resolutions can help you achieve your personal goals as the year progresses.

We'd like to suggest you establish three Social Security related resolutions that can go a long way to planning for your retirement nest egg.

Resolution One: Think about retirement. Whether you're 22 and beginning a career or 62 and thinking about the best time to end one, give some thought to what your retirement plan will be. The earlier you begin your financial planning, the better. Social Security replaces about 40 percent of the average worker's pre-retirement earnings. Most financial advisors say that you will need 70 percent or more of pre-retirement earnings to live comfortably. Even with a pension, you will still need to save. If you won't have a private pension, you'll probably need to save more and you'll need to start saving for your retirement sooner.

Resolution Two: ahead. The best way to begin planning ahead when it comes to your retirement is by using the free resources provided by Social Security. Did you know that every year, about two to three months before your birthday, workers 25 and older receive a Social Security Statement in the mail? The Statement gives you an estimate, based on current earnings, of what you might expect in Social Security retirement benefits. And by using our online Retirement Planner, you can personalize various financial scenarios to determine what your individual retirement plan should look like. Visit the Retirement

ty.gov/retire2. Resolution Three: Manage your money. Between now and retirement, you will need to manage your money well.

Planner at www.socialsecuri-

For information that can help you manage your money during every stage of life, visit the U.S. government's website www.mymoney.gov - dedicated to teaching Americans the basics about financial edu-

Adding these three resolutions to your list will help you with your financial goals now and in the future - including the goal of an adequate income in retirement.

To learn more, and to help you get started on your Social Security resolutions, visit the Social Security website at www.socialsecurity.gov.

For more information about benefits and services call your local Social Security Office in Prestonsburg at (606) 886-8525. The office is located at 1897 Kentucky Route 321 in Prestonsburg Representatives are available to answer questions.

And remember, we have representatives available to give presentations and speeches about Social Security Programs. Contact the office for more information,

ter as the couple, mainly David, react by becoming proactive. Rather than race around screaming and barricading the doors, they watch the tapes with a new intensity bred from their situation. They are able to glean key bits of information and determine that their assailants like to prolong their attacks by scaring the victims with phone calls and incessant noise before striking.

The Foxes use this period to study the tapes and determine a way out of the room. Sure enough they discover that they may be able to sneak out of their room and surprise their captors.

Whether or not they make it is not something I should give away, but if you tune in you will find that the ending is handled credibly with none of those moments where the abilities of people are stretched at the last minute. Nobody turns out to be a retired Navy SEAL here, but the film should give you enough tips on how to handle this kind of situation and reads as a "how-to" manual for tourists who find themselves up against psychotic support staff at a remote hotel. This one works because it

delivers on the kind of horror movie that audiences have been wanting for ages. This is one that you don't have to talk back to because the characters don't turn into simpletons who walk around in the dark screaming out each other's names while the killers pick them off with ease. In fact these folks are ahead of the curve and think up some effective strategies that should leave most audience members scratching their heads for a change and saying, "Why didn't I think of that?"

The performances are spot on, with Luke Wilson in fine Kate form as David. Beckinsdale is also good in a change-of-pace role of Amy. Anyone familiar with her work in the "Underworld" series may be disappointed that she gets scared and shuts down for a bit when the action gets underway. Her reaction to the situation is extremely normal however for someone who is suffering form depression and

■ Continued from p5

has become addicted to antidepressants.

The tragedy that has broken the Fox marriage is well crafted and anyone can relate to it, but it's best that you see the film to find out what that is since it is key to the plight of the characters.

There is also a deft turn by Frank Whaley (Brad in "Pulp Fiction") as Mason. Whaley is incredibly creepy here and even turns the act of counting out change into an exercise in eeriness.

This one clocks in at under 90 minutes, which means that there is no fat here, just plenty of scares and a well paced finale that doesn't feature any of those goofy moments where a character who should be dead pops again for one last scare.

Check this one out before that next road trip and be sure to consider one of those Holiday Express places, unless you're staying in Bruceton Mills.

Best line: "Well, the least they could do is give us a little porn.

2007, rated R.

Fax: (606) 886-3603 www.floydcounty

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# FLOYD COUNTY

Inside

■ Reds, spring • B2 ■ UofL Football • B2

## June Buchanan holds off Letcher Central

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIPPA PASSES - Defending 14th Region champion June Buchanan defeated Letcher County Central 73-66 Thursday night after a sub-par first half performance.

The two teams were deadlocked at 18-18 when the first quarter concluded. Visiting Letcher County Central carried a 36-30 lead into halftime.

June Buchanan went out in front in the second half, outscoring Letcher Central in each of the last two quarters.

Senior Clark Stepp, a Mr. Basketball candidate, paced June Buchanan with a game-high 25 points. Clint Stepp followed the game's leading scorer in the Crusader scoring column, finishing with 18 points. One of the state's top sophomores, Clint Stepp hit four three-point field goals as June Buchanan outlasted Letcher County Central for the win.

Tate Cox added 12 points as June Buchanan prevailed in the 14th Region

Seven different Crusaders provided scoring in the regular-season game. The June Buchanan School is looking to win a second straight 14th Region championship. The Crusaders rank as one of the state's best prep basketball teams.

Josh Profitt paced Letcher County Central with a team-best 18 points. Devin Blair scored 15 points, Charlie Banks netted 13 and Jordan Reynolds pushed in 12 as Letcher Central enjoyed a balanced scoring effort.

June Buchanan (8-3) and Letcher Central (6-6) were deadlocked at 53-53 at end of the third quarter.

Letcher County Central was formed after Whitesburg, Fleming-Neon and Letcher high schools consolidated.

JUNE BUCHANAN 73, LETCHER CO. CENTRAL 66

LETCHER CO. CENTRAL (6-6) Longworth 4, Banks 13, Reynolds 12, Blair 15, Profitt 18, Ison 4.

JUNE BUCHANAN (8-3) - Clark Stepp 25, Cox 12, Clint Stepp 18, Short 8, Collins 4, B. Hall 4, S. Hall 2. LCCl.....18 18 17 13-66

JBS......18 12 23 20-73



FAMILY ACADEMY OF MARTIAL ARTS STUDENTS gathered for the school's annual Christmas party during the month of December. FAMA students hail from Floyd and numerous surrounding Eastern Kentucky counties.

## Letting Billy G. go right now isn't the answer

by RICK BENTLEY TIMES COLUMNIST

MANSFIELD, Ohio - Notes and tidbits to get the year off to a good start:

- I think I need to begin with a bit of clarification.

Nobody, with the possible exception of John Clay or my dad, has been more critical of our boy Billy Clyde Gillispie than me. I admit that and I accept the responsibility that comes with it.

That said, I want to make it clear that I think the worst thing that could happen to University of Kentucky basketball would be to dismiss him at this early stage. It's not the right time, and poor play isn't the right reason.

I doubt anyone who regularly reads this has to ask themselves what I'm talking about. The coach and his players haven't been on the same page - not to mean the coach and his medical staff - and in my estimation, it's his responsibility to get everybody there.

Still, I think it's too early to fire him, and don't want to give that indication.

- Unless, of course, it has something to do with that sticky morality clause he and the university can't agree on. Those offenses are fireable, in my estimation, and in the best interest of everyone involved.

- As long as we're on the subject of UK and clarifications, may as well get this one out of the way too.

While I still think my good friend Bob Watkins was off base in suggesting naming the stadium after Rich Brooks - I present, as my first piece of evidence, Hal Mumme Blvd. - I was pretty impressed with the Cats and their New Year's Eve performance against Florida State.

I thought the offense was particularly impressive. His two fumbles notwithstanding, tailback Rafael Little is terrific and will make some money playing this sport. The receiving corps, from top to bottom, is outstand-

But the whole machine ran as smoothly as it did because of Andre Woodson. It seemed that every time he dropped back for a pass on Monday he established some sort of record. And while watching him move The Hefty Lefty and The Deuce down the

(See ANSWER, page two)



Belfry High School graduate David Jones (7) batted away a Florida State pass late in the game to help preserve Kentucky's Music City Bowl win over the Seminoles. Jones is set to return to Kentucky for his senior season.

## **ne a finalist for Bowde**

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON

University of Kentucky senior tight end Jacob Tamme is a finalist for the fifth annual Bobby Bowden Award given by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

The honor recognizes a coordi-Division I football player nates the who epitomizes a studentathlete and conducts himself as a faith model in the B i b l e community, in the classroom, and on the field. road-trip Nominees must have at devotionleast a 3.0 career gradepoint average and be b e e n endorsed by the school's head coach and director of named after Florida State Team for community ser-University coach Bobby Bowden.

The winner will be announced Friday, Jan. 4, in New Orleans, La., at the Tamme completed his Information Directors of FCA Banquet held in con- bachelor's degree

junction with the national Integrated championship game. The additional finalists are Dionte Johnson of Ohio second year of study for his

State and Jeremy Leman of Illinois.

Tamme (Danville) study and als. He has named to

t h e vice by the American Football Coaches

Association. In the classroom,

Communications with a 3.82 GPA. He is now in his



Danville native Jacob Tamme left a lasting impression on the UK football program.

athletics. The award is National Good Works Master's in Business receiver for the Wildcats, 3.83 graduate school GPA. Academic All-America by College Sports

in America and chosen as the

Strategic Southeastern Conference Scholar-Athlete of the Year by the SEC coaches. On the field, Tamme has

been a firstteam All-SEC pick each of the last two seasons and is Kentucky's all-time top pass-catching tight end. He had receptions for 619

yards and six touchdowns in the 2007 season. He was a clutch

Administration and has a with key TD catches in the wins over Louisville, LSU, He was named first-team and Florida State. He also set up the game-winning touchdown at Vanderbilt with a 34-yard pass recep-

## Kinzer in Alabama for Ice Bowl XV

TIMES STAFF REPORT

- Brandon ALLEN Kinzer and his No. 18 Late Model team did not take prize being much of an offseason off as they are kicking off their for 2008 campaign this week at the Talladega Short Track in Eastaboga, Alabama. Ice Bowl XVII is taking place will be highlighted by a 50-

at the track deemed as the lap feature event today. Hornets

Nest with a \$6,000 top up for grabs the Super Late Models. The

weekend

During the

season, Kinzer claimed a Carolina Clash Model Series win at the Wythe (Va.) He Raceway. finished third in

the O'Reilly Southern

standings. Kinzer also made the \$41,000-to-win Show-Me 100 starting field.

A lifelong Floyd County native, Kinzer ranks as one of the state's top dirt Late Model drivers. His team's raceshop is located at Allen.

## Miners go up early, beat Butte

TIMES STAFF REPORT

BUTTE, MT. - Six different players reached double figures in the scoring column Thursday night as East Kentucky beat Butte 103-95 at the Butte Civic Center and pulled ahead 2-1 in the Mining City Challenge.

The Miners, playing in their first game of the new year, won the quarter points 5-2. After posting the win, East Kentucky evened its overall record to 11-11.

Boo Jackson, a recent CBA American Conference Player of the Week honoree, hauled in a game-high 20 rebounds and scored

15 points for the Miners. Ed Horton, playing in the East Kentucky backcourt out of a reserve role, also scored 15 points for the visiting team.

Josh Pace led East Kentucky in scoring with 20 points. Pace pulled down nine rebounds in a near double-double effort.

Jason McLeish and Lawrence Barnes scored 14 points apiece while Mike Crain tossed in 10 as part of an extremely balanced East Kentucky offensive effort. East Kentucky was 22-for-28 from the free

throw line. The Miners outscored Butte 26-16 in a dominant first quarter. East Kentucky owned a

commanding 58-41 halftime lead. The Miners outrebounded Butte 51-40. Odell Bradley led Butte (12-8) with a game-high 31 points. Bradley, notching a double-double, pulled down 12 rebounds for the

Jibril Hodges scored 20 points and Martane Freeman added 16 for host Butte. Benson Callier also reached double figures scoring for the Daredevils, ending the non-conference

matchup with 14 points. Butte fell short after outscoring East Kentucky in each of the last two quarters.

East Kentucky will host CBA frontrunner Yakama today at 4:05 p.m. Yakama ranks as the CBA's top team and features some of the league's leading veteran players.



photo courtesy of Dusty Layne Photography/East Kentucky Miners Ed Horton came in off of the bench and scored 15 points for the Miners in Thursday's win over host Butte.

## Warriors edge Rebels in OT

by STEVE LeMASTER SPORTS EDITOR

BUCKLEYS CREEK - Mike Rowe scored a game-high 37 points Thursday night to lift East Ridge to a 76-75 overtime win over Allen Central in the Coca-Cola Hoops Classic at Pike County Central. East Ridge won after trailing at the end of both of the first two quarters.

Rowe was one of three East Ridge players to achieve double figures scoring. The Warriors improved to 7-2 after posting the

Senior guard Alex Hammonds led Allen Central with a team-best 32 points.

East Ridge limited Allen Central senior Aaron Crum to just 13 points. Josh Prater added 10 points for Allen Central in the loss.

Hunter Crowder scored six points and Logan Crowder tossed in five as Allen Central suffered its third straight loss.

Allen Central slipped to 7-5 following the setback.

The Rebels enjoyed a successful start, outscoring East Ridge 15-12 in the opening quarter. Allen Central toted a 35-30 lead into half-

East Ridge swung the momentum in its favor in the second half, outscoring Allen Central 18-13 in the third period.

In the nightcap Thursday night, Waggener defeated Belfry 67-56. Senior Dustin May scored a

team-high 26 points as Belfry fell to

EAST RIDGE 76, ALLEN CENTRAL 75 (OT) EAST RIDGE (7-2) - Webb 6, Rowe 37, Fields 5, Thacker 10, Meade 6, Looney 12.

ALLEN CENTRAL (7-5) -Hammonds 32, Crum 13, L. Crowder 5, H. Crowder 6, Prater 10, Turner 3, Cole 2, Stumbo 4. ER.....12 18 18 20-76

AC......15 20 13 20-66

#### Hunter survey helps small game management by LEE McCLELLAN

FRANKFORT - Hunters and other outdoors enthusiasts often want to lend a hand to the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources in the management of wildlife. Anyone who hunts rabbit, quail, grouse or squirrels can help manage these small game species just by filling out a hunting log. Hunter success is a good way to gauge population trends of small game, and those who participate in Kentucky's hunter cooperator survey receive a free hat in return.

"It is extremely difficult to ascertain wildlife populations statewide without the hunter cooperator survey and other volunteer efforts," said John Morgan, Kentucky Fish and Wildlife's small game program coordinator. "We need help to keep track of wildlife trends across Kentucky. The information provided in the hunter cooperator survey helps raise red flags when species such as bobwhite quail become imperiled."

Information gleaned from hunter cooperator surveys helps increase awareness by biologists and the public. Awareness of species in distress makes it easier to obtain funding for studies and

(See SURVEY, page two)

#### to air on '60 Minutes' interview set lemens'

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK - Roger Clemens admits former trainer Brian McNamee injected him but says it was with the painkiller lidocaine and the vitamin B-12, not any performance-enhancing drugs.

In the first excerpts released from the pitcher's interview with CBS's "60 Minutes," which is to be broadcast Sunday night, Clemens maintained the denials he has issued since McNamee implicated him in the Mitchell report on doping in baseball, which was released Dec. 13.

McNamee, former strength coach for the Blue Jays and Yankees, told Mitchell he personally injected Clemens with steroids in 1998 while they were with Toronto, and with steroids and human growth hormone in 2000 and 2001 while with New York.

"Roger took bunches of his shots over his career, much the way racchorses do, unfortunately," Clemens' lawyer, Rusty Hardin, said after the

Thursday.

Clemens issued a video statement on Dec. 23 denying McNamee's accusations and plans to hold a news conference Monday. Clemens did not mention injections painkillers or vitamins.

"That short statement didn't go into any details and simply told the public at large he did not take steroids or any other performance-enhancing drugs. That's never been a contention of his," Hardin said.

"The reason he hasn't stepped out personally before now was really our decision, not his, and that was to more deliberately look into how in the world the Mitchell report could have reached what we believe was this totally wrong conclusion before we started talking out. Now we're more comfortable with all of that, and he's going to answer whatever questions they have."

During the CBS interview, recorded last Friday at Clemens' home in Katy, Texas, Clemens was asked whether McNamee had injected him with any drugs.

"Lidocaine and B-12," Clemens responded. 'It's for my joints, and B-12 I still take today.

Lidocaine is a local anesthetic that can be used by dentists and in minor surgery. It also is available as part of ointments used to treat skin inflammation.

Clemens told CBS that McNamee's accusation was "ridiculous" and said he "never" used banned sub-

stances. "Swear?" CBS's Mike

Wallace asked Clemens. "Swear," Clemens respond-

Baseball players and owners did not have an agreement to ban steroids until September 2002, and they didn't ban HGH

until January 2005.

The Mitchell report states McNamec injected Clemens with substances provided by the pitcher or that McNamee obtained from former Mets clubhouse attendant Kirk Radomski. In his video statement, Clemens said: "I did not provide Brian McNamee with

any drugs to inject into my body. Brian McNamee did not inject steroids or human growth hormones into my body.

McNamee's lawyer, Richard Emery, has threatened to sue the seven-time Cy Young Award winner for defamation.

"I think that this is a lawyers' game, which allows him to try and attempt to say that McNamee didn't know what he was injecting or that at least Clemens didn't know what he was injecting," Emery

"It really depends now on how the whole interview goes, and whether he goes after Brian. Look, I don't care whether Clemens used Sodium Pentothal. I don't care if he used strontium 90. My only concern is for Brian's wellbeing and his future."

Emery said a decision whether to sue won't be made until after the "60 Minutes" interview is broadcast.

"It really depends on what a reasonable person would take away from the entire interview as to whether he's going to

damage Brian. And we can't tell until what we see happens on Sunday," Emery said. "But it is fascinating. I think that Hardin and Clemens are responding to the fact that McNamee is going to defend himself aggressively by them trying to parse this closely and issue this statement through CBS. So it's fascinating, and I'm glad to see that they are responding to Brian's notice to them that he is not going to be

trashed by them.' When Baltimore's Rafael Palmeiro tested positive for steroids in 2005 and was suspended for 10 days, he said a tainted vial of B-12 given to him by a teammate - later identified as Miguel Tejada might have caused the doping violation.

Emery wouldn't say Clemens with lidocaine and B-

"That's much too specific. That evidence has yet to be developed," he said. "There is a ton of evidence that the Mitchell report failed to explore that will corroborate

Reds announce spring training schedule, reporting dates

Brian, and so it would be foolhardy for Clemens or Hardin to allow Clemens to trash Brian."

Emery said it was unlikely McNamee would sue CBS. He also hasn't decided whether a suit would be filed in New York

state court or federal court. "Either court in New York would be perfectly acceptable," he said. "No New York jury is going to be hoodwinked by this claim if he ends up defaming Brian."

Mets first baseman Carlos Delgado, a teammate of Clemens on the 1998 Blue Jays, said the pitcher and strength coach didn't appear to be close at the time.

"It wasn't anything more than the usual pitcher and conditioning relationship," he said. Delgado did find fault with

Mitchell's report. whether McNamee did inject . "There's a lot of accusations with not enough evidence," he

> View the Mitchell Report online at www.floydcountytimes.com.

## Survey

to implement programs that may not have to record anybenefit those species.

"The hunter cooperator survey is our only mechanism to monitor some species such as squirrels," Morgan explained.

The survey also is the only way biologists get statewide information and a large sample size. "We receive hunter coopcrator surveys from almost county," Morgan explained. "If we relied on staff, we wouldn't have statewide coverage."

Morgan stresses that hunters must provide accurate information. "The correct time spent in the field is critical and round to the nearest quarter hour," Morgan explained. "And, remember, zero is a number, too. Hunters feel they

thing since they didn't harvest anything. It is important for them to accurately record what they harvest, even if that number is zero."

The hunter cooperator survey provides valuable information about wildlife populations on private lands. "We desperately need more data on private land wildlife populations," Morgan said. "The data we get from this survey helps drive our management decisions. The more data we have, the more confidence we have in our decisions."

To find the hunter cooperator surveys, log onto Kentucky Fish and Wildlife's homepage at fw.ky.gov and click onto the hunter cooperator survey tab.

■ Continued from p1 You may also call 1-800-858-

Lee McClellan is an awardwinning writer for Kentucky Afield magazine, the official publication of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. He is a life-long hunter and angler, with a passion for smallmouth

1549 and request a survey log.

Attention readers: Submit your hunting and fishing photos to The Floyd County Times

bass fishing.

for publication. Email photos sports@floydcountytimes.com

#### SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

CINCINNATI - Twogame ticket packages for Cincinnati Reds 2008 Spring Training games will go on sale at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 19 at their Spring Training complex, online at reds.com and by phone at (877) 647-7337. Tickets for all individual games will go on sale at 9 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 26. The Reds' Spring Training site will be in Sarasota, Florida for the 11th season.

Pitchers and catchers are scheduled to report to the City of Sarasota Sports Complex on Feb. 16, and position players are due in on Feb. 19. An intra-squad scrimmage tentatively is scheduled for Feb. 26 at Ed Smith Stadium.

This spring there will be seven Premium games at Sarasota's Ed Smith Stadium, including afternoon exhibitions against the Cleveland Indians (March 4), New York

Yankees (March 6, March 14), Atlanta Braves (March 8) and Detroit Tigers (March 17) in addition to the Reds' home night games against the Philadelphia Phillies (March 13) and Toronto Blue Jays (March 24).

From Saturday, Jan. 19 through Friday, Jan. 25 fans only can purchase any or all of four two-game ticket packages that include the Yankees (March 6) and Pittsburgh Pirates (March 7), Braves (March 8) and Houston Astros (March 11), Yankees (March 14) and Phillies (March 16) and Tigers (March 17) and Pirates (March 18). All single-game tickets will go on sale at 9 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 26.

On Jan. 19, tickets will be sold at the third base ticket booth on the east side of the ballpark, located at 12th Street and Tuttle Avenue in Sarasota, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Beginning Jan. 21, the ticket booth will be open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The ticket booth is closed Sundays, except on gameday. Tickets also can be purchased any time online at reds.com or by phone at 877/647-7337. For information regarding Spring Training tickets or Ed Smith Stadium, call 941/954-4464 or log on to reds.com.

Ticket prices for Reds 2008 Spring Training games are the same as in 2007, including \$14 for box seats, \$12 for reserved seats and \$7 for general admission. There is an additional \$2 charge per ticket for each of the seven Premium games. The Reds' 34-game Major League exhibition schedule opens Feb. 27 and includes 17 games at Ed Smith Stadium.

Follow · the Cincinnati Reds in The Floyd County Times.

## Answer

record books was bittersweet, anybody who removes Gators from said sheets is ok in my book, and he did that when he threw his 40th touchdown pass of the season to pass Danny Wuerffel.

It is my opinion that Kentucky football fans are still make Woodson feel special too quick to accept the least bit of success. This team finished the regular-season 7-5 because it lost four of its last five. That simply isn't good enough, and back-to-back eight-win (counting bowl wins) scasons will get plenty of coaches fired in this country.

It's still quite an improvement for our guys in Lexington, and they should be proud. It's not worth naming the field after anybody, but it sure has been exciting.

As I told Nephew Josh after the game, I never dreamed I'd live to see Kentucky beat Florida State in a football

All that said, I will respectfully disagree with Coach Brooks, who opined during his post-game interview that the fact that Florida State was without 36 mostlysuspended players "didn't at matter."

I was just glad they didn't. just leave, say, 20 of them

than halftime of a bowl game? Anything at all?

- Um, can somebody tell me one more time why Georgia and Southern Cal aren't in the title game?

Say what you will about Bobby Bowden, but it had to when college footballs winningest coach told him after the game, "Son, you killed us. You're something else."

Equate it to a basketball player hearing that from Adolph Rupp.

we leave Before Kentucky football, don't dismiss the role Joker Phillips has played in this brief run of success. As important as Woodson, at least, in my book.

While I'm not one of those people living in fear of the Jaguar as the NFL reaches its playoffs, the loss of Willie Parker in Pittsburgh means I'll take the Jags to go with the 'Chargers in the AFC this week.

In the NFC, give me Washington and Tampa Bay. Please don't ask me why.

It's been a special first five weeks for Randy McCoy. University Heights Academy.

The former Pikeville College and Elkhorn City head man has the Blazers 11-3 on - Is anything in life longer the season and just took them

■ Continued from p1 to the finals of the King of the

Bluegrass before bowing to Male 53-51.

Of those first 14 games, exactly two of them have been

- I think most of us thought Shelby Valley and Pikeville, after playing in last year's regional finals, were the two best teams in the 15th Region. To this point, neither has disappointed (Shelby Valley is 9-2, Pikeville 7-3, and neither has lost to a 15th Region team).

But a check of the regional standings on the KHSAA Web site shows Paintsville at 9-2 and Allen Central at 7-4. What do those teams have in common? The most experienced, and, arguably, successful coaches in the mountains in Bill Mike Runyon and John Martin.

Never count them out.

- On the women's side, could Pike Central do it again? At 10-1, the Lady Hawks are showing very little ill effects of losing Haley Ratliff, who was a pretty special player for Stephen Butcher.

Says here, last March's experience and having the region's best player in Kayla Lowe will carry them a long, long way.





oto courtesy of Dusty Layne Photography/East Kentucky Miners EAST KENTUCKY GUARDS MIKE CRAIN (LEFT) AND JASON McLEISH (RIGHT) provide their share of offense for the CBA's youngest team. The Miners currently feature no players with prior CBA playing experience. East Kentucky will host Yakama at the East Kentucky Expo Center today at 4:05 p.m. in a home game.

## Eagles fall short at Tennessee State

## TIMES STAFF REPORT

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - A second-half rally by the Morehead State University men's basketball team fell short as the Tennessee State University Tigers defeated the Eagles, 59-53, Thursday (Jan. 3) evening at the Gentry Center.

TSU, now 5-7 overall and 2in the Ohio Valley Conference, led by 10 points (28-18) at halftime. MSU, now 4-8 overall and 2-3 in the league, cut the lead to as few as three points in the second half but could not complete the

TIMES STAFF REPORT

NASHVILLE, Tenn.

Tigers shot 51 percent and out-

Center. MSU fell to 3-10 and 1-

to 5-7 and 2-1 in the conference.

"It's frustrating to come so close and not win," said MSU Coach Donnie Tyndall, "We dug ourselves a hole that we couldn't pull out of.

"We battled down the stretch, but we missed too many free throws. We shot so purely in the first half, plus we didn't play well enough defensively, allowing them to shoot 52 percent for the game."

The Tigers got 11 points from the OVC Player of the Week Bruce Price. He was the only TSU player to score in double figures. Jerrell Houston 6:30 p.m. The men's game will

Tennessee State holds off MSU women

pulled down a game-high nine rebounds.

MSU was led by Jamyron Steward who scored 15 points and had a team-high seven rebounds. Maze Stallworth added 12 points.

After being outrebounded 18-13 in the first half, MSU came back to win the overall battle of the backboards, 32-to-31. The Eagles also committed

two fewer turnovers. Morehead State will travel to Tennessee Tech for an OVC doubleheader Monday. The women's game will tip off at

## Cards continue coaching shakeup

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISVILLE - Louisville hired Michigan defensive coordinator Ron English and former Duke head coach Ted Roof on Thursday as coach Steve Kragthorpe continued to shake up his staff following a disap-

pointing season. English, 39, spent the last five seasons at Michigan under Lloyd Carr, including the last two as defensive coordinator. He'll take the same position at Louisville hoping to rebuild a defense that finished the 2007 season ranked near the bottom of the country in every major statistical category, including total defense (85th), scoring

defense (88th).

English replaces Mike Cassity, who was let go last month after the Cardinals stumbled to a 6-6 finish one year after winning the Big East and the Orange Bowl.

"Ron brings an intense passion for the game of football and his enthusiasm is contagious," Kragthorpe said.

helped English Wolverines defense rebound after a disastrous start to the year in losses to Appalachian State and Oregon. Michigan entered its bowl game ranked in the top 25 in pass defense, scor-

ing defense and total defense. The Wolverines held Heisman Trophy winning quarterback Tim Tebow of Florida

to 154 yards passing in a 41-35 win over the Gators in the Capital One Bowl on Tuesday.

Roof, 42, will replace Reggie Johnson as linebackers coach. He spent four-plus seasons as the head coach at Duke, where he went 6-45 before being fired in November. Prior to joining the Blue Devils, Roof spent four years at Georgia Tech, one season as linebackers coach and three years as defensive coordinator.

Kragthorpe also announced that he will serve as receivers coach next season, replacing Charlie Stubbs, who worked as receivers coach and offensive coordinator last year before stepping down.

> Bozeman, who played all 40 minutes, hit four three-pointers and was a perfect 8-for-8 at the free throw line. She bested her previous career high of 21 she

had posted twice this season. The Eagles also got 10 points, eight rebounds and four blocked Freshman Chynna Bozeman shots from sophomore Brittany scored a career high 22 points Pittman. Pittman, who now has Thursday night at Tennessee 52 blocks this season, moved State University, but the host into a tie for seventh place alltime at MSU in less than one full rebounded the Morehead State season on the court. Afton Perry University Eagles 48-33 in a 74was the third Eagle in double 62 TSU victory at the Gentry figures with 11 points. She was perfect from the floor, shooting 4 in the OVC, while TSU moved 4-of-4 and 3-of-3 at the charity

Tennessee State's Obigeli Okafor registered a double-double of 20 points and 10 rebounds. Kendra Appling scored 20 also, and Tiffany

Jackson totaled 18 points and nine rebounds. Both teams had trouble controlling the ball, combing for 39 turnovers.

Morehead State shot 32 percent for the game, hitting 20-of-61 shots. MSU managed just 30 percent in the second half when TSU outscored the Eagles 45-34. MSU trailed only 29-28 at the half. The Eagles had a solid chance in the second half, trailing just 54-53 with 7:05 left, but the Tigers scored the next five points. MSU was never able to trim the lead below six the rest of the game. Morehead State was able to muster just two field goals in the final seven minutes.

defense (92nd) and pass CONTACT THE FLOYD COUNTY TIMES SPORTS DEPARTMENT FAX: 606/886-3603 • PHONE: 606/886-8506 EMAIL: sports@floydcountytimes.com

## KANSAS KO: Jayhawks beat Virginia Tech 24-21 in Orange Bowl

by STEVEN WINE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIAMI - The high-scoring Kansas Jayhawks brought their usual assortment of tricks to the Orange Bowl. They split their tackles wide alongside the receivers. They threw wrong-handed shovel passes. They pulled off a fake punt.

The biggest surprise: They won with defense.

While their offense was stymied most of the night, the Jayhawks came up with three interceptions and beat Virginia Tech 24-21 to cap one of the finest seasons in school histo-

The takeaways led to 17 Kansas points, including Aqib Talib's 60-yard return for the game's first score. He was chosen the game's most valuable player.

Everybody talks about Virginia Tech's defense," said safety Justin Thornton, who also had an interception. "We came out to show we can play defense at Kansas, too."

No. 8 Kansas (12-1), per-

college football this season. won in its first Bowl Championship Series game to set a team record for victories. A year ago the Jayhawks went

haps the biggest surprise in

"People kept telling us we couldn't win against this team. that we couldn't win the big game, that we had no chance. quarterback Todd Reesing said. "We took that to heart. We like being underdogs.'

The No. 5 Hokies (11-3) lost their fourth consecutive BCS game. It was a bittersweet finish for the Hokies, who revived campus spirits this season following the April 16 massacre that left 33 students and professors dead.

"I think we still accomplished something this season," tackle Duane Brown said. "We couldn't finish off on a high note.

The Jayhawks played in their first major bowl since the 1969 Orange Bowl, and they made a big splash at the start, racing to a 17-0 lead after 23 deficit to 17-14 before Sean Glennon was intercepted by Thornton, whose 30-yard return gave Kansas the ball at the 2 with 11 minutes left. Reesing scored on the next

Chris Harris also had an interception to set up a field goal, and the Jayhawks totaled five sacks while allowing only two scoring drives.

Virginia Tech drove 78 yards to score with 3 minutes left on Glennon's 20-yard pass to Justin Harper. Jayhawks' Raimond Pendleton fielded the ensuing onside kick, and they ran out the

"It feels really great," Kansas tackle Anthony Collins said. "Now I feel like USC and Florida and them feel every day. They don't get any better than this. I know it ain't the national championship, but it doesn't get any better. We won the Orange Bowl."

Virginia Tech's biggest gain came on special teams. Harper scored on an 84-yard punt

Virginia Tech closed the return after taking a lateral on a again when Reesing completed reverse from Eddic Royal, who fielded the kick.

Otherwise, Kansas' special teams played well. Joe Mortensen blocked a 25-yard field-goal attempt to preserve a 17-14 Kansas lead. A fake punt kept one drive going, and Kyle Tucker's booming punts kept the Hokies pinned deep.

"We were supposed to be outclassed on special teams, and I think we held our own." Kansas coach Mark Mangino

The game was among the chilliest Orange Bowls ever, with a temperature of 57 degrees at kickoff and winds gusting at up to 25 mph.

The Jayhawks were the nation's highest-scoring offense this season at 44 points per game, and they took a wide-open approach beginning on the first series. Once they lined up with both tackles flanked wide alongside the receivers, and on another play Reesing threw a left-handed shovel pass for a 9-yard gain.

Kansas split a tackle wide

a pass to convert a fourth-and-I situation, which led to a touchdown for a 17-0 lead. Reesing hit Marcus Henry with a 13-yard pass for the score, capping a 59-yard drive.

Reesing finished 20-for-37 for 227 yards.

"I'm ecstatic," Reesing said. "This is the best feeling I've ever had. We fought hard all year, and we fought hard today.

With only one scoring drive of more than 17 yards, the Jayhawks left most of the big plays to their defense. The biggest was by Talib, who stepped in front of the intended receiver to intercept freshman Tyrod Taylor and ran along the Virginia Tech sideline untouched for a touchdown.

"Coach had us in a call where I was able to jump any route," Talib said. "The quarterback was late with the throw, and he threw me the ball."

It was the first interception return for a touchdown in the hard time winning." Orange Bowl since 1968.

Virginia Tech came into the game with the more heralded defense, but the Jayhawks had four sacks in the first quarter. They threw Taylor for losses of 11 and 8 yards on his first two plays as part of the Hokies

quarterback rotation. On Virginia Tech's next possession, Josh Morgan dropped a potential touchdown pass, and Jud Dunlevy missed

a 47-yard field goal attempt. Virginia Tech mounted a 68-yard drive late in the first half, and Branden Ore scored on a 1-yard run to cut the deficit to 17-7. Ore was suspended for the first quarter for being late to a practice but still finished with 116 yards rush-

Against the ball-hawking Jayhawks, that wasn't enough.

"Give Kansas credit," Hokies coach Frank Beamer said. "They made the plays, and we did not make enough. Usually when you turn the ball over three times against a good team, you are going to have a

## irginia football coach Bill Stewart promoted to

by BOB BAUM ASSOCIATED PRESS

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. Bill Stewart was promoted to head coach of West Virginia on Thursday, hours after leading the Mountaineers to a stunning victory over Oklahoma in the Fiesta Bowl.

Stewart was introduced in the morning as he and his team were preparing to return home. He was appointed interim coach in mid-December after Rich Rodriguez bolted for

Stewart's five-year contract will pay \$800,000 a year with incentives. Rodriguez signed a seven-year deal in August worth almost \$2 million a

"We saw all the characteristics of a head football coach leadership, loyalty, courage," athletic director Ed Pastilong said less than 12 hours after the 48-28 victory by the No. 11 Mountaineers.

Pastilong, who has known Stewart for 39 years, said "there isn't a mother or father watching today who wouldn't be proud to have their son play for this man."

West Virginia Gov. Joe Manchin was among the crowd of boosters and staff packing the hotel ballroom for

"I'm West Virginia born, West Virginia bred, a West Virginian all my life, really," Stewart said when introduced.

Stewart never had a formal session with the search committee when Pastilong called him to his room after midnight to offer him the job.

"I think I've been interviewing for the last 21/2 weeks," he said. "It's been the longest interview in America." Stewart has not signed a contract but agreed to terms with a handshake.

"I don't have a lot of experience in these negotiations and things. That's my agent right down there," he said, pointing to his wife, Karen.

Stewart had the backing of the team, including Pat White. The quarterback began stumping for Stewart on the field after running for 150 yards and throwing for 176 and two touchdowns in the victory over the No. 3 Sooners.

"He deserves it," White said. "A great man. A great coach. All the players respect him and all the players love him. You couldn't ask for a better man to lead us to victory today."

Stewart said he wanted the entire staff to return.

Pastilong said "a large number" of candidates were interviewed, but he declined to identify them. He said Stewart was among those considered from the start.

"He obtained this position the old fashioned way - he carned it," Pastilong said. Billy led us to our biggest football victory in the school's history against Oklahoma. And he, his coaching staff and his support staff are outstanding Mountaineers, leading us through a tough time. Our future is bright, and we look forward to even more success under Coach Stewart's leader-

WVU president Mike Garrison said Stewart fully appreciates the school.

'At this university, loyalty and trust are important," Garrison said. "We know we now have a coach who truly

as the head football coach at West Virginia University."

Fullback Owen Schmitt, who secred on a 57-yard run, called Stewart the "glue" that kept the No. 11 Mountaineers together during a rocky month.

'We're a family." Schmitt said. "That's why we pre-

The 55-year-old Stewart earned \$139,000 this year in his position that also included coaching tight ends and fullbacks and being the special teams coordinator. He came to West Virginia as quarterbacks coach in January 2000 after two seasons as offensive coordinator in the Canadian Football League.

Don Nehlen, the retired Mountaineers coach who hired Stewart, was glad his former assistant had landed the job. "He's just such a good per-

values the opportunity to work son and the kids love him," Nehlen said, "It's such a good fit with the program."

> A message left for Rodriguez early Thursday was not immediately returned.

Stewart was head coach at VMI from 1994-96, compiling an 8-25 record. He also had stints as an assistant at Salem College, North Carolina, Marshall, William & Mary, Navy, Arizona State and Air Force.

Stewart was a captain for Fairmont State, which won the West Virginia Conference championship in 1974. He began his coaching career at Fairmont as a student assistant coach.

Associated Press Writer Kelley Schoonover tributed to this story from Charleston, W.Va.

## Belichic

by BARRY WILNER ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK - Spygate be damned! Bill Belichick of the unbeaten New England Patriots is The Associated Press 2007 NFL Coach of the Year.

With the Patriots motivated by a spying scandal - and owning the deepest talent base in football - Beliehick guided his team to the first 16-0 regular season in league history.

That was enough to offset major blemish on Belichick's resume: a \$500,000 personal fine, \$250,000 fine for the team and the loss of a firstround pick in the upcoming draft after the Patriots were caught videotaping New York Jets coaches during the season

Spygate didn't stop 29 of the 50 voters on a nationwide panel of media members who cover the NFL from voting for Belichick on Thursday. In a

season highlighted by many strong coaching performances, Belichick beat out Green Bay's Mike McCarthy, who received 15 votes for leading the Packers to a 13-3 record and the NFC North title.

"This is definitely a team recognition, but one that I appreciate very much on a personal level," Beliehick said in a statement issued by the club.

He also won the award in

"If anyone is deserving of such an award it really is Bill," Patriots owner Robert Kraft said. "I know the energy and effort and planning and time (he puts in). He's had his foot on the pedal all year, just working so hard and always doing everything he can to put the team in a position to win first."

Does Kraft believe this award will silence the critics? "What I've tried to say is the only way that'll go away is if

we just keep on winning, and winning convincingly, and I think he did it," Kraft said. "He did it and I think the fact that he got this award speaks to that."

The first coach since Don Shula in 1972 to lead his team through a spotless regular season, Belichick won the award for the second time in four years. In 2003, the Patriots went 14-2 and won their final 12 games. This time, Belichick's team rampaged through the first part of the schedule, then won a handful of close games on the way to 16-

"You know, I think back to sitting in the stands," Kraft said of his days as a fan before he owned the team, "when we went 1-15 and 2-14. And, you know, I saw the '72 Dolphins, and to see this team perform the way it did this year, and in the end, he is the conductor. And he's got some great players, but he's the conductor and I just think the job he did was superb."

While the perfect journey this season seemed somewhat joyless as the Patriots followed the lead of their detached coach, there was no denying Belichick's ability to motivate. His players used Spygate as a rallying point, cultivating an us-against-them mentality that clearly worked.

Belichick is involved in all personnel decisions, meaning the additions of Randy Moss, Wes Welker and Donte' Stallworth to the receiving corps had his touch.

Plus, Belichick is a master at game-planning. Add that skill to the deepest offense in the league (a record 589 points, including an NFL mark of 75 TDs) and a stingy defense that yielded 274 points, fifth in the league, and there's, well, per-

"There are three things that get better with age: good cigars, red wine and to me it looks like coaches who have the ability," Kraft said, "He's really hit his sweet spot and I'm really happy for him personally."

Jacksonville's Jack Del Rio (two each), and Indianapolis' Tony Dungy and Tampa Bay's Jon Gruden (one each).

The only other Patriots coach to win the award was Belichick's mentor, Parcells, in 1994.

Since joining the Patriots in 2000 after an unsuccessful head coaching stint in Cleveland (36-44), Belichick has turned New England into the center of the NFL universe. The Patriots have won three Super Bowls this decade - no other team has more than one - and are 91-37 in the regular season under Belichick. They

straight years, with no fewer than 10 victories in any of those

have won the AFC East five

NFL PLAYOFFS

Sunday, Jan. 6; N.Y. Giants Also getting votes were at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m. (FOX); Dallas coach Wade Phillips and Tennessee at San Diego, 4:30 p.m. (CBS).

> Divisional Playoffs, Saturday, Jan. 12: Seattle, Tampa Bay or N.Y. Giants at Green Bay, 4:30 p.m. (FOX): Pittsburgh, Jacksonville. Tennessee at New England, 8 p.m. (CBS).

> Sunday, Jan. 13: San Diego. Pittsburgh or Jacksonville at Indianapolis, 1 p.m. (CBS); Tampa Bay, N.Y. Giants or Washington at Dallas, 4:30

p.m. (FOX). Conference Championships Sunday, Jan. 20: NFC-TBD;

AFC-TBD. Super Bowl, Sunday, Feb. 3: Glendale, Ariz.

## Alexander tolerates reduced role for Seahawks

by GREGG BELL ASSOCIATED PRESS

KIRKLAND, Wash. - When he has been on the bench, which has been far more than normal this season, Shaun Alexander has usually been the Scahawks' MVC -Most Valuable Cheerleader.

He's often the first one off the sidelines to greet players after big plays. He has raced down the sidelines and into the end zone to greet teammates who just scored.

Coach Mike Holmgren marvels at how the league MVP of two seasons ago has handled being demoted for the first time since he got Seattle's starting running back job in 2001. He's now in a shared lead role with Maurice Morris, his backup for five seasons before this one. This new tandem arrangement, which will continue Saturday in the NFC wild-card playoff game against the Washington Redskins, began six weeks ago.

That was when Alexander returned from a sprained knee to a changed offense that is relying on Pro Bowl quarterback Matt Hasselbeck's passing in lieu of a running game stalled mostly by Alexander's injuries and ineffectiveness. Alexander has played since September with a cast over his broken left wrist, and will wear smaller version again on

'You've all seen it ... you can go to other sports - typically in this situation, that player, an MVP player, (causes) some sort of problem." Holmgren said. "There's something that comes up that's not very healthy for your football team. Someone's mad.

"None of that has taken place, And that's a real credit to the young man, I think. Because he's used to playing a lot. He's used to being the man, and now his role has changed."

Holmgren said this is not the same Alexander who infamously said immediately after the 2004 regular-season finale that his coach "stabbed me in the back" — an incident which both said was overblown. Holmgren chose to leave the ball in Hasselbeck's hands instead of giving it to Alexander from the 1 in a bid to tie for the NFL rushing title. It turned out to be Seattle's final possession.

'You know, we've been together a while now and I've seen him grow up a lot in a lot of ways," Holmgren said. "So I'm just telling you how it is now. I appreciate how he's handling this whole

thing." Holmgren said that Alexander, who turned 30 in August, has come to him more than once lately and said. " 'Hey, I'm OK. Don't worry about me.

"Bless his heart," Holmgren Or soothe it.

To hear Alexander tell it, he isn't exactly embracing this colead role. Tolerating it, maybe. "For me, it's just a health

thing," Alexander said. "When I've been healthy, there hasn't been a need for a 'co-' thing.

"So since I'm not, then you do whatever it takes for our team to win. And I think that is the best thing for our team to win.'

During his last injury-free season, in 2005, he ran for a teamrecord 1,880 yards and set a league record with 28 touchdowns, Then he got a concussion the last time the Seahawks played the Redskins, a Seattle win in the divisional playoffs 24 months ago. A severely bruised left foot in the '06 season opener eventually became broken, causing him to miss six games and finish with 896 yards rushing, his lowest total since he took Ricky Watters' job in 2001.

This season's opener brought the broken wrist. Then came a sprained left knee that put him out three games in November.

Holmgren said he underestimated how much playing with the cast, which started out bulky in September, would affect Alexander's running. He has averaged 44 yards per game since his last 100-yard day, in Week 3 against Cincinnati. The 10-game drought in 100-yard games is his longest since he became a starter.

Morris is coming off a 91-yard game last weekend at Atlanta, when Alexander left the field after his first carry holding his ribs on his right side and then left the game for good with Hasselbeck after one half.

Morris hits the running holes scraped out by a shuffling, inconsistent offensive line faster than Alexander. He is a better pass receiver. And he is feeling like a major contributor for the first time,

"Whenever I'm running around, playing on first and second downs, I feel a big part of it," Morris said.

He's also a big part of what has often been Seattle's most effective offense, a no-huddle system. To jump-start a slumbering offense two weeks ago, Holmgren went no-huddle before eight of Scattle's first 10 plays against Baltimore. Morris was the back of choice for all of them.

Alexander didn't enter until late in the first quarter — then ran 13 times for 73 yards, with his fourth rushing touchdown of the season. It was his biggest day since

'He's running with a little more confidence, I think," Holmgren said. "And now I think he feels like he can be who he was."

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Bulldog, AKC registered, Up-to-date shots. Health guaranteed, good with other animals. I am giving her to a lovely, and caring person / family this Christmas because she will be a wonderful Christmas gift and companion for your Family. Ready to go. Email: spencermicheal\_1970@va

## hoo.com

McCall \$500. Call 886-0622. 1wk 12/14

AKC registered Boxer Asking \$350. Tails docked-dew claws removed shots & wormer up to date. Call (606)298-2529. Both male female.

## Misc.

4 Wheels for 1995 3000 GT. Rims and tires \$500, Also 1996 Honda XR80 used very Call 886-\$500. 8775. COOKWARE-' We

stopped doing dinner parties!! Beautiful new 17pic.sets Heavy surgical stainless steel! Waterless! Lifetime Waranty! \$2000, now \$295, \$149 knife set free with 1st five orders! 800-434-4628.

Tanning Bed for sale. Call 886-8843 or 791-2727.

## REAL ESTATE

**Homes For Sale** 

Brick

HOUSE

House for Sale. Four bedrooms. two and a half baths. feet. square Desirable location in Trimble Branch. Reasonably priced. Call 886-2020

FOR

SALE Located on Front Street at Wayland. house above Castels store on right on Front Street. Central heat and air. 5 BR 2 bath LR 30X18 and dining room & sunroom .Huge cobbel stone chimney carport. 2 lots, fenced in. Asking \$65,000 call 606-358-4137 for appointment

For Sale: 35 acres of land, one story house with 1 600 sq.ft of living basement located at Hi Hat, Ky. Two

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LICENSED CLINICAL

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working knowledge of DSM-IV-TR. Qualifications include: Master's degree or doctoral degree in Social Work. Current licensure as a Licensed

Clinical Social Worker required.

A competitive salary and excellent benefit package accompany

Mail or Fax Resume to Main of Pox Resonators
Attn: Kelly Akers, MBA
Big Sandy Health Care, Inc.
1709 KY RT, 321, Suite 3 \* Presionsburg, KY 41653
Pax; (506) 886-8548 \* Email: k\_akerx@behc.org

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#### Medical/Surgical and Critical Care. Present openings available include full-time positions to work flexible hours in the Medical/Surgical and Critical Care Units.

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Interested RN's, please contact: Cathy Heston - Chief Nursing Officer. or Patton R. Hart - H.R. Director, P.O. Box 769, Highway 644, Louisa, KY 41230 (606) 638-9451.

Three Rivers Medical Center www.threeriversmedicalcenter.com

## \*\*\*JOB ANNOUNCEMENT\*\*\*

Work Certified Instructor

Big Sandy Area Community Action Program is seeking a Work Certified Instructor. Duties will include, but are not limited to: providing classroom instruction of Work Certified curricula to differing age groups from an employer/employee training approach in order to develop or increase employability skills with the goal of making the employee "job ready;" assigning and grading class work, determining levels of proficiency in coverage areas, and ensuring the application of administration policies and rules governing students. Training to obtain credentials as a Work Certified Instructor will be provided for the successful applicant.

required, as well as experience providing instruction in an educational setting. The successful candidate must possess the ability to communicate and work effectively with a wide range of people. The position will primarily be based in Pikeville with required travel

Bachelor's degree in Education, Business, or related field is

throughout the Eastern Kentucky area as needed. Qualified applicants may submit a résumé and letter of application to: Big Sandy Area Community Action Program ATTN: Human Resources Manager

230 Court Street Paintsville, KY 41240 Closing date for applications is Friday, January 11, 2008 An equal opportunity employer.

## POSITION AVAILABLE

Wheelwright Commission will be taking applications for a part-time utility clerk on a temporary basis, approx. 20 to 30 hours per week. Some general office experience is required, and a knowledge of bookkeeping practices, and some basic computer skills.

Must pass drug test, and person hired will be subject to random drug testing.

Applications will be taken until January 11th, 2008.

Anyone interested can pick up an application at the Utility Office in Wheelwright, between the hours of 8:00 a.m., and 4:00 p.m. The phone number to call with any questions is (606) 452-

## POSITION AVAILABLE

The Big Sandy ADD is in need of a Registered Nurse for the UMWA Health and Retirement Funds Community Health Program. Duties include but are not limited to: Coordinates the delivery of health services that will affect beneficiaries' health, well-being and quality of life. Implements and manages innovative medical programs that support the medical management principles of the Funds. Identifies, establishes and maintains relationships with providers and community agencies to promote beneficiary welfare and health education. Promotes beneficiary access and participation in health promotion, disease prevention and health education programs. Works collaboratively with the Community Health Nurse Manager and Community Social Worker and the Infield Beneficiary Service Representative. Special emphasis is on a background of Caregiver Education or Services. This position requires extensive travel.

## **EDUCATION and/or EXPERIENCE**

Registered Nurse with four to six years related experience and/or training; R.N., with technical or operational experience in a health field such as DME, urgent care, ambulance, ENF, home health, pharmacy benefits, or delivery of carer; or equivalent combination of education and experience.

## OTHER SKILLS AND ABILITIES

Requires computer skills at an intermediate level. For example, generating word processing letters/reports, basic spreadsheet usage, mounting tapes and/or operating printers and other peripheral devices.

Please send letter of intent and résumé to:

Terry Trimble Big Sandy ADD 110 Resource Drive Prestonsburg, KY 41653

Big Sandy ADD is an EOE.

for garden or two more residences. the late Cecil and ences. 285-9112. "Sweetie" value \$65,000. non-negotiable. Gontact Mike 5475 (8:00a.m.- 3023 after 5pm. 5:00p.m.weekdays) or 606-251-3414.

HOUSE FOR SALE Newly constructed house for sale located at Abbott Creek. Vaulted living room rent. \$500 plus ceiling, 3 BR, bonus deposit. Call 606room, fireplace, with 789-6721 or 792cherry hardwood 792-6721. No pets. floors and cabinets attached garage. Floyd county 75 Located 4 miles acres more or less, us Panoramic view located in new subdivisions. \$210,00 asking price Seller willing to help with closing costs! Call 606-285-0054 606-791-0719, evenings 606-377-6042

#### Sale or Lease

Restaurant for sale A++ location. 2br 1 bath house In McDowell across for rent at Martin. from the hospital. Land, building, & contents together"as is " \$150,000. Viewing appointment. serious inquires call Doug @ (606) 776-

Prestonsburg rent. 2 br 1 bath. business for lease. Great location on the main road, close & 80. \$525 mth plus to downtown and utilities with \$300 the courthouse. deposit. 1yr lease. lease as is or change, many possibilities, ie restaurant, sports bar, complexample parking. May 2bd, 1 bath \$350 consider selling. Call 791-3663.

Beauty shop for 8100. rent. Equipped with 3 stations and tanning bed. Would commercial

with house, space South of Martin 606-478-8100. across from Garth Technical School. The home place of Must have refer-

Meade. Appraised Commercial property 12 acres next to Walmart & McDonald's Mullins at 606-785- Prestonsburg. 886-

FOR SALE

Property for sale between Prestonsburg and Painstville. Also, double wide for

spacious FARM FOR SALE acres more or less, 23. rt. 1100 off US 23 East Point Upper Little Paint. Lum Derossett Branch. Call 606-325-4430 or 606-325-2809. Level- Sloping and timber. HUNTERS PARADISE!! Could be made into a sub- pm or 794-9484.

#### RENTALS

Lg yard \$350..mth. \$350 deposit. Call sold 789-3724 or 791

#### **APARTMENT**

Town house apt for Stove and refrigerator. City limits at 23 NO PETS. Call 237-

Apartment for rent on US 23 at Ivel. mth \$350 security deposit. 1 yr lease. NO PETS. Call 478-

consider renting for Stanville on US 23. one floor. Hardwood use 2br, 2 bath walk in floors and all ameniother than beauty closet. 1yr Lease. ties. \$750 mth plus

acres of flat land shop. Rt. 122 1 mile No pets. Please call utilities and deposit.

2br duplex for rent. Central heat and air. In excellent condition. 3 miles north of prestonsburg. Call 886-9007 or 889-9747.

1, 2, and 3 bedroom apartments for rent. Call 886-

3br apt for rent. 2 baths, parking for trucks. Will rent to contractors. Parkway 6 miles from Prestonsburg. Call 886-8366

Townhouse 2 BR 1 Bath w/d hookup 2 car garage \$575 per month plus utilities plus deposit. Call: 606-477-2783

1Br furnished apartment located Prestonsburg. Call 358-9483 after 6:00

Apt. For rent: 1 and 2 BR apartments on Rt. 321 near Porter school. rent: NO HUD. 1/2 Central heat and air, mile washer and dryer hookup. \$375 per month plus references and deposit Seniors welcomed! Call 789-5973.

Houses & town houses for rent. Also one bedroom. NO PETS . Located Prestonsburg. Call 886-8991.

#### Houses

House For Rent - 3 BR, at Allen, Ky. \$800.00 per month + security deposit. Call 794-0249

2 Br house for rent on Cracker bottom at Martin. Call 886-9246.tfn

Large Unicourt Apt Located in town. 2 for rent located at br house for rent,

Call 358-4541if no answer leave message. Or call 226-1925 or 285-9639.

#### **Mobile Homes**

16x60 mobile home for rent. Nice lot with storage building. 1 mile from walmart. \$500. mth plus utilities. Call 886-0226 after 5:00pm

Rent to own1999 3 br 16x80 Mobile home. Married couples preferred. 6 miles from Prestonsburg. Call 886-2842.

Nice 2 br mobile home for rent. Call 874- 0875 or 226-3207.12/281wk

3 BR 2 bath MH for rent with large miles from deck.. Located at Adams Cemetery Road. Call 791-8617 or 791-4471. \$450 per

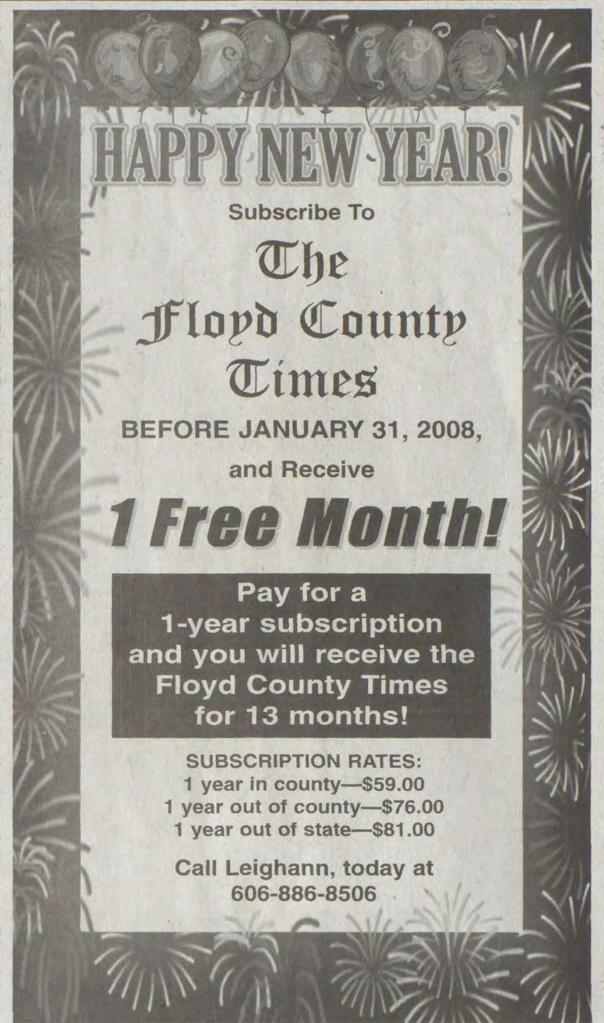
> Mobile Home for north Prestonsburg Spradlin Branch. Call 889-0363.

> 2 Br Mobile home for rent or sale. Couples ferred.NO PETS. Call 874-2000.

> Mobile home for rent. 14x60 2 br all appliances total electric, private lot garage Arkansas Creek, Martin. \$425 month plus utilities. Serious inquires only please. NO HUD. CALL 886-

#### Lost & Found

Set of keys found close to Social Security office. Two sets of vehicle keys on the key chain GMC, and Dodge. Call 606-886-8474.





STEVEN L. BESHEAR **GOVERNOR** 

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Secretary of State Frankfort Kentucky

2007-064 **December 28, 2007** 

## WRIT OF ELECTION

Ninety Fifth District - House of Representatives

WHEREAS, the Honorable James Brandon Spencer resigned from the General Assembly, by letter dated December 18, 2007, and, as a result, a vacancy now exists in the House of Representatives, Ninety Fifth District; and

WHEREAS, KRS 118.730 requires the Governor to issue a writ of election to fill a vacancy occurring in the House of Representatives when the General Assembly is not in session:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Steven L. Beshear, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, pursuant to the authority vested in me by KRS 118.730, do hereby issue a writ of election to fill the vacancy in the Ninety Fifth District, to be held on Tuesday, February 5, 2008, and hereby direct that this writ be forwarded to the Sheriff of Floyd County as required by KRS 118.730 and 118.740.

> STEVEN L.BESHEAR, Governor Commonwealth of Kentucky

Secretary of State



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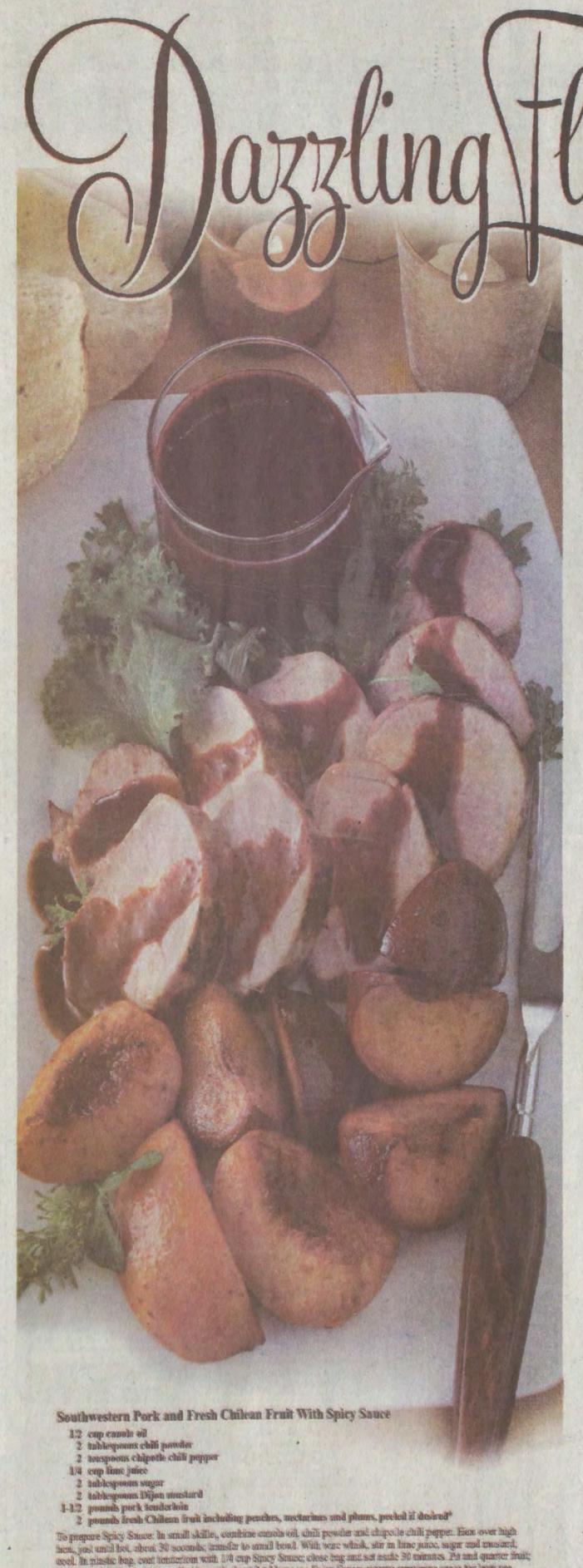
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Nourish your heart with fresh fruit and healthy oil

FAMILY FEATURES

Beat the cold-weather doldrums with, sweet, wholesome fresh fruit. It's easy to bring back the light, juicy flavors you enjoyed a few months ago by selecting from the wealth of truit from Chile — where it's fun in the summer sun right now.

Do your family and guests a favor by adding fresh fruit to entrees, sauces, salads and dressings, and desserts to make up for the lower amount of fruit most of us consume in the colder months. Chile comes to the winter rescue with more than 70 varieties of tasty, healthy fruit.

For another light and healthy boost, combine your favorite fruit with heart-healthy canola oil. It's the oil lowest in saturated fat with no trans far. By using canola oil in your haking, you can bake more with less far. When a baking recipe calls for a solid fat, you can substitute canola oil, using 20 to 25 percent less than what the recipe calls for. It lowers the calories, climinates trans fats and reduces saturated fats. Canola oil's clarity allows marinades and vinaignettes to remain clear and liquid when refrigerated and its mild essence allows the delicious flavor of your food to shine through.

#### Chilean fruit facts

- Fruit picked in Chile is on its way to the U.S. within 24 hours of harvest.
- Apricols, peaches, plums, nectarines, pears and kiwifruit are ripe and ready to cat when they give to gentle pressure.
- Although you can refrigerate fully ripened fruit, for best flavor, serve it at room temperature.
- Refrigerate grapes and berries immediately and wait to wash them turil just before serving.
- The Chilean finit industry follows strict safety and quality procedures, often surpassing U.S. government standards.

Visit www.chileanfleshfruit.com for more information.

## Canola oil facts

- Cannla oil is high in vitamin F and heart-healthy monounsaturated fat, is cholesterol free and is one of the hest plant sources of Omega-3 fats.
- Canola oil is trans fat free.
- The American Heart Association recognizes canola oil as a heart-healthy oil.
- Canola oil's high smoke point (468°F) makes it ideal for sautés and stir-fry, two nutritious cooking methods.

Visit www.canolainfo.org for more information.

## Winter Fresh Fruit Salad With Warm Vinaigrette

6 cups mixed greens

2-1/2 cups mixed fresh Chilean fruit (such as grapes, nectarines, peaches and plums) in hito-sized pieces

1/4 cup walnuts, toasted

- 1/4 cap canola oil
- 1/4 cup sliced shallots or chopped onion
- 3 tablespoons cider vinegar 2 teaspoons sugar

2 teaspoons sug 1/4 teaspoon salt

1/8 teaspoon ground black pepper

In large bowl, tost greens with fruit and walnuts. In small skillet, heat canota oil over medium heat. Add shallots; cook and stir just until tender, 2 to 3 minutes. Remove from heat, stir in vinegar, sugar, salt and pepper, cool slightly. Spoon mixture over fruit and greens; toss gently. Serve immediately.

YIELD: 4 portions

Per portion: 267 calories, 25 g carbohydrate, 3 g protein, 19 g total tat (1.5 g saturated tat)

## Fresh Fruit Tarts

1/2 cup sliced almonds

2-1/4 cups all-purpose flour

1/2 teaspoon salt 1/2 teaspoon baking powder

2/3 cup canola oil, chilled in freezer 2 hours\*

1 egg, beaten slightly 1/4 cup ice water

1/4 cup I percent milk 1 tablespoon vinegar

Sogar Sugar

2 cups mixed fresh Chilean ruspherries, blueberries, and

halved strawberries and grapes

2 tablespoons apriorit preserves, melted in microwave

Preheat oven to 400°F. In food processor, pulse almonds to coarsely ground consistency. Add flour, salt and baking powder, pulse once or twice to combine ingredients. Add chilled canola oil. Pulse again once or twice. In small bowl, combine egg, water, milk and vinegar. With food processor running, pour liquid ingredients through feed tabe; turn off processor as soon as ingredients are mixed, about 10 seconds. Divide dough in half. Securely wrap one of the halves, freeze or refrigerate for mother use.

On floured surface, roll out remaining dough into an 8-inch square. Out into four 4-inch squares. Place pastry squares on parchment lined baking shoct. Lightly sprinkle each square with sagar. Bake antill golden, 10 to 12 minutes; cool on rack. In bowl, toss fruit with narricot preserves. Spoon an equal amount of truit on each of the pastry squares.

YTELD: 4 pertions

\*Cancla oil can be frezen in measured amounts and used immediately in the pastry recipe. It is recipe will make two 9-inch pie consts. cight 4-inch pastry squares or twenty four 3-inch pastry rounds.

Per partion: 410 calories, 47 g carbonyonate, 7 g present, 28 g total fat (2 g saturated fat)

1/2 and shick slices, serve with finit and remaining Spicy Space. Garnish with greens, if desired with the desired.

\*To past: Plunge that in boiling water just until skin leosens slightly, remove skin with a knite.

Per purition: 545 calories, 32 g carbolydrate, 47 g protein, 28 g total fat (3.5 g samuted fat)

place in bowl. Brush from on all sides with about 3 tablespoons Spicy Sauce, reserve remaining sauce for later use.

slightly pink in center (160°F), 8 to 10 minutes longer. Remove to cutting board, cover loosely with aluminum toil.

No cook: Probest brodler to high. Place tendedloin on rack in brodler pair; brod 8 minutes. Jum and brod until still

Place trust on broiler rack; broil 4 minutes; turn and broil until barely tender, 2 to 4 minutes longer. Out tender tom into