



JCHS defeats Bobcats

page B1

The Times FLOYD COUNTY

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In brief

Gambling opponents testify against legalizing casinos

The Associated Press

FRANKFORT — Gambling opponents urged lawmakers on Thursday to defeat any proposals to legalize casino gambling.

Gov. Steve Beshear wants lawmakers to pass a constitutional amendment aimed at legalizing casino gambling in Kentucky.

Beshear, a Democrat, says the state could collect more than \$500 million in annual tax revenue from the plan.

John-Mark Hack is a spokesman for an anti-casino group called Say No To Casinos.

3 DAY FORECAST

Today



High: 46 • Low: 22

Tomorrow



High: 36 • Low: 24

Tuesday



High: 35 • Low: 33

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Meade, Stumbo get jump on May campaign

by JACK LATTA STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — The Democratic Nominating committee for February's special election had barely concluded before the first salvo of the May primary was fired by a soundly defeated former representative, Charles

"Chuck" Meade.

In a recent article by The Big Sandy News, "Chuck" Meade went on the war path accusing former Attorney General Greg Stumbo of using his office as AG to hurt his campaign.

"This is no coincidence that these charges were filed when they were," said Meade. "It's clearly a bully tactic."

The "charges" Meade refers to stem from a complaint that was issued by the Attorney General's Office on Dec. 14, 2004.

According to the complaint, in June 2004, CLM Discount Tobacco Inc., Meade's company, affixed stamps to 2 million "One" brand cigarettes.

"One" brand, manufactured by

Blend Commercial Exportadora, was removed from the Tobacco Product Directory effective June 1, 2004 according to representatives of the Excise Tax Section of the Department of Revenue.

According to court documents for

(See CAMPAIGN, page three)



Rep. Joni Jenkins, D-Shively, right, confers with House Speaker Jody Richards, D-Bowling Green, during a recess period in the Kentucky House of Representatives.

Richards says he'd look at cigarette tax hike over education cuts

The Associated Press

FRANKFORT — House Speaker Jody Richards says he'd prefer lawmakers consider increasing the cigarette tax before cutting education funding.

Richards says he's not alone among House lawmakers who

want to look at the idea.

Governor Steve Beshear opposes raising any taxes, despite a looming deficit in the state budget. Beshear says the state is short this fiscal year by more than \$400 million, and lawmakers expect next year's shortfall to top \$500 million. Beshear

already cut \$78 million from this year's budget.

Richards says he doesn't know how much of an increase lawmakers would consider. The American Lung Association is pushing for a 75-cent-per-pack hike. Currently, the state's tax is 30-cents per pack.

Meade's father announces write-in run

by RALPH B. DAVIS MANAGING EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG — The special election to fill the 95th District state representative's seat took an unexpected turn Friday, as the father of one candidate in the May primary election announced his intention to seek the unexpired term as a write-in candidate.

Eddie Darryl Meade, of McDowell, father of former state Rep. Charles "Chuck" Meade, mailed his candidacy papers to the state Friday, seeking to challenge Democratic nominee Greg Stumbo and Republican nominee Larry Brown in the Feb. 5 election.

Meade, a former car salesman and car dealership owner, says he is running because he wants to "make a difference for the people of Floyd County," and he is issuing a challenge to Stumbo and Brown to join him in a debate.

"I'm running in honor of my dad ..." Meade said. "I think I can make a better difference for the time left



Eddie Meade

[in the term] than [Stumbo or Brown]."

Meade said that he will oppose any effort to implement casino gambling in Kentucky and that he believes Gov. Steve Beshear's projections of a budget shortfall are a "farce."

"It's talking down the economy with the agenda to push the casino issue, using the excuse that we've got to have it to fund children's insurance," Meade said.

Should he win the special election, Meade said he would square off against his son in May, "but he'll beat me."

University presidents warn against 12 percent funding cut

The Associated Press

FRANKFORT — Kentucky's public university presidents have told Governor Steve Beshear that possible funding cuts of 12 percent next year would stall higher education reform efforts.

Each of the state's eight public university presidents signed a letter sent to Beshear on Friday that

says such cuts would cause "immeasurable damage" to higher education in Kentucky.

Beshear says the state is facing a budget shortfall next year of more than \$500 million dollars. He had asked public universities to prepare for a possible 12 percent cut next year on top of a 3 percent cut he imposed in the current year.

Director says MSHA on track to complete mandatory inspections

by TIM HUBER AP BUSINESS WRITER

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — Preliminary data shows the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration is on track to carry out required quarterly inspections at all U.S. underground coal mines for the first time in

years, director Richard Stickler said Thursday.

Records from MSHA field offices show the agency conducted mandatory inspections at all the nation's 731 underground coal mines during the first quarter of the fiscal year, but those records are still being reconciled with computer data, Stickler said.

"They feel pretty confident that if we didn't make 100 percent, we're pretty close," he said in an interview after a speech at the 35th West Virginia Mining Symposium in Charleston.

MSHA set a goal of completing all mandatory inspections during the current fiscal year in October after being criticized for falling short. The agency

conceded at the time that it had failed to do so since at least 2000. The worst performance came in fiscal year 2006 when a Department of Labor report said MSHA failed to carry out required inspections at 15 percent of underground coal mines.

(See MINING, page three)

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Regional Obituaries

FLOYD COUNTY

■ Brigadier General Jake Bates Jr., 65, of Printer, died Sunday, January 6, at Highlands Regional Medical Center in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, January 10, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Anthony Griffith, 54, of Ivel, died Thursday, December 20, in the St. Claire Regional Medical Center, in Morehead. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 23, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Estalene Hall, 78, of Ashtabula, Ohio, formerly of Floyd County, died Tuesday, December 30, at her residence. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 3, under the direction of Ducro Funeral Home.

■ Raymond Howell, 81, of Harold, a native of Pike County, died Friday, January 4, at his home. Funeral services were held Monday, January 7, under the direction of Pikeville Funeral Home.

■ Bonnie Perry Leedy, 72, of Auxier, died Friday, January 4, at her residence. Funeral services were held Monday, January 7, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Beatrice Burton Mitchell, 73, of Beaver, died Friday, January 4, in the University of Kentucky Medical Center, Lexington. Funeral services were conducted Monday, January 7, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home, Martin.

■ Linnie Mulkey, 73, of Banner, died Saturday, January 5, at her residence. Funeral services were held Monday, January 7, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Bedford Reitz, 91, of McDowell, died Saturday, December 22, at McDowell ARH. Funeral services were held Friday, December 28, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Betty Jean Rowland, 78, of Prestonsburg, formerly of Westwood, died Thursday, December 21. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, December 23, under the direction of Cauiff Funeral Home, in Westwood.

■ Roger Newton Samons, 82, of Martin, died Friday, January 4, at Highlands Regional Medical Center.

Funeral services were held Monday, January 4, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Loraine Parsons Skeens, 75, formerly of Sias, W.Va., a native of Honaker, died January 8, in Chesapeake, Ohio. Funeral services were held Friday, January 11, under the direction of Handley Funeral Home in Hamlin, W.Va.

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

■ James Marvin Thompson, 63, formerly of Wayland, died Sunday, December 16, in Michigan. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 19, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

KNOTT COUNTY

■ Jean Jacobs Anderson, 44, of Mallie, died Friday, December 28, at the UK Medical Center in Lexington. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 30, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Mildred T. Burger, 87, formerly of Hindman, died Thursday, December 20, at Autumn Woods Health Campus. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 22, under the direction of Seabrook Dieckmann & Naville Funeral Home.

■ Ella Fair Combs, 84, of Hindman, died Monday, December 24, at Hazard ARH. Funeral services were held Friday, December 28, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Tilda Higgins, 89, of Redfox, died Friday, December 14, at the Whitesburg Appalachian Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 22, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Henry Johnson, 94, of Fisty, died Wednesday, December 19, at the Hazard ARMC. He is survived by his wife, Emmazel Johnson. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 22, at the Hindman Funeral Home.

■ Linda Carol Nickles, 49, of Dema, died Wednesday, December 26, at her home. Funeral services were held

Saturday, December 29, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Home.

■ Timothy Malcolm Prater, 18, of Emmalena, died Sunday, December 16, at home. Funeral services were held Thursday, December 20, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

MAGOFFIN COUNTY

■ Paul T. Adams, 70, of Salyersville, died Tuesday, December 18, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Melova Minix- Adams. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 21, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

■ Beulah T. Allen, 65, of Salyersville, died Wednesday, December 23, at St. Jo East Hospital in Lexington. Funeral services were held Thursday, December 27, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

■ Wilma Jean Arnett, 84, of Salyersville, died Tuesday, December 25, at her residence. Funeral services were held Thursday, December 27, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

■ Shelly J. Fletcher, 33, of Royalton, died Saturday, December 22, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, Adam Fletcher. Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 26, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

■ Tamera Jeanine Prater-Patrick, 37, of Salyersville, died Tuesday, December 18, at her residence. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 22, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

■ Curtis Bailey Kindig Stifle, 83, of Salyersville, died Friday, December 21, at the Salyersville Health Care Center. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, December 23, under the direction of Salyersville Funeral Home.

■ Loretta Allen Trent, 40, died Saturday, December 29, at Cabell-Huntington Hospital. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 2, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

■ Regina Owens Wireman, 82, of Salyersville, died Wednesday, December 26, at her residence. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, December 27, under the direc-

tion of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

PIKE COUNTY

■ Georgia Charles Adams, 72, of Pikeville, died Thursday, January 10, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services will be held Sunday, January 13, at 1 p.m., under the direction of the Community Funeral Home of Zebulon.

■ Ella Innes Burgess, 66, of Mouthcard, a Floyd County native, died Saturday, January 5, in Buchanan County, Va. She is survived by her husband, Franklin D. Burgess. Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 8, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ Goldie Potter Cochran, 91, of Ashcamp, died Saturday, January 5, at her home. Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 8, under the direction of Lucas and Son Funeral Home.

■ Julia Fannin, 80, of Majestic, died Wednesday, January 9, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, Ralph Fannin. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 12, under the direction of the R.S. Jones and Son Funeral Home.

■ Eva Pauline Ferrell, 82, of South Williamson, died Wednesday, January 9, at Appalachian Regional Hospital, South Williamson. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 12, under direction of Hatfield Funeral Home of Toler.

■ Lloyd Edward Gabbard, 66, of Feds Creek, died Wednesday, January 9, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Phyllis Gabbard. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 12. Arrangements are under direction of Thacker Funeral Home of Pikeville.

■ Jarvie Gibson, 65, of Fords Branch, died Sunday, January 6, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Bonnie Hall Gibson. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, January 8, under direction of Lucas and Son Funeral Home.

■ Ninta Davis Harper, 48, of Robinson Creek, died Saturday, January 5, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 8, under the direction of Hall and Jones Funeral Home.

■ Jeremy Scott Helton, of Elkhorn City, died Sunday, December 30, at the Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, January 3, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

■ Nora Martin, 79, of Elkhorn City, died Sunday, January 6, in Elkhorn City. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 9, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ Bennett L. Mullins, 69, of Allen Park, Mich., formerly of Pike County, died Friday,

January 4, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Clestie Jean Bartley Mullins. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 10, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ John L. Newsome, 62, of Little Creek, died Tuesday, January 8, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Vicki Nordyke Newsome. Funeral services were held Friday, January 11, under the direction of Lucas and Son Funeral Home.

■ Norma Williamson Pinson, 81, of Charlotta North Carolina, formerly of Sidney, died Saturday, January 5, in Charlotte. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 12, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Edith Ratliff, 51, of Virgie, died Wednesday, January 9, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 12, under the direction of the Lucas and Son Funeral Home.

■ Beatrice Luella Stanley, 85, of Pikeville, formerly of Canton, Michigan, died Tuesday, January 8, at the Pikeville Health Care Center. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 12, under the direction of Buehler Funeral Home.

JOHNSON COUNTY

■ Winifred "Winnie" Boyd, 82, of Paintsville, died Thursday, January 3, in Lexington. She is survived by her husband, Clifford Boyd. Funeral services were held Sunday, January 6, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

■ Colleta Burchett, 70, of Vanlear, died Thursday, December 20, at her residence. Funeral services were held Friday, December 21, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

■ Lenzie Castle Jr., 69, of Flat Gap, died Monday, January 7, at his residence. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 10, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

■ Denver Craft, 81, of Meally, died Thursday, January 3, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Sunday, January 6, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Ada Mills Hunter, 77, of East Point, died Tuesday, December 25, at the Community Hospice Care in Ashland. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 29, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Mary Louise Picklesimer, 79, of Oil Springs, died Sunday, January 6, at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center in Paintsville. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 9, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

■ Ruth Ann Rowe, 56, of Meally, formerly of Martin County, died Thursday, January 3, at St. Mary's Medical Center, in Huntington, West Virginia. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 8, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

■ Ruth Salyer, 92, of Staffordsville, died Thursday, January 3, at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center, in Paintsville. Funeral services were held Sunday, January 6, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

■ Carol Sue "Susie" Ward, 61, of Paintsville, died Monday, December 31, at Mountain Manor Nursing Home. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 3, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Lowell Webb, 78, of Lexington, a Johnson County native, died Tuesday, January

(See OBITUARIES, page three)

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McDowell.....377-7785
Paintsville.....297-5888
Pikeville.....437-9234
Lexington.....866-461-KIRK
Inez.....298-3575
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Obituaries

James Larry Daniels
James Larry Daniels, age 59, of East Point, died Thursday, January 10, 2008, at Highlands Regional Medical Center.

Born August 5, 1948, in Louisa, he was the son of the late Elon Daniels and Della Bentley Snawley. He was a heavy equipment mechanic for Excel Mining.

He is survived by his wife, Mira Zoe Huffman Daniels.

Other survivors include two sons and two daughters: James Christopher Daniels, John Matthew Daniels, and Kimberly Jane Blackburn, all of Prestonsburg, and Leah Ann Pangallo of Cincinnati, Ohio; a brother, George Daniels of Florida; five sisters: Joann Gibson and Draxie Dillon, both of Prestonsburg, Betty Bartley of Lexington, and Marie Anderson and Mary Bolitta, both of Ohio; six grandchildren: Joshua Blackburn, Shelby Blackburn, Kesley Pangallo, Katie Pangallo, Ana Pangallo, and Riley Daniels.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers: Elon Daniels Jr., and Wade Daniels.

Funeral services were held Friday, January 11, at 1 p.m., at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Jerry Workman officiating.

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

Visitation was at the funeral

home. www.nelsonfrazierfuneralhome.com (Paid obituary)

□ □ □
Willie H. Hamilton

Willie H. Hamilton, age 74, of Beaver, died Wednesday, January 9, 2008, at his residence.

Born January 19, 1933, in Teaberry, he was the son of the late Wilburn Lee and Martha Jane Tackett Hamilton. He was a retired coal miner and a member of Samaria Old Regular Baptist Church since 1978 (Deacon for 19 years).

He is survived by his wife, Mary Martin Hamilton.

Other survivors include a daughter and son-in-law: Vanessa and Billy Joe Hamilton of Beaver; a daughter-in-law, Joyce Hamilton Bryant; a sister, Mary Newsome of Beaver; five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren: Maryann,

Wesley, Stephanie, Beverly, Brent, Allison, Blake and Lindsey.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a son, Michael Hamilton; eight brothers, and five sisters: John Milford Hamilton, Frank Hamilton, Hershell Hamilton, Hatler Hamilton, Wilburn Lee Hamilton Jr., Sterling Hamilton, Ervin Hamilton, Russell Hamilton, Goldie Newsome, Hazel Bentley, Lonie Bartley, Millie Tackett, and Roxie Hamilton.

Funeral services were held Saturday, January 12, at 1 p.m., at the Samaria Old Regular Baptist Church, in Teaberry, with Old Regular Baptist ministers officiating.

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

Visitation was at the church. www.nelsonfrazierfuneralhome.com (Paid obituary)

Card of Thanks

The family of Roger Samons would like to thank all those who helped during our time of bereavement. A special thank-you goes out to the Arkansas Creek Church of Christ, Ronnie Samons and Roy Robinson, and all the wonderful singers. We would like to thank the 4th floor nurses at Highlands Regional Medical Center for all their wonderful care and nice words. We also would like to thank the Riverview Nursing Home for all the wonderful care they gave, not only Roger, but his brother, Brian, as well. They were really nice and gave them very good care. We really appreciate everything they did for them. Thanks to Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home and all their staff for their very comforting care, as well as the Floyd County Sheriff's Department. Thanks to all our family and friends who sent flowers, food, or said a kind word.

ROGER SAMONS FAMILY

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FCT ONLINE POLL

RESULTS FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 6 - JANUARY 13, 2008

Who do you favor as the next state representative in the 95th district?

Charles "Chuck" Meade	[Bar]	(294 Votes, 68%)
Greg Stumbo	[Bar]	(105 Votes, 24%)
Other	[Bar]	(17 Votes, 4%)
Don't Know	[Bar]	(17 Votes, 4%)

Go online today and answer this week's question!

Who do you favor for the Democratic nomination for president?

- Hillary Clinton
- John Edwards
- Barack Obama
- Other
- Don't know
- Doesn't matter, I'm voting Republican

FCT ONLINE POLL

Beshear favors more openness in budget negotiations

by ROGER ALFORD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — The veil of secrecy surrounding legislative budget negotiations in Kentucky needs to be lifted — at least partially, Gov. Steve Beshear said Thursday.

It has become standard practice in Kentucky for leading lawmakers to hammer out the budget privately, while locked away inside legislative offices.

"My impression is it should be more open than it is," Beshear told journalists who gathered at the Capitol on Thursday for a legislative workshop sponsored by the Kentucky Press Association, The Associated Press and the Editorial Writers Association. "Obviously, in the give and take of negotiations, sometimes negotiations need go on

behind closed doors."

Beshear said lawmakers don't even have time to read the behemoth budget document before voting on it.

"That's not good practice," he said.

Senate President David Williams, however, said lawmakers need privacy to have frank discussions and avoid the "grandstanding" that would likely go on if the meetings were open to the public. Williams said lawmakers "do the best we can" and noted press and other members of the public are not invited to Beshear's private budget meetings with state agency officials.

"I think that the governor who hasn't been up here in 20 years ought to worry about the openness of his branch of government," Williams, R-Burkesville, said. "We are a

branch of government of the people and we are very open."

House Speaker Jody Richards, D-Bowling Green, said the legislature includes large numbers of lawmakers participating in budget talks. Most of the budget has already been crafted in public before the private budget negotiations take place, Richards said.

"I went to journalism school. I'd like for the whole thing to be wide open," Richards said. "But as a practical matter it's very hard to do."

Beshear is expected to announce a proposal on Thursday afternoon to revamp ethics laws in Kentucky to restore confidence in state government.

"People in the last few years have lost a lot of faith and confidence in their government," he said. "They don't believe their government, and

with some justification. Part of my job, as I see it, is to begin to restore confidence of the people of this state in their state government, and I'm determined to do that."

Beshear told Kentucky journalists that ethics reform

needs to be the starting point for improving government services, dealing with current budget woes, or ramping up a staggering state employee retirement program.

"If people don't believe that we are conducting our-

selves in an ethical fashion, if people believe instead that we are always up here to take care of ourselves and always up here to make behind the doors deals on this or that, then we really won't accomplish much in many of these other areas."

Campaign

Continued from p1

the civil action, "CLM knew of the law and its obligation to comply with it because it had received written notice of the publication of the directory from the Revenue Cabinet, and had actual or constructive notice of the removal of 'One' brand from the Tobacco Product Directory by virtue of online updates and direct notifications by the Department of Revenue."

Meade maintains that those laws were not in effect when the complaint was filed, though a cursory review of the Kentucky Revised Statutes shows the laws in effect as of April 6, 2003.

In a telephone interview, Greg Stumbo said, "I didn't know anything about it (the complaint) until I read it in the paper. I talked to Meade after he was served, and he didn't mention it."

"That complaint falls under the tobacco Master Settlement Agreement (MSA), and all of those legal cases are handled by Michael Plumley," said Stumbo. "That's all he does, and he didn't really report to us."

Plumley did not immediately return calls.

According to Allison Martin, public information officer for the Attorney General's Office, "Attorneys in the AG's office were reviewing tobacco cases that were not served, and found two outstanding." CLM was one of the two.

In regard to the MSA, Stumbo said, "When distributors or wholesalers try to skirt by the MSA, it jeopardizes the money that Kentucky receives because of the settlement."

Stumbo said the amount shrinks every year, but he estimated the amount in the hundreds of millions. Though Meade maintains the timing is politically motivated Franklin Circuit Court records indicate that there had been two previous attempts to serve the complaint, once by

certified mail in 2004, which had been returned unable to locate, and again in August 2007 in person.

Meade has also questioned Stumbo's residency, saying he "didn't think Greg had lived here in over 12 years, and only comes in to golf." According to Stumbo, he has maintained a condominium at Griffin Gate since he was in Legislature because he had to be in Frankfort. The new home being constructed in Lexington is being built to sell by Stumbo's wife.

"It's like going away to college," said Stumbo. "I've always maintained my residency in Floyd County."

According to the Floyd County Clerk's Office, voting records show that Stumbo has consistently voted in Prestonsburg.

Stumbo won the Democratic nominating convention, beating Meade by a weighted vote of 19,474 to 1,107, to earn his party's nomination for the Feb. 5 special election, but the two will likely face off again in the May primary.

Stumbo said he is looking forward to the special election and said winning the nomination, "feels great!"

"It's good to be coming back to represent the people of the 95th district," said Stumbo "I hope my many years of

experience can help the county get moving."

Meade said he believes there were 42 delegates not present at the nomination, and that intimidation may have played a factor.

In response to the allegations Keith Bartley, county attorney and Democratic chairman for Floyd County, said, "I absolutely do not believe that anyone on the committee was intimidated, and if Meade alleges otherwise, as party chairman, I would like to see proof of that."

Bartley flatly added, "Meade is no longer an issue. The Democratic Party is now focusing on the special election against Republican Larry D. Brown."

"If Meade were a good Democrat, the way he has always claimed to be, he would support the party's nomination," Bartley finished.

Meade denied rumors that he is backing the Republican Larry D. Brown in the special election. "I'm running my race for the May Democratic primary."

In a late development that could affect the outcome of the election, Eddie Meade, father of Chuck Meade, announced on Friday that he would run as a write-in candidate in the February special election.

Mining

MSHA has temporarily relocated inspectors around the country and increased its overtime budget to meet the requirements, Stickler said during his speech.

Separately, Stickler said MSHA has made "considerable progress" implementing sweeping federal safety legislation passed in response to the Sago Mine explosion and two other high-profile fatal accidents in 2006. However, mines in much of the country are still waiting to receive thousands of extra emergency air packs mandated by that law.

MSHA also is still working on rules designed to cut the

response time for mine rescue teams in half and to require far stronger seals at the openings of abandoned areas of underground mines.

Other aspects of the law have been completed, including stiffer penalties for violating mine health and safety laws, Stickler said. As a result, MSHA figures show fines assessed to coal operations have increased from \$20.2 million in 2006 to \$40.4 million in 2007.

"This will also result in safer working conditions," Stickler said.

MSHA expects to have additional regulations cover-

ing airtight refuge chambers for trapped miners, the use of conveyor belt shafts to ventilate the working face of mines and requiring fire-resistant conveyor belts this year.

In the interview, Stickler said MSHA is making progress in the investigation of a fatal accident that killed six miners and three rescuers in Utah last summer. The agency has interviewed approximately 70 witnesses and is close to completing that process, Stickler said.

"It's important that you do a thorough job and a complete job and an accurate job," he said.

Continued from p1

Obituaries

8, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Margaret Boyd Webb. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 12, under the direction of the Preston Funeral Home.

LAWRENCE COUNTY

Millard James "Jim" Cyrus, 70, a native of Louisa, died Friday, December 28, at Grant Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. He is survived by his wife, Patricia Ann Cyrus. Funeral services were held Monday, December 31, under

the direction of the O.R. Woodyard Co. of Columbus.

MARTIN COUNTY

Chester "Chet" Bowen, 83, of Kermit, West Virginia, a Martin County native, died Saturday, December 29, at Cabell-Huntington Hospital in Huntington, West Virginia. Funeral services were conducted Friday, January 4, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

Lavonna Jean Jude, 40,

of Pilgrim, died Monday, December 30, at her residence. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 3, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

Sandra Carol (Totsie) Maynard, 56, of Beauty, died Saturday, January 5, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, Bennie Maynard. Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 8, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

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THE FLOYD COUNTY TIMES'

CUTEST BABY CONTEST

Publish Date

January 25, 2008

Enter a photo of your cutie in the Floyd County Times' Annual Cutest Baby Contest for a chance to win a \$50 Savings Bond. There will be two winners in each category (One boy and one girl). Entry fee is \$10 per child.

2008 Cutest Baby Contest Entry Form

Return ENTRY with a \$10 check or money order - PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Baby's Full Name: _____ Male _____ Female _____

Circle AGE GROUP: 0-11 months _____ 1-3 years _____ 3-5 years _____

Parents: _____

Paternal Grandparents (Dad's Parents): _____

Day Phone: () _____ Evening Phone: () _____

Maternal Grandparents (Mom's Parents): _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Please include your child's photo along with a check or money order for \$10.

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expression

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

Guest view

Debate facts, not fears

Illegal aliens take our jobs, overwhelm the welfare rolls and drive up crime rates, right?
Wrong.

Those who trade in illegal immigration fear assert that the statistics support their view. But if employment, welfare and crime statistics prove the causative effects of immigration, one would have to conclude that the net impact is positive.

A Wall Street Journal editorial last week cites statistics that refute the conventional wisdom.

The growth of the United States population by 50 million since 1990 has been largely due to immigration, since birth rates are barely at replacement level. During the period between 1994 and 2005, the illegal immigration population is believed to have doubled to 12 million.

Yet during that time the violent crime rate in the U.S. dropped by a third and property crime dropped by a fourth. Obviously, many factors unrelated to immigration contributed to the decline, but it's noteworthy that crime fell even in cities with the highest number of immigrants — and presumably the highest number of illegal immigrants — where one might expect the opposite trend. San Diego, Los Angeles, El Paso, Miami, New York and Chicago all saw crime decreases during the period when illegal immigration surged.

The WSJ, quoting from the Immigration Policy Center, says studies show immigrants are far less likely than native-born Americans to be behind bars.

Well, they might not be stealing from our homes, but they're stealing our jobs, aren't they? Actually no. The unemployment rate remained at 4.7 percent in December, according to the U.S. Labor Department. This was better than economists predicted, well below the 6.6 percent rate in December 1990. We are the envy of most other major industrialized nations, where unemployment is at or near double digits.

"Immigrants aren't stealing jobs but filling them," states the editorial.

But aren't illegals providing cheap labor and driving down wages? They are undoubtedly working for low wages, but overall wages increased 3.8 percent in 2007, outpacing the increase in retail prices.

As for the complaint that illegals drain public resources, the welfare rolls have declined by 60 percent since 1994, largely due to the 1996 welfare-reform legislation passed by a Republican Congress and signed by a Democratic president (Clinton).

This is not to say illegal immigration is not a serious problem. It is. The solution is long overdue. National security alone is sufficient reason for controlling the flow across our southern border through a border fence and strict enforcement of existing immigration laws. And this must be accomplished before — instead of after, as prescribed in the failed immigration reform bill of 2007 — creating a path to citizenship for illegals already here.

But it is to say illegal immigration, particularly from Mexico and Central America, does not bring the catastrophic consequences some say it does. If it did, the statistics would bear that out.

As we have said before, 19 legal immigrants did more damage to the U.S. in two hours on 9/11 than 12 million illegal immigrants have done in two decades. The 19 were here to do us harm. The 12 million, most of them anyway, are here to better their lives.

We have time, and should take time, for a calm, rational discussion, beginning with real facts and real statistics instead of hysteria.

— The Paducah Sun



WHO'S CRYING NOW?...

Rich Lowry Column

The Rudy fade

The National Intelligence Estimate arguing that Iran gave up its nuclear-weapons program back in 2003 went public last month, instantly lessening the urgency of the domestic debate over how to handle Iran. The following day, Rudy Giuliani released a get-tough-on-Iran television ad, a pre-NIE message for a post-NIE world.

It's just one of the ways that Giuliani's once-formidable front-running campaign has been off lately. He has been buoyed all year long by his post-9/11 celebrity, his strong debate performances and his outsized, tough-guy persona. The former New York City mayor has undeniable leadership qualities, but now, as the primary race gets more serious, is having trouble making them fit the party he aspires to lead.

Giuliani is finally suffering from the natural gravitational pull of his messy personal life (as mayor, he had a publicly financed security detail for his mistress) and his ideological heterodoxy (especially on social issues). The pull has long been there; only now it has dragged him down to a level where it is no longer an invisible force.

Nationally, his numbers have been on slow downward slide since March. He was at 44 percent in an ABC News/Washington Post poll in

February, and at 25 percent in the same poll last month.

This has trashed the Giuliani theory of the race, which was that his national lead in the polls was a bankable commodity that he could redeem even after losses in the early states of Iowa, New Hampshire, Michigan and South Carolina.

Rudy had his eye on one of the early states, New Hampshire. His supporters thought once he started advertising there he'd bump up in the polls. Since Nov. 10 he has spent more than Mitt Romney and John McCain in the state, and his numbers have, if anything, declined slightly. McCain has passed him for second in the RealClearPolitics average in the state, and he hasn't gotten out of the teens in any poll since late November.

The nature of the ads has something to do with it. Besides the ill-timed Iran ad, Giuliani ran a spot touting his (truly extraordinary) work as New York City mayor. But Giuliani left the mayor's office six years ago, and was first elected — and began the city's turnaround — 14 years ago. Voters don't just want to know what you've done lately, but

what you'll do for them in the future.

So Giuliani went to Florida to try to relaunch his campaign with a speech focused on his forward-looking "12 commitments" as president. He didn't mention the one about reducing abortions. When Giuliani

was high in the polls, pundits speculated that the war on terror was the new social issue, more important to Republican voters than abortion or gay marriage. Mike Huckabee's rise shows that social conservatives

are still animated by their traditional issues, and Giuliani has little to say to them.

It's possible that the Republican field stays fragmented enough that Giuliani can win Florida on Jan. 29 and the big states where he is still strong on Feb. 5. But his scenario depends on a fractured party that he will have trouble putting back together again given his fundamental disagreements with a large part of the GOP base. In Florida, Giuliani said: "I don't just pray for miracles. I don't just hope for miracles. I expect miracles." He might have to.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.



beyond the beltway

I buy, therefore I am

by DONALD KAUL
MINUTEMAN MEDIA

Did you see that the price of oil got up over \$100-a-barrel the other day, before falling back a few cents? If you didn't, don't worry about it; you'll get another chance. Soon.

While experts are predicting a near-term retreat from \$100 oil — because we seem to be teetering on the edge of a recession — they also predict a surge to \$120 or so in the summer when the driving season kicks in.

That's a lot, \$120-a-barrel. It represents an all-time high and will translate into \$3.75 at the pump.

There are those who will say, "Why doesn't the President do something?"

And I will say back: "He did do something. He gave us \$100-a-barrel oil." As recently as 2003 the price of a barrel was as low as \$25. That was before George Bush's energy (ha-ha) program kicked in. The good old days.

If, in 2001, you had laid out a plan to make oil cost \$100-a-barrel by 2008, it would have been pretty much the plan that George Bush and his oil-field cronies executed.

First you fight all efforts — international and domestic — at energy conservation as though they were terrorist plots conceived in the mind of Osama bin Laden.

Then you go to war in the Middle East not once but twice to destabilize the world's top oil-producing region

and send oil prices shooting up. It has been said that as much as 30 percent of the price we're paying for oil is due to the risk of that instability.

You also make sure to propose a series of half-hearted, too-little-too-late measures to develop alternative fuels, just so you can say you've done something.

And, of course, you keep trying to go where Man has not gone before. And drill for oil. Wilderness preserves are especially good. It is a pathetic response to the kind of shortfall we have in oil production, but it would make a few billion bucks for your oil industry buddies (the ones writing the big checks for speeches when your time in office is done).

Anyway, it's worked. Congratulations, George. And congratulations too to the American people, nearly half of whom voted Mr. Bush into office — twice. (If this is democracy I'm not so sure it's a good idea to spread it to the rest of the world.)

The sorry fact is that advocating real energy conservation is a form of political suicide. People embrace conservation in the abstract, but when you get down to details, where it becomes painful and expensive, they act as though you're trying to take away their birthright. And, in a sense, you are.

To the average American, conservation of energy is un-American. Our economy is based on consumption. Less is not more, less is less and big-

ger is better.

Consider the television set. It arrived in the world with the promise of being the greatest educational tool since the book. And instead we made it the greatest sales tool in the history of the world.

Think on that. A machine that can bring the entire world into your living room and instead we turn it over to lying hucksters selling junk.

The American public has swallowed the absurd notion that they are defined by the things they buy and consume. Happiness consists of owning the right combination of cars, hair products, clothes and soap.

They've bought the lie that they are consumers before they are workers. That's why the labor movement is dying. Unions make things cost more. They protect jobs too, but we don't think about that until it's too late.

So to ask a society like ours to conserve, to do with less, not to buy, is ridiculous. I buy, therefore I am.

That's why ideas like the \$2-a-gallon gas tax will never fly. People don't want to use less gasoline. They want to use more.

Which means, whether they know it or not, they want \$120-a-barrel oil. And they're going to get it; good and hard.

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

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

PUBLISHER: Joshua Byers
MANAGING EDITOR: Ralph B. Davis
jbyers@heartlandpublications.com
web@floydcountytimes.com

ADVERTISING MANAGER:
Kim Frasure
advertising@floydcountytimes.com



CAR TALK:

Cars don't need to be thawed

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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.

If you think the weather hasn't been bad around here, you are hereby reminded that not a basketball game has been played in two weeks.

THE COLOR OF POLLUTION

If air pollution is permitted to increase at its present rate, this could be the story in 1980.

Grandpappy has himself an audience composed of a couple of grandchildren, and he is "going to town."

"Man and boy," he cackles, "you young'uns don't know anything about winter. Now, when I was a boy, them were winters—back in the winter of '70 it stuck at zero, and the snow stayed on for weeks at a time. Snow was so white it blinded you when the sun hit it right—"

"White snow, Granddaddy!" questions one of the youngsters. "We get purple snow and black snow, but what kind of queer stuff was white snow?"

□□□

G-r-r!

Gordon Moore has been fishing around Leesburg, Fla., during the holidays, and, since has been having good luck, I hear from him. He writes, and I can almost hear him growl:

"Caught more fish in the past ten days than you have in ten years."

Was tempted to waste the cost of a telegram to advise him that he could have done what he said and, in view of my record, still not done much.

IN RE DUCKS

Commenting on the item published last week in this column about the "wild" ducks at the boat dock on Dewey Lake and the threat of their extermination, Conservation Officer Dalton Ray Conley points out that if the county's game and fish clubs will, through their Wildlife Federation, request the Fish and Game Commission to close the lake to duck-hunting, the whole problem will be solved.

The officer says he contacted county officials, and his superior in Frankfort, before the duck season began, asking what could be done. But, Dewey Lake being open to this type of hunting, all told him nothing could be done under the circumstances. So...

The clubs should file their requests for closing the lake...now. Only two or three hunter's were on the lake this year, anyhow, and the few ducks that stop there on their way south, arrive well before the hunting season. Those are the truly wild ones. Those who like Floyd County and enough to resist the call of their kind to come along for a trip to balmy climes should be

(See ALLEN, page six)



Dr. Seth Hyden, Hyden Pediatric Dentistry, is one of the Floyd County Chamber of Commerce's newest members. Pictured are Dr. Hyden and members of the Chamber during the office's grand opening event. From left to right: Billy Maynard, Chair, Floyd County Chamber of Commerce; Mandy Stumbo, Executive Director, Floyd County Chamber of Commerce; Trish Cieslak, Vice-Chair, Floyd County Chamber of Commerce; Dr. Seth Hyden; Ava Hyden; Dr. Alan Huden; Jake Hyden; Amy Hyden; Tammy Maynard, MedExpress Pharmacy, and Mark Wiete, Citizens National Bank.

Hyden Pediatric Dentistry office unique

by BRENT GRADEN
PRESTONSBURG ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT

While it may have been raining on the day we decided to visit the new Hyden Pediatric Dentistry office, located in Prestonsburg, it was all smiles inside as they opened for business to the community at large. "We are extremely proud to come back home and open the first dentist office specifically geared toward children in our area," said Dr. Seth Hyden. "To be able to work with kids in this fashion has been a dream of mine for a long time."

And what a reality this dream has become. When patients first enter the building, they are greeted by a friendly and knowledgeable staff. There is a special "kid size" door that the little patients can enter and exit. It is when encountering that

tiny door that tiny patients know that this is not going to be a normal visit.

"We want the visit to be an experience," Dr. Hyden said. "We've installed video games inside the waiting rooms so they can feel more at ease. We also have small plasma screens above the dentist chair so they can watch cartoons while we work."

In short, with all the kid-friendly amenities offered at Dr. Hyden's office, local children will soon be marking off the days until their next visit to the friendly office!

Dr. Seth Hyden grew up in Prestonsburg and attended Eastern Kentucky University. Following completion of his undergraduate studies at EKU, he enrolled as a dental student at the University of Louisville, following in the footsteps of his grandfather, Dr. Alan

Hyden, also a U of L graduate.

Graduating from U of L in 2004, Seth completed his general practice residency at the University of Kentucky.

He is married to Amy Reed Hyden. The couple have two children, Jake, age 5, and Ava, age 3.

A member of the Floyd County Chamber of Commerce, Dr. Hyden and his office staff welcome the community to their new office.

The new Hyden Pediatric Dentistry office is a full-service dentistry office that will work with all the needs of the patient. Dr. Hyden and his staff are located at 38 Grace Drive, off Cliff Road, in Prestonsburg. The office phone number is 886-6565. Please call for an appointment. Most forms of insurance and payment are accepted.



A young patient enters Dr. Seth Hyden's office through the kid-friendly sized door.

Weight-loss wisdom from a toddler

by TRICIA FINCH
"CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE DIETER'S SOUL"

It's no fun carrying around the "baby weight" as your child ages. I knew if I didn't make some changes soon I would still have those extra pounds when my son started school. But when I decided to lose 30 pounds, I didn't do it alone. I had help from meeting leaders, my husband and my own personal miniguru, the toddler. In my weight-loss journey, I found that I learned a lot just by observing him.

My son doesn't use a stairclimber, lift weights or own a treadmill. He finds simpler ways to get the job done. He runs — an empty field or backyard is perfect. If he climbs stairs, they're real ones and not the kind found in a gym. The lesson: Use what you have. Go up and down the stairs at your local community center, museum or aquarium with your child. I guarantee you'll know you've worked out. That is, if you can get out of bed the next day. If your child has a favorite musical act (The Wiggles, Laurie Berkner, anyone?), pop in a video and dance along. You'll eat up

some of that vast supply of energy while you burn calories, and you'll both have fun doing it.

The other day, we rode our bikes as a family through our neighborhood and ended up at a local park, where we discovered a trail off the beaten track. My son took a minute to warm up to it, but once he did, he delighted in exploring. Despite our exhaustion from pedaling our bicycles in the Florida heat, his enthusiasm was contagious. We deviated from our plan and stayed awhile longer.

Lots of workout advice extols the virtues of miniworkouts. While the

plan might be meant to allow busy parents a way to get in a workout, they also seem tailor-made for a youngster. I circuit train — kid-style. My son's program on a recent afternoon involved bouncing in his bounce house, traveling over to his wading pool for a few quick full-body splashes and then finishing off with laps around the backyard.

Something else I've learned from the little one is that a little bit of food goes a long way. My son will eat

small portions of food and stop when he's full. Then, no matter how much you prod, plead or insist, not one more bite will pass through his lips. Not even if it's his absolute favorite food. He savors what he truly enjoys and doesn't bother finishing what doesn't appeal to him. He only eats when he's hungry — you can be sure he'll let you know when that happens! And he doesn't linger over meals; 25 minutes is a long time



(See SOUP, page six)

MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

'Chosen Survivors'

by TOM DOTY
TIMES COLUMNIST

MGM's Midnite Movies label made a triumphant return in 2007 with a batch of previously unavailable titles such as "Witchfinder General" (which featured a deft turn by classic horror star Vincent Price) and this claustrophobic sci-fi chiller, which finds a handful of escapees from a nuclear disaster finding out that their fallout shelter includes some unwanted guests that feed on human blood.

The film opens with a surreal scene of an Army helicopter lighting on a New Mexico mountaintop to release its passengers. They turn out to be a bunch of civilians who stagger one by one into a mysterious elevator perched atop a mountain.



Tom Doty
Times Columnist

The elevator descends and they find themselves in an underground chamber constructed of gleaming metal and plastic. A set of monitors switch on and a platinum blond news anchor-type informs them that she is a recorded message and that the group has been carefully picked to repopulate the earth, which should cool off from the nuclear winter in about five years. All this in the first five minutes.

The opening is a hard act to follow and that's proven out by a few dull scenes of these characters talking about themselves, which gradually introduces us to the bunch that our trusted government has deemed fit for survival. This part of the movie should encourage slackers to get cracking as nobody in the group appears to make anything less than six figures.

The roster includes:
■ A Donald Trump-styled businessman (yeah you're gonna need a corporate honcho to fire people and concentrate on team building exercises)

■ A former Olympic athlete
■ A career military man
■ Assorted doctors, ecologists and behavioral scientists (that's Hollywood speak for psychologists).

Despite the level of education in the room, no one can figure out what happened when a menagerie of birds is massacred overnight with no trace of blood left behind. Luckily a clue is dropped on these eggheads that is hard to ignore when a vampire bat is spied clinging to an air conditioner.

Things get worse in a hurry when continued power outages aid the swarm of bats in their nightly soires. The Donald Trump guy adds to their troubles by getting drunk, belligerent and stupid. After waking them all up in the middle of the night with a whiny rant, he then makes things worse by sabotaging the complex's generator just as the bats attack again.

(See LAGOON, page six)

Cars don't need to be thawed

by TOM and RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:

With the cold New England winter weather about to swoop down on us, I have a queasy feeling in the pit of my stomach. Why, you ask? Because every winter when my boyfriend and I get into my car, I start it, then I put the car in gear after about 30 seconds and drive off. This drives my boyfriend nuts, and I have to hear about "how bad it is for my car" to put it into Drive before it warms up. He will start his car and sit there for a good five to 10 minutes before he shifts into Drive. My question is this: Am I really doing harm to my car by not letting the engine run for 10 minutes? If not, how can I prove this to him? I found an article in The New York Times a couple of years ago that stated that nothing is gained by sitting in a freezing-cold car while the motor is running before you shift into Drive. He thinks that the reporter at the Times didn't know what he was talking about. But he just might listen to you if you say it's OK. Please help! It's cold here in Boston! — Lisa

RAY: How do you prove it to him, Lisa? Hand him this column and ask

him to read the following aloud:

TOM: Dear Lisa's Boyfriend: You have your head so far up your tailpipe on this one, it may be coming out your air intake.

RAY: How's that, Lisa? Will that do it? You're absolutely right, as is the reporter from The New York Times. On modern, fuel-injected cars — basically anything made in the past 20 years — you're not helping the car at all by warming it up for five or 10 minutes.

TOM: On older, carbureted cars, that kind of extended warm-up can actually cause damage to the engine by diluting the oil with excess fuel. So it's even worse if you have a really old heap.

RAY: But with modern cars, all you're doing with a long warm-up is wasting gas, increasing pollution, raising the temperature of the planet and making yourself 10 minutes late for your chiropractic appointment. The proper procedure is to start the car. If it starts and keeps running, put it in Drive and go. Go gently (don't back out of your driveway and floor it right onto a highway entrance ramp), because you'll be warming it up during your first few minutes of driving,

but DO drive it.

TOM: If it's bitterly cold out, like 10 or 20 degrees Fahrenheit or lower, you can let it warm up for a minute or two to allow the oil to thin out a bit and circulate completely. But other than that, if it runs, driving it gently is the best way to warm it up.

RAY: So tell your boyfriend he not only needs to get off your case about this, but he needs to stop warming up the car himself.

TOM: AND, to make up for all the misplaced grief he's given you over the years, he needs to start going to bed 10 minutes before you do, to warm up the bed for you on cold winter nights. That's a warm-up activity he can do that's actually useful!

fill a gas tank. Thank you! — Ian

RAY: I take it you're worried about the weight of the gasoline, Ian. You think that a full tank of gas weighs more, and therefore reduces your mileage. And by filling up only halfway, you'll have a lighter car and get more miles per gallon.

TOM: The answer is, that's true. I mean, sure, theoretically, if your 3,000-pound car is 50 or 60 pounds lighter, you'll get slightly better mileage. In fact, manufacturers spend all kinds of money taking ounces of weight out of various car parts.

RAY: Right. And there's no fuel lost to evaporation, because the fuel system in a modern car is a closed system.

TOM: But if you fill your tank only halfway, there's another major fuel loss. That's the fuel you use driving around looking for a gas station twice as often. And that could easily wipe

out any small savings you get from making your car lighter.

RAY: Plus, where do you stop? If you're really determined to reduce the weight of your vehicle, shouldn't you always relieve yourself before driving, because otherwise you'll be carrying around THAT extra weight, too?

TOM: And shouldn't you shave your head to remove the weight of your hair? And your chest and legs, too?

RAY: And don't forget your back!

TOM: Then you'd also need to always drive nude. Especially in the winter, when those heavy woolen overcoats are murder on your mpg, Ian. Think about it.



SOCIAL SECURITY NEWS

Social Security web services target needs of small business owners

by KIMBERLY THOMPSON
SOCIAL SECURITY TECHNICAL
EXPERT IN PRESTONSBURG

Did you know that if you are an American business entrepreneur, there is a fast and secure online business services that are available through Social Security to lighten your paperwork burdens.

The Business Services Online (BSO) webpage at www.socialsecurity.gov/bsa lets you conduct business with Social Security online in a secure environment. All users, in fact, must register to use the website and a password is

required to actually conduct business.

What can users actually do at the BSO website? Here's a sample.

File W-2 Reports Electronically

Among the most useful services is a way in which businesses can report wages online instead of on paper. Users of this service simply log in and select the option for creating wage reports online.

The instructions explain how to print the W-2s to give to employees, plus copies of the W-3 and W-2s for the business owner's records. When

the actual online report is submitted, an electronic receipt is created, complete with the filing date and time.

Verify Social Security Numbers Online

Two Internet verification options allow employers to verify that workers' names and Social Security numbers match Social Security's records for wage reporting purposes only. Employers can:

- Verify up to 10 names and Social Security numbers (per screen) online and receive immediate results. This option is ideal for verifying new hires; or

Upload as many as 250,000 names and Social Security numbers in overnight files and usually receive the results on the next government business day. This option is ideal if you want to verify an entire payroll database or if you hire a large number of workers at a time.

It is important as an employer to make sure your employees' wages are being reported under the correct

Social Security numbers - and these services make the verification process simple.

This year join the thousands of business owners and entrepreneurs who already save themselves valuable time and effort by doing business with Social Security online. Visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov/bsa to get started.

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 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.

Allen

protected.

SOMEBODY TO TALK TO

Has Floyd County a resident who can speak Italian?

Mrs. Otha Hopkins, of Eastern, tells us that an old woman who speaks only that tongue, is in the Golden Years Rest Home at Lackey, and hasn't communicated verbally in years with any other person. A wide search of somebody who speaks the language has failed. The old lady, whose name is Rosa Veselka, needs to hear her native language again, to

hear the voice of another human being she can understand.

"EVEN AN ARTIFICIAL FLOWER..."

While we are on the subject, we have a letter from elderly Elder Granvel P. Combs, who is a patient at the Jenkins Clinic. The old fellow is a veteran of World War I, and he says he "volunteered for God's army in 1935." He expects to undergo an operation, is lonely, and wants to be remembered—by a visit...a

card...even an artificial flower.

THE STRANGE PLACES

An old preacher, the story goes, laid it on the line to his hearers. He was telling them what discipleship meant.

"If," said he, "you follow Him, He'll take you to some strange places—to places that don't smell good, to people that aren't good, through more briar patches than flower gardens, to a hill where the view is great, but where there's no easy chair—He'll even take you to your knees."

Lagoon

This turns out to be a poor development for one sap who manages to save the businessman by providing his own body as a buffet for the flying rats.

A little good comes out of the situation as it leads one member of the group to step forward and start explaining that he knows more about what's happening than he has let on. This revelation will please conspiracy buffs, but it does little for the cast as they are still stuck 1,850 feet below the desert alongside a colony of bats who aren't in the mood for a home invasion.

It all comes down to a heroic effort to escape by making a perilous climb up the elevator shaft. If you guessed that an Olympic athlete would come in handy at a time like this, then give yourself a "bat" on the pack as our gold medal winner goes toe to toe with about 1,000 flying sets of teeth as he desperately tries to crank open an elevator door while the bats add new meaning to the term "sucking face." It's a well mounted conclusion that only slightly marred by dated special effects which make it clear that no bats or actors were harmed in the making of this film.

This one has been impossible to find since it escaped into theaters one week in 1974. For awhile it was only available on a poorly dubbed bootleg from South America. At best, it's a

decent B-movie that should appeal to conspiracy fans as well as those of us who appreciate disaster movies.

There is also a topnotch cast on hand that is mainly composed of actors who usually got seventh billing in 1970s disaster movies. The top acting honors go to former child star (and Little Rascal) Jackie Cooper. Known primarily as Perry White in the Superman films, Cooper gives a well measured performance here as the Trump character. Only a guy with his chops could pull off a male lead that is at equal times racist, obnoxious, surly and drunk. Amazingly you feel for the guy and it's a tribute to Cooper that the character never softens.

Bradford Dillman ("The Swarm," where he was seventh billed) is also good here as a psychologist with a secret. He gets to have a breakdown halfway through the movie while defending his research and reels off two pages of dialogue while twitching, sweat-

ing and stuttering. It's all done in one take and proves that this guy was the real deal (his work in "Compulsion" should have made him an A-list star, but he must have really cheesed someone off at some point in his career).

There are also solid turns here by Barbara Babcock as a doctor who is prone to fainting and Diana Muldaur ("Star Trek: The Next Generation") as an ecologist. There is also an appearance by 1970s stalwart Alex Cord, who deeply grounds this one in the 1970s with his porn star mustache and sunglasses (which he even sports while staring up into an elevator shaft devoid of light).

All in all, it's a fun romp with the added bonus of killer bats and an ending straight out of the "Twilight Zone" (which you'd have to be blind as a bat to not spot coming).

Best line: "Foresight on the part of this nation's leaders has allowed us to make limited survival possible."

1974, rated PG.

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U.S. General Services Administration

Soup

for him to spend eating. When he has finished, it's on to the next adventure.

My tiny mentor is always ready to try something new. Who knew he would enjoy

food like avocados or cucumbers, or that the highlight of his day would be a bicycle ride? Getting out of a rut is good for all of us — adults and children alike. Sometimes you

don't have to look very far to find a new perspective on diet and exercise. Just spend a little time with the child in your life for inspiration and motivation.

Continued from p5

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FLOYD COUNTY Sports

Inside

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■ NFL ● B3

Golden Eagles soar over Betsy Layne

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PAINTSVILLE — Johnson Central's fortunes against Floyd County teams changed in a big way Thursday night. The Golden Eagles suffered a loss to Allen Central on the road earlier in the week in a Tuesday matchup. When Betsy Layne visited Golden Eagle Fieldhouse Thursday night, host Johnson Central wouldn't be denied. The Golden Eagles outscored Betsy Layne in every quarter en route to a convincing 80-48 win.

Joe Whitaker led a balanced Johnson Central scoring effort with 18 points. Ian Welch and Mike Conley followed with 13 points apiece for the Golden Eagles. James Blankenship netted eight points

and Robert Smith added six for Johnson Central.

The Golden Eagles were 10-for-16 from the free throw line, hitting 19 field goals and four three-pointers.

Johnson Central outscored Betsy Layne 17-12 in the opening quarter before putting the game out of the visiting team's reach in the second period. The Golden Eagles outscored Betsy Layne 41-19 in the second quarter on their way to a 41-19 halftime lead.

Johnson Central, under the direction of first-year head coach Tommy McKenzie, outscored Betsy Layne 21-16 in the third quarter.

The Bobcats were forced to play from behind early on in the non-district game.

Samuel Keathley led Betsy Layne with a team-best 12 points. Keathley was the only

Betsy Layne to reach double figures in the scoring column. Bryant Tibbs followed with eight points for the Bobcats, finishing one shot shy of double figures. Richie Tackett tossed in seven points for the Bobcats. Josh Head and Nathan Martin each had four points for Betsy Layne.

JOHNSON CENTRAL 80, BETSY LAYNE 48

JOHNSON CENTRAL (80) — Dale 5, Whitaker 18, Crum 6, Blankenship 8, Hall 2, Vance 4, Welch 13, Bratton 5, Smith 6, Conley 13.

BETSY LAYNE (48) — Martin 4, Case 3, Head 4, Tibbs 8, B. Tackett 2, R. Tackett 7, Keathley 12, Newman 3, Stumbo 2, Howell 3.

Johnson Central.....17 24 21 18-80
Betsy Layne.....12 7 16 13-48



photo by Jamie Howell

ANOTHER FLOYD COUNTY GRADE SCHOOL BOYS' basketball season is winding down.

Wintertime is trapping time

by HAYLEY LYNCH
KENTUCKY AFIELD

FRANKFORT — JoAnn Mattox can still remember the first time she trapped a fox.

"I thought I was in heaven," she says. "I was 10 or 12. I'd always wanted to catch a fox. I skinned it and sold it to a fur buyer."

The Frankfort native still traps when she isn't busy working as a maintenance superintendent for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. She helps farmers remove nuisance animals and urban residents keep wildlife outdoors.

"I feel like setting traps lets you catch them in their native habitat at night," she says. "I've found it to be more effective for managing furbearers than hunting."

Trapping was once a way of life in this region. Our ancestors trapped for food, fur and sport. In the 20th century, Kentucky trappers still numbered in the thousands until a sharp decline in fur prices took trapping license sales from a high of 7,100 in 1981 to a low of 614 in 1999. But trapping seems to be making a comeback. Kentucky Fish and Wildlife sold about 1,300 trapping licenses for the 2006-07 season — a 40 percent increase over the previous season.

"People are trapping more for enjoyment, for something to do when other hunting seasons are over," says Laura Patton, furbearer biologist for Kentucky Fish and Wildlife. "A lot of the resurgence is due to trapping organizations like the United Trappers of Kentucky and the Kentucky Furtakers, who promote trapper education throughout the state."

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife biologist Joe Lacefield trapped when fur prices were higher. It helped pay for his college education. "It's a shame the fur market has declined so much," Lacefield says. "Fur is a good insulator. Any time I see someone wearing fur in public, I go out of my way to compliment them. People are afraid to wear it these days."

Mattox thinks misinformation has led to the decline in fur's popularity. She points to wildlife diseases as examples of why it's important to keep populations in check through tools like trapping.

Successful trappers have a wealth of knowledge and experience. They must study animal behavior closely to know where

(See TRAPPING, page two)



photos by Jamie Howell

ALLEN CENTRAL will face Sheldon Clark and Powell County in road games before traveling to Betsy Layne for a 15th Region All "A" Classic matchup versus Paintsville. The Tigers and Shelby Valley lead the 15th Region rankings.

ACHS BOYS' BASKETBALL REMAINING SCHEDULE

Jan. 15 at Sheldon Clark, 7:30 p.m.
Jan. 18 at Powell County, 7:30 p.m.
Jan. 24 Paintsville, 6:30 p.m.
(15th Region All "A" Classic at Betsy Layne)
Jan. 29 at East Ridge, 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 1 Betsy Layne, 6 p.m.
Feb. 5 at Prestonsburg, 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 8 at South Floyd, 6 p.m.
Feb. 15 at Belfry, 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 16 Magoffin County, 6:30 p.m.
Feb. 19 Pikeville, 7:30 p.m.



ARCA starting field at Daytona grows to 43

TIMES STAFF REPORT

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — As the entry lists for the annual ARCA 200 at Daytona continue to grow, so will the starting grid for this year's race.

ARCA RE/MAX Series officials have announced that the starting field for this year's ARCA 200 at Daytona will increase from 41 traditional starters to 43.

"We're doing what we can to help our series regulars — the teams that support the series on a fulltime basis," said ARCA President Ron Drager. "As our entries continue to grow each and every year for the ARCA 200 at Daytona, it's getting more and more challenging to make

this race."

The first 32 positions for this year's race will consist of the 32 fastest speeds.

Prestonsburg driver Steve Blackburn will be looking to secure a spot in the ARCA 200 starting field.

The first 32 positions for this year's race will consist of the 32 fastest speeds from SIM Factory Pole Award Qualifying Friday afternoon. Positions 33 through 36 will be based on the previous year's car owner point standings. Positions 37 through 42 will be based on Golden A Plan teams from the previous season. Golden A Plan teams are defined as teams that compete with

the same car owner and driver out of the same hauler at every race. The 43rd and final position is reserved for a past champion's provisional.

Back in December, a record 79 drivers participated in the three-day open test at Daytona. The entry list for the 45th annual ARCA 200 at Daytona is expected to be one of the largest in series history.

Practice is scheduled from Noon-5:00 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 7. SIM Factory Pole Award Qualifying is set for noon Friday. The Saturday, Feb. 9 ARCA 200 at Daytona, a pre-amble to the same-night Budweiser Shootout, is live on SPEED at 4 p.m.

Bobcats overpower Piarist

TIMES STAFF REPORT

BETSY LAYNE — Host Betsy Layne turned back a depleted Piarist School boys' basketball team Monday night. The Bobcats returned to the win column in a non-district matchup versus familiar foe Piarist. Betsy Layne played well from start to finish, beating Piarist 77-33.

Piarist featured five players.

Eleven different Bobcats, including many freshmen, provided scoring for host Betsy Layne.

Jordan Tackett led Betsy Layne with a team-best 14 points. Bryce Adkins and Adam Howell followed with 10 points apiece.

In a Bobcat scoring line that featured five players with eight or more points, Derek Tackett added nine markers.

Casey Adkins scored eight points for Betsy Layne on four field goals.

The Bobcats jumped out in front in the opening quarter and never trailed. Betsy Layne carried a 23-6 lead out of the opening quarter. The

Bobcats, under the tutelage of first-year head coach Brian Hall, led 40-13 when intermission rolled around.

Hall returned to Floyd County to coach the Bobcats following successful stints as a head coach at both Breathitt County and Jackson City high schools.

Piarist struggled offensively, hitting just nine-of-24 free throw attempts. Betsy Layne held the Knights to just nine successful field goals. Piarist hit a pair of three-pointers in the disappointing loss.

Caleb Hoskins provided the majority of Piarist's offense, hitting for a game-high 26 points. Hoskins connected on seven field goals. The game's leading scorer went nine-for-18 from the free throw line.

Two of Piarist's four other players broke into the scoring column. Zach Parsons and Brandon Hall rounded out the Piarist scoring with four and three points, respectively.

Betsy Layne led 56-22 at the end of the third quarter.



photo courtesy of Dusty Layne Photography/East Kentucky Miners
EAST KENTUCKY MINERS CENTER REO LOGAN went up for a shot during a recent home game. The Miners will return to action at home on Monday versus the Pittsburgh Xplosion.

Kinzer runs well, but misses cut for Ice Bowl

TIMES STAFF REPORT

ALLEN — The Kinzer Motorsports team invaded the Talladega Short Track in Eastaboga, Ala. Jan. 4-6 for the annual Ice Bowl, which kicked off the Floyd County-based dirt Late Model raceteam's 2008 campaign. The popular early-season event drew a healthy field of cars to the track deemed as the Hornet's Nest. Kinzer Motorsports driver Brandon Kinzer timed in sixth quickest in his group during qualifying Saturday, Jan. 5 and improved one spot in his heat race, finishing fifth.

When the action resumed Sunday afternoon, Kinzer was able to pass one more car in the consolation race. However, unfortunately for the Kinzer driver and raceteam, it was not enough to earn the group a transfer position into the \$6,000-to-win A-Main. As is typical with daytime racing at any dirt venue, passing was at a premium throughout the weekend and hampered Kinzer's efforts to transfer into the latest Ice Bowl.

Kinzer Motorsports has plans to race in numerous national events.

Battle of the Bluegrass Banquet: The O'Reilly Battle of the Bluegrass Series banquet is set for January 26 at the Ramada Conference Center in Lexington. Late model and modified drivers from the series will be recognized during the event.

The reception for the event will begin at 5 p.m. Dinner will follow at 6 p.m. The awards banquet is set for 7 p.m. Tickets to attend the banquet honoring the nation's most competitive regional racing series' drivers are available for \$30. For more information, call 270-384-0828 or 270-250-3979.

EKU releases '08 FB schedule

TIMES STAFF REPORT

RICHMOND — Two early-season home contests against in-state rivals, including the Battle of the Bluegrass versus Western Kentucky, along with four home games against Ohio Valley Conference opponents highlight the 2008 Eastern Kentucky University football schedule. The defending OVC champs went undefeated against conference competition and advanced to the NCAA Division I FCS playoffs in 2007.

Prestonsburg High School graduate Wes Woods wrapped up a redshirt season with the Colonels. Woods is a former Kentucky All-Star.

The Colonels will open the fall slate on a Thursday night (Aug. 28) at Big East opponent Cincinnati. Eastern Kentucky and Cincinnati met in the 2006 season opener as well. The following week, Eastern opens its home schedule against Western Kentucky in the annual Battle of the Bluegrass. The Colonels earned a hard-fought 26-21 victory over the Hilltoppers two years ago at Roy Kidd Stadium.

On Sept. 13, Eastern Kentucky concludes non-conference action with a home contest against former OVC rival

(See EKV, page two)

Clark's double-double leads Cards past Mountaineers

by WILL GRAVES
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISVILLE — Rick Pitino has been preaching for weeks that his talented but temperamental team needs to stop moping on defense when things don't go so well at the other end of the floor.

Finally, it seems, his players are listening.

Louisville hounded West Virginia in a 63-54 win on Thursday night, swarming the Mountaineers with a zone defense that harassed one of the Big East's most dynamic offenses into 36 percent shooting and season lows in points and 3-pointers made.

"It's all about the defense," Louisville forward Earl Clark said. "If we could play like this every game, we'd be a great team. We played hard D, and we played

together. We can't worry about offense."

If the Cardinals (11-4, 1-1 Big East) can play defense like they did against the Mountaineers, they might not have to.

Clark posted his seventh double-double of the season in his first game since serving a one-game suspension for violating team rules, scoring 11 points and grabbing 12 rebounds as Louisville used its decided size advantage to shut down the Mountaineers.

Jerry Smith led the Cardinals with 14 points and Edgar Sosa added 10, but it was Louisville's defense that gave Pitino hope that his team is finally starting to deliver on its preseason promise.

"We played a smart game, except a little at the end,"

Pitino said. "We changed defenses when they went inside. They're a very difficult team to defend."

For one night at least, the Cardinals had the answers.

Joe Alexander led West Virginia with 22 points, but the rest of the team shot just 31 percent from the floor. Leading scorer Alex Ruoff had 13 points but shot just 4-of-14 from the field, including 3-of-10 from 3-point range. The Mountaineers made a season-low four 3-pointers on the night.

"We knew coming in a factor was stopping the 3, and we did a very good job of that," Louisville center David Padgett said. "When we guard the 3, it seems we are successful."

West Virginia had hoped to gain some momentum after upsetting Marquette on

Sunday. But that game was at home. On the road the Mountaineers have struggled to find the rhythm that have them off to a surprising start in coach Bob Huggins' first year at his alma mater.

"I think the pressure got to us," Huggins said. "We didn't run our offense very well. Guys, let's be honest, if we continue to score 54 points, we won't win another game."

Louisville's bench outscored West Virginia's reserves 30-4 and the Cardinals had a 13-6 edge in second-chance points. It was the kind of performance the Cardinals knew they needed after opening Big East play with a stunning home loss to Cincinnati on New Year's Day.

"It seems as though defense is going to be a sta-

ple of this team if we're going to win," Padgett said. "We aren't going to shoot well every night. We knew coming into the game we absolutely had to have this game tonight."

The Cardinals won it by harassing West Virginia's shooters, contesting nearly every 3-pointer the Mountaineers put up. Even Padgett got in on the act, stepping out to block a 3-point attempt by Alexander in the second half, then taking a charge on the next possession.

"When you have defensive intensity, everybody feeds off that," Smith said. "You make better plays on offense. It gets you going."

Clark spent the first six minutes on the bench, but once he came in, the Cardinals had little trouble

taking control. Louisville took the lead for good on a 3-pointer by Sosa midway through the first half and slowly built from there, getting stops whenever the Mountaineers threatened to get back in the game.

West Virginia got no closer than six in the second half, as Louisville blew it open with a 10-0 run capped by a layup from Derrick Caracter that gave the Cardinals a 63-42 lead with 4:10 remaining. Only some sloppy ballhandling by Louisville in the final minutes allowed the Mountaineers to make it respectable.

"They made some adjustments," Huggins said. "They didn't do what they normally do. I thought we made some pretty good adjustments too. We just didn't make the shots."

RIVALRY GAME: Lamb leads Eagles past Colonels, 62-53

TIMES STAFF REPORT

MOREHEAD — John Lamb scored a career-high 18 points to lead a second-high Morehead State University rally, and the Eagles defeated Ohio Valley Conference rival Eastern Kentucky, 62-53, in Johnson Arena on Thursday evening. The freshman from Indianola, Iowa, scored all of his points in the second half

by hitting five-of-five from the field, including four three-pointers, and all four of his free throw attempts.

MSU, now 5-9 overall and 3-4 in the OVC, also got 15 points from Maze Stallworth and 11 points and a game-high seven rebounds from Kenneth Faried. Senior point guard Nikola Stojakovic had out a game-high 11 assists and committed only

one turnover in 37 minutes.

EKU is 6-9 overall and 3-4 in the league. The Colonels, who have lost four games in a row, were led by Darnell Dials who scored 16 points and by Adam Leonard and Mike Rose who scored 15 points each.

"We got more aggressive and made our shots in the second half," said MSU Head Coach Donnie Tyndall. "But,

it was our defense that gave us the chance to win.

"John Lamb had a great game. After playing only a minute in the first half, he got his chance in the second half and came out aggressive offensively, plus he worked hard guarding people. Our other freshmen, Kenneth Faried and Demonte Harper, also played very well."

The Eagles hit only 24

percent (six-of-25) from the field in the first half and trailed 21-18 at intermission. In the second half, sparked by Lamb's perfect shooting, MSU hit 63.6 percent (14-of-22) and made eight of its 10 three-point attempts.

MSU won the rebound battle, 28-to-25, and committed only 12 turnovers compared to 16 for Eastern Kentucky.

The Colonels led by as many as nine points in the first half, and by as many as eight points in the second half. Morehead State's biggest lead was the nine-point final margin.

ONLINE:
www.msueagles.com

EKU

Morehead State. EKU and Morehead last met on the gridiron in 1995.

Following the OVC opener at Tennessee State on Sept. 20, Eastern returns home for Family Weekend when the Colonels entertain Austin Peay on Sept. 27. The Colonels have won 21 straight meetings against the Governors including a 28-14 decision last November.

Homecoming is scheduled for Oct. 25 against Eastern Illinois. The Colonels handed the Panthers their only OVC loss last year by a count of 28-21. Eastern Kentucky wraps up its home schedule on Nov. 15 against Murray State. EKU has won six of the last seven meetings versus the Racers including a 46-35 thriller one season ago in Murray.

Continued from p1

This will be the first time in six years Eastern Kentucky will play six home games.

Eastern Kentucky finished the 2007 season 9-3 overall and 8-0 in the OVC to earn the program's 19th conference title. The Colonels advanced to the NCAA Division I FCS playoffs for a record 18th time and posted a winning record for the 30th consecutive year.

Trapping

to set traps effectively. Trappers must learn to make scent work for them - whether using scent to attract canine species, or controlling their own scent in a way similar to deer hunters. A hunter needs to get an animal to come in close, but a trapper must get an animal to place its foot exactly in the right spot.

"Trapping prepares any wanna-be hunter with more knowledge about animal behavior than anything else you can do," says Lacefield.

For people wanting to get started, Mattox recommends finding an experienced trapper to help. "It's good to have somebody take you out, help you make your sets, give you pointers and then look over your shoulder," she says. "You aren't going to learn any other way except experience - trial and error."

There are several resources

available for people who want to learn more about trapping. A trapping website is under development at Kentucky Fish and Wildlife's website, fw.ky.gov. Just click on the "Trapping" tab for more information and to be put on a mailing list for beginner trapper workshops the department plans to offer in the future. Information is already available on Kentucky trapping organizations, finding a fur buyer or a nuisance animal trapper, buying trapping supplies and more.

Kentucky's hunter education courses now include a trapping segment, with information on trap identification, safety, furbearers and the use of trapping as a wildlife management tool. For farmers who are having problems with livestock loss from nuisance coyotes, Kentucky Fish and Wildlife

offers a free DVD called "A Farmer's Guide to Trapping Coyotes." It's available by calling 1-800-858-1549.

In Kentucky, licensed trappers can take raccoon, opossum, mink, muskrat, beaver, bobcat, otter, red and gray fox, weasel, striped skunk and coyote. Trapping seasons are open right now for all of these species. Winter is the best time to trap because fur is in prime condition.

Bobcat trapping season ends Jan. 31, while all other furbearer species may be trapped through noon on Feb. 29. For full details on licensing and equipment restrictions, pick up a copy of the 2007-08 Kentucky Hunting and Trapping Guide, available wherever trapping licenses are sold.

MSU women roll past EKU

TIMES STAFF REPORT

MOREHEAD — The Morehead State University women's basketball team tied a school single game record with 14 three-pointers and held visiting Eastern Kentucky 25 points below its season scoring average as MSU took command early and never let up in a 77-50 win over the Colonels Thursday at Johnson Arena. The win, MSU's second straight in the Ohio Valley Conference, moved its record to 5-10 and 3-4 in the OVC while EKU fell to 8-5 and 3-3 in the conference standings.

Morehead State, which ranked 11th in the OVC in field goal percentage, seemingly couldn't miss tonight. The Eagles hit 51 percent for the game - a season high - and drilled 60 percent of their attempts in the second half. The Eagles built a 42-19 half-time lead on the strength of seven treys. The Eagles hit seven more three-balls in the second half and possessed as much as a 37-point lead (72-35) with seven minutes left in the game.

But, the story of the game may have been MSU's stingy defense. The Colonels were limited to just 29 percent (19-of-64) from the field and were

4-of-22 from three-point range where the Eagles outscored EKU 42-12. MSU, which also had only out-rebounded three other opponents this season, held a decisive 45-31 edge on the glass. The two teams came into the game ranked one-two in the league in rebounds per game. EKU has been averaging more than 40 boards per game, but the Eagles limited their chances as they collected 33 defensive rebounds.

Freshman Chynna Bozeman, senior Tarah Combs and sophomore Brandi Rayburn provided the biggest spark to the Eagles' offense. Bozeman, the reigning OVC Freshman of the Week, was 4-of-6 from long range and led the team with 18 points and also had a career high nine rebounds and three steals. Combs also hit four treys - giving her 180 for her career - and provided 14 points. Rayburn, who got her second straight starting assignment, scored 11 points and shot 5-of-8 from the field. She also collected five rebounds.

The Eagles also got a career high nine-point effort from freshman Candyce Flynn. She was 2-of-2 from long distance. Senior Anitha Smith-Williams drilled three from outside the arc and

scored nine points to go along with a season high seven rebounds. She was one of three (Combs and Rayburn as well) who led the team with five assists. The Eagles dished out 21 assists.

Defensively, MSU's duo of Alton Perry and Brittany Pittman, who rank as the top two shot blockers in the league, combined for 10 rejections. Pittman, who ranks third nationally in the Division I in blocks, swatted a career high seven and now has 60 for the season. She already ranks sixth in career blocks at MSU, and the 60 total is the third best season in school history.

Two players did reach double figures for the Colonels as Crystal Jones' 13 led the way. Niki Avery hit a trio of three-pointers and contributed 11 points. EKU, which tops the league in steals, had 11 tonight.

In the early stages of the game, EKU opened up a 6-2 lead at the 17:20 mark. But, the Eagles put together an 18-0 run over the next six minutes. By the 11:35 mark on the clock, the Eagles were leading 20-6. The closest EKU could cut the lead to the rest of the night was 19 (48-29) with 16:32 left in the contest.



photo by Jamie Howell

ALLEN CENTRAL ranks as one of the top boys' high school basketball teams in the 15th Region.

Cats hold off Florida in SEC opener

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — Senior guard Samantha Mahoney (Detroit) scored 22 points and freshman point guard Amber Smith (Winter Haven, Fla.) added a career-high 13 as the University of Kentucky women's basketball team squeaked out an exciting 60-58 thriller over the visiting Florida Gators in the Southeastern Conference opener Thursday night in Memorial Coliseum.

"It is good to know we can win a game - that is important to this group," UK Coach Matthew Mitchell said. "They needed to get that proverbial monkey off their back - we needed to get that done. I thought our defense there at the end was pretty dog-gone good and we are still struggling some offensively. I thought if we had shot our free throws differently it would have maybe been a different game but we are not going to complain about anything tonight."

It was a back-and-forth battle from the start as the 40th meeting between the conference foes produced nine ties and three lead changes, including six ties in the second half.

The Wildcats (7-8, 1-0 SEC), who trailed just once in the second half, regained a three-point lead (59-56) with 1:15 remaining in the game.

Mahoney missed a layup with one minute left before Florida's Marsha Dotson pulled down one of her game-high 12 rebounds. She added two of her game-high 26 points to pull the Gators (11-5, 0-1 SEC) within one, 59-58, with :49 seconds to go. Another missed jumper by Mahoney with :17 seconds on the clock was rebounded by Florida's Sharielle Smith but the Gators committed a

turnover on their next possession with just :06 ticks left. The game still wasn't over, however, as UK committed a turnover on its press break, giving Florida the ball back with :03.7 seconds left in the game.

The Cats remained calm and senior Chelsea Chowning (Berca) stepped up to take a charge on a Dotson layup attempt, sending her to the free throw line for two shots. Chowning hit the first free throw to put Kentucky up 60-58. With 1.5 seconds remaining, she intentionally missed the second shot and it was rebounded by Smith of UF who was awarded a timeout with :0.7 seconds to go. The Gators' final shot attempt was tipped by Chowning at mid-court and UK held on for the win.

"We just thought that if she missed it and they tipped it with a second left then we didn't think there was any chance of their being any time left," Mitchell said. "We missed it, Florida caught it and held it for about a second. They called timeout and somehow were awarded the ball. What we were trying to do was catch them off guard. If we miss it then they can't set it up and can't throw long. It did not work tonight, so we will have to rethink that."

Chowning finished with seven points after hitting two clutch three-pointers in the second half. She also grabbed three rebounds, two blocks and two steals in just 19 minutes of play. Freshman Catina Bett (Gadsden, Ala.) came off the bench to contribute six points while sophomore Lydia Watkins (Hopkinsville, Ky.) and freshman Victoria Dunlap (Nashville, Tenn.) added five points each.

"Chowning has become the

heart-beat of this team," Mitchell said. "She got everyone fired up on the locker room after the game and she is just a great player for us."

The Wildcats, who led 30-25 at the half, led by as many as eight points twice in the first half and were paced by Mahoney and Smith with 11 points apiece. UK limited Florida to its lowest output in the first half with just 25 points. It also marked just the third time this season the Gators trailed at the half.

"That was the Sam Mahoney that we needed," Mitchell said. "At the end of the game when we were looking for a play, she came up and said that she wanted the ball run through her and that was a great sign for me. I love to see that she wanted to ball at the end. She produced for us tonight, she was very aggressive and got us going and she finished it off for us. I was very happy with Sam's play tonight. We could not have won the game without her effort tonight."

With the 22 points tonight, Mahoney moved ahead of Kristi Cushenbery (1988-92) for No. 10 on UK's career scoring list with 1,376 points.

UK shot 39.0 percent from the field (23-of-59) compared to Florida's 35.7 percent (20-56). The Wildcats scored 32 points off 24 Gator turnovers and charted a season-high tying seven blocks.

UK, which snapped UF's seven-game winning streak, is now 12-15 in conference openers. Florida now owns a 21-19 lead in the all-time series but UK leads 10-9 when the game is played in Lexington.

The Wildcats will travel to Starkville, Miss., Sunday to take on Mississippi State at 3 p.m.

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NFL: Jacksonville tries to stop Pats as New England resumes play

by DAVE GOLDBERG
ASSOCIATED PRESS

After a week out of the spotlight, the New England Patriots are back in its glow. They're three games away from 19-0 and an NFL title, but one loss away from losing a lot of the luster a 16-0 regular season brought them.

That hasn't changed Bill Belichick.

"We've treated it one week at a time all year, so this week it's Jacksonville," the Patriots coach intones. "Each week has its own unique challenges and that's definitely true this week. I don't think any of those other games really have a whole lot of bearing on this one."

Same old song.

New England rested last week, as did the other top seeds in the NFL's postseason festival: No. 2 Indy and the two top NFC teams, Dallas and Green Bay. They all face first-round winners in the latest test of whether it's better to have momentum or rest.

But the Patriots probably rested less than most.

Even in a bye week, Belichick always gives his players something to work on. That's in contrast to Dallas' Wade Phillips, who told his players to take three days off. So Tony Romo went to Mexico with his celebrity inamorata while the Patriots studied playbooks.

The Patriots have reason to believe that Saturday night's

game will be difficult.

The Jaguars (12-5) won in Pittsburgh for the second time this season, losing a 28-10 fourth-quarter lead, then rallying to win 31-29 on Josh Scobee's late 25-yard field goal. It was set up by a 32-yard fourth-down run by QB David Garrard, who was the team's leading rusher in the game.

Normally, Jacksonville depends on Maurice Jones-Drew and Fred Taylor, who was selected to his first Pro Bowl this week as an injury replacement — an honor long overdue. They combined for just 77 yards rushing in Pittsburgh, but Jones-Drew had a 96-yard kickoff return to set up a TD and a 43-yard score on a short pass from Garrard.

Jacksonville probably will have to open up its offense against a team that set a regular-season record with 589 points (almost 37 a game). That, of course, was due to league MVP Tom Brady, who set a record with 50 touchdown passes; Randy Moss, who had a record 23 TD catches; and Wes Welker, who tied for the NFL lead with 112 receptions.

"I think they've got really an all-star cast," Jaguars coach Jack Del Rio says. "I think you've got some certain Hall of Fame players. You've got a whole slew of all-stars and Pro Bowl-type guys, and the coaching staff is very strong. We've got a lot of respect for what they've been able to accomplish."

So does everyone else.

San Diego (12-5) at Indianapolis (13-3) (1 p.m. EST Sunday): There has been so much focus on the Patriots that the reigning champion Colts have been low-profile this season, something they don't mind at all. They've also had time to heal injured players, although Marvin Harrison, who's missed much of the season with a knee problem, is still uncertain.

Still, this team may be stronger defensively than any Tony Dungy has had with the Colts. And the offense has been without Harrison for so long that Peyton Manning has gotten used to working with new receivers, notably rookie Anthony Gonzalez.

San Diego also has a problem with one of its stars: TE Antonio Gates, who sprained his big toe last week and is day to day.

The Chargers started 1-3 under Norv Turner, but go to Indy with a seven-game winning streak, including last week's 17-6 first-round victory over Tennessee — one more playoff win than the departed Marty Schottenheimer had with last season's 14-2 team.

Manning threw six interceptions, San Diego got TDs on punt and kickoff returns by Darren Sproles, and yet the Colts should have won. Adam Vinatieri, the best clutch kicker in NFL history, missed a 29-

yard field goal with 1:31 left.

The better model may be the game two seasons ago, when San Diego won 26-17 in Indy, handing the Colts their first loss after a 13-0 start. They did it by pressuring Manning, a pattern Pittsburgh followed when it beat the Colts in the playoffs that season.

The normally placid Turner showed some emotion last week, dancing on the sideline after the Chargers' first playoff win since they beat Pittsburgh and went to the Super Bowl after the 1994 season.

"That first one's the hardest one," Turner said. "Just like when you start a game sometimes, that first score is the hardest one to get and then you get going. Hopefully, this jumpstarts all of us."

New York Giants (11-6) at Dallas (13-3) (4:30 p.m. Sunday)

These teams have played 91 times, although this is the first time they've met in the playoffs.

The Cowboys won both regular-season meetings: 45-35 on opening night and 31-20 at the Meadowlands on Nov. 11. That loss in Dallas is the last time the Giants were beaten on the road. They have won eight straight, including a 24-14 win in Tampa last week, their first playoff victory since they beat Minnesota to go to the Super Bowl following the 2000 season.

They also have more momentum than the Cowboys,

who lost two of their last three and got those days off earlier this month. Dallas hasn't won a postseason game since 1996.

Romo, whose relationship with Jessica Simpson seems to interest folks more than his on-field activities, finished poorly: one touchdown and five interceptions in his last two regular-season games. The maligned Eli Manning was much better for the Giants with six TDs and one interception combined in the Tampa Bay win and the near-miss 38-35 loss to New England in the regular-season closer.

Dallas' most pressing problem is the health of Terrell Owens, who has a high ankle sprain. He has practiced this week, but Phillips says his status is a game-time decision. Terry Glenn, out almost all season with knee problems, could help fill the hole, but he could be rusty.

One reason the Giants have improved offensively is the play of several rookies: fifth-round TE Kevin Boss, replacing the injured Jeremy Shockey; seventh-round RB Ahmad Bradshaw; and WR Steve Smith, a second-rounder who missed much of the season with injuries.

Seattle (11-6) at Green Bay (13-3) (4:30 p.m. Saturday): Mike Holmgren, who won a Super Bowl coaching the Packers, points to last season's overtime loss to eventual NFC champion Chicago to demonstrate why his Seahawks are

equipped to play in cold weather.

"No one gave us the slightest chance to even come close and we played a very fine football game; lost the football game, but played a good game and had a chance," he says. "We know the challenges, but it kind of gets you going. It kind of gets the juices flowing a little bit to say, 'OK, here's what we're up against now. Let's see what we can do.' That's a healthy thing. That's a good thing."

The key for Seattle will be to get a rush on Brett Favre. Patrick Kerney was second in the NFL with 14 1/2 sacks and the Seahawks were fourth overall with 45. But traction at Lambeau Field could be a problem; a wet or slippery field often causes defenses as many problems as it causes offenses.

There are connections between these teams. Not only did Holmgren win that title and an NFC championship in Green Bay, but he is credited with making Favre a star, and "Holmgren Way," named after him, is adjacent to Lambeau Field.

Seattle QB Matt Hasselbeck was once Favre's backup. And in a 2004 playoff game in Green Bay, he was caught by a microphone after the overtime coin flip saying: "We want the ball and we're going to score!"

Instead, he threw an interception that was returned for the Packers' winning TD.

Brady among 5 Patriots voted to AP NFL All-Pro Team

by BARRY WILNER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — The 2007 season was outstanding for a bunch of fresh faces.

Sixteen players, including league MVP Tom Brady, made The Associated Press NFL All-Pro Team for the first time.

Yes, the record-setting New England quarterback who has won three Super Bowls in his eight pro seasons never was chosen an All-Pro, beaten out by the likes of fellow MVPs Peyton Manning, Kurt Warner and Rich Gannon.

Among the other newcomers were Chargers cornerback Antonio Cromartie, who led the league with 10 interceptions; Cowboys linebacker DeMarcus Ware; and Titans placekicker Rob Bironas.

"This year, I think I proved a lot of people wrong, with everybody saying how my knee injury was going to affect me," said Cromartie, whose first healthy NFL season was 2007. "I mean, I'm two years off of it."

My biggest thing was proving everybody wrong."

Bironas also has proven himself in the NFL after spending four years playing indoor football. He made a record eight field goals in a win at Houston, and was 35-for-39, plus a perfect 28-of-28 on PATs.

"It's been an incredible journey," said Bironas. "I didn't have any doubt in myself when I got started on this journey in high school. That was my dream to play in the pros, and I just kept pursuing it. I wanted to be one of the better kickers in the NFL, and this year I was able to do that."

Ware was one of the top linebackers, a pass-rushing threat who also was solid against the run. Offensive coordinators needed to account for Ware on every down.

"Coming from a smaller college, playing defensive end, and then converting to linebacker, seeing how over the years I've gotten better and better coverage-wise and stopping the run and, secondly, rushing the pass-

er," Ware said of his improvement since being a 2005 first-round draft pick out of Troy. "Now, I feel like I'm a well-rounded linebacker. Now I'm getting put in the realm with those other guys that have been here seven, eight years and have been great players. So you really see how your hard work pays off. It's a great thing."

The greatest thing in the NFL during the regular season: the Patriots. Along with Brady, who drew 49 1/2 of the ballots from 50 media members who regularly cover the NFL — one voter split at quarterback between Brady and Green Bay's Brett Favre — New England had wide receiver Randy Moss (a unanimous choice), tackle Matt Light, linebacker Mike Vrabel and cornerback Asante Samuel on the All-Pro team.

All but Moss made the All-Pro team for the first time; Moss was chosen as a Minnesota Viking in 1998, 2000 and 2003.

Along with Moss, the other unanimous pick was Chargers running back LaDainian

Tomlinson, the league's rushing leader, who made it for the third time.

Joining Tomlinson and Cromartie from the Chargers was fullback Lorenzo Neal, who clears many of L.T.'s paths.

Also with three players on the team, were Dallas and Seattle. The Cowboys had Ware, tight end Jason Witten and wide receiver Terrell Owens; Ware and Witten were first-timers, Owens also was selected in 2000, '01 and '02 with San Francisco, and 2004 with Philadelphia.

"Any time you can be the best in the entire league, that's always a special moment," said Witten, who had 96 receptions and seven touchdowns this season. "There's a lot of great tight ends out there, so to be on the top of that list is nice."

The Seahawks had tackle Walter Jones, defensive end Patrick Kerney and linebacker Lofa Tatupu. Jones previously made All-Pro in 2001, '04 and '05; the others Seahawks were first-timers.

Seahawks coach Mike Holmgren called Tatupu's three-interception day in a win at Philadelphia on Dec. 2 "one of the great games I've ever seen a linebacker have."

"Everybody has been instrumental in everything that I've been able to do," Tatupu said. "The D-line has been enabling me to get sacks, DBs staying on their guys so we can get back there and get sacks, or getting interceptions."

Joining Brady, Tomlinson and Neal in the backfield was Philadelphia's Brian Westbrook, who led the league in yards from scrimmage with 2,104.

"Being named first-team All-Pro is an unbelievable way to cap a season that I am very proud of from a personal standpoint, although I wish things would have turned out differently for our team," said Westbrook, whose Eagles were 8-8. "I have always said that I would trade personal accomplishments for the success of my team, but it's great to be

recognized for the things I have worked so hard to achieve."

The rest of the offense had Minnesota guard Steve Hutchinson, Pittsburgh guard Alan Faneca, and Indianapolis center Jeff Saturday.

The other All-Pro on defense were Kansas City end Jared Allen, the league sacks leader with 15 1/2; Minnesota tackle Kevin Williams and Tennessee tackle Albert Haynesworth; San Francisco inside linebacker Patrick Willis, the only rookie on the squad; Indianapolis safety Bob Sanders, the Defensive Player of the Year; and Baltimore safety Ed Reed, making it for the third time.

San Francisco punter Andy Lee, also a newcomer to the squad, and record-setting kick returner Devin Hester of Chicago, who made it as a rookie in 2006, as well, were the other special-teamers.

In all, 15 AFC players and 12 from the NFC were chosen as All-Pro.

Hope expected to get nod as Purdue head football coach

by CLIFF BRUNT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS — Purdue was to announce the successor to football coach Joe Tiller as soon as Friday, a person familiar with the coaching search said.

The person, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because negotiations are ongoing, said Thursday that the 65-year-old Tiller will coach the Boilermakers in 2008, and the successor would take over after that.

The date and time of the announcement are uncertain, the person said, because the details are still being worked out.

Several media outlets have reported Eastern Kentucky coach Danny Hope will be

hired as assistant head coach, then become head coach in 2009.

The person familiar with the search declined to comment on the reports.

The 49-year-old Hope was an offensive line coach on Tiller's staffs at Wyoming, then Purdue, before leaving the Boilermakers after the 2001 season.

After one season as assistant head coach at Louisville, Hope is 35-22 in five winning seasons at Eastern Kentucky.

In 2007, he led the Colonels to a 9-3 record and the Ohio Valley Conference title and was a Football Championship Subdivision Regional Coach of the Year.

Attempts by The Associated Press to reach Hope by telephone were

unsuccessful, and e-mails to his Eastern Kentucky account are being routed to an office associate.

"Any information about the coaching position at Purdue needs to come from Purdue," Eastern Kentucky athletic director Mark Sandy said.

Tiller came to Purdue from Wyoming in 1997 and brought a spread passing attack that helped revive a program that had gone through three coaches and just two winning seasons in the previous 16 years.

"We've changed the culture surrounding the football program," Tiller said before the 2007 season. "I think that we certainly have changed the expectation level, and I don't know if that's good or bad."

It was both.

Tiller's teams went 83-54 from 1997 through 2007, one win short of the record 84 won by Jack Mollenkopf in 1956-69. Under Tiller, the Boilermakers made 10 bowl appearances in 11 years, including the high point in 2000 when Drew Brees led the team to the Rose Bowl for the first time since 1967 and was third in the Heisman Trophy voting.

Purdue's success, however, created such high expectations that the Boilermakers' failure to reach the perennial elite status of traditional Big Ten powers Michigan and Ohio State fueled frustration by many fans.

Purdue started last season 5-0, but consecutive losses to the Buckeyes and Wolverines

doomed the Boilermakers once again to second-tier status in the conference. They finished the regular season with three straight losses — including their first to rival Indiana since 2001 — before outlasting Central Michigan 51-48 in the Motor City Bowl to finish at 8-5.

Even then, with three more years on Tiller's contract with Purdue, the grumbling never subsided.

Neither did Tiller's enthusiasm for the college game.

"I enjoy the college environment, so much so that I don't see myself ever doing anything other than this," the coach said at the start of last season. "Right now, I couldn't tell you when I would no longer be doing it."

Defensive end Anthony

Spencer, a captain in 2006 and a rookie this year with the Dallas Cowboys, said Tiller is trying to relate better to today's players.

"He's definitely a good coach, but he's probably more stuck in the old ways," Spencer said. "He has been working to become more of a players' coach. I could see that last year, and yeah, it helped a lot."

Tiller's only losing season with Purdue was in 2005, when the Boilermakers went 5-6 with what he said was one of his most athletic teams. The downfall, he said, was they didn't approach the game properly.

"That was, in my opinion, personnel driven, and we've made those corrections," Tiller said.



photo by Jamie Howell
visiting Johnson

ALLEN CENTRAL went on a late-game run Tuesday night on its way to a 70-60 win over Central.

MSC preseason baseball poll released

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LOUISVILLE — Campbellsville University tops the MSC preseason baseball poll, as voted by the conference coaches.

The Campbellsville University baseball team is the preseason favorite to win the Mid-South Conference Championship in 2008, according to the coaches poll released earlier in the week. In 2007, Campbellsville won the Mid-South Tournament and advancing to the championship of the Region XI Tournament.

Pikeville College was picked to

finish fifth in the six-team conference.

The results of the preseason poll are as follows, listed by school, last year's final overall record and poll points, with teams getting five points for a first-place vote, down to one point for fifth. Coaches were not allowed to vote for their own team.

1. Campbellsville University, 43-18, 25 (5 first place votes); 2. Univ. of the Cumberlands, 35-19, 19 (1 first place vote); 3. Lindsey Wilson College, 30-28, 17; 4. Georgetown College, 28-23, 15; 5. Pikeville College, 19-28, 7; 6. WVU Tech, 21-25, 7.

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3 br house for sale. Located above Wayland with central heat and air. 2 car garage plus extra storage with 1 1/2 bath. \$59,900 Call 358-4541 or 424-0379.

Large frame building with 3 apts plus 6 rooms and bath. That could be used for bed & bath. Formerly Fraley Motor Sales. Could be used as commercial. \$34,900. Call 358-4541 or 424-0379.

Brick & Stone House for Sale. Four bedrooms, two and a half baths. 2900 square feet. Desirable location in Trimble Branch. Reasonably priced. Call 886-2020

HOUSE FOR SALE Newly constructed house for sale located at Abbott Creek. Vaulted living room ceiling, 3 BR, bonus room, fireplace, with cherry hardwood floors and cabinets with spacious attached garage. Located 4 miles from us 23. 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

Animals

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

Sale or Lease

Apartment building for sale by owner. Located near HRMC. Call 889-9171 for more information

Approximately 10 acres of land for sale on Paw Paw Creek. Buchanan County Hurley, Va. Call 1-606-886-2144 or 1-304-736-3684. Or email at eastkybell@webtv.net

4 Unit apartment building plus storage for sale. Good location. Call 886-8366.

Prestonsburg business for lease. Great location on the main road, close to downtown and the courthouse. lease as is or change, many possibilities, ie restaurant, sports bar, office complex-ample parking. May consider selling. Call 791-3663.

Beauty shop for rent. Equipped with 3 stations and tanning bed. Would consider renting for commercial use other than beauty shop. Rt. 122 1 mile South of Martin across from Garth Technical School. Must have references. 285-9112.

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

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

FARM FOR SALE Floyd county 75 acres more or less, rt. 1100 off US 23 East Point Upper Little Paint. Lum Derossett Branch. Call 606-325-4430 or 606-325-2809. Level- Sloping and timber. HUNTERS PARADISE!! Could be made into a subdivision.

RENTALS

2br 1 bath house for rent at Martin. Lg yard \$350..mth. \$350 deposit. Call 789-3724 or 791 9331.

APARTMENT

Town house apt for rent. 2 br 1 bath. Stove and refrigerator. City limits at 23 & 80. \$525 mth plus utilities with \$300 deposit. 1yr lease. NO PETS. Call 237-4758

2 br Apartment for rent including stove, refrigerator, washer and dryer. Located at 286 US Hwy 23 North Prestonsburg. Call 874-0032. \$500 mth plus \$250 security deposit.

Apartment for rent. 2 & 3 bedrooms. Behind woods grocery. Stop in or call 874-2380.

1 Br efficiency apt for rent. Located on Rt 1428 between allen & Prestonsburg. Private lot. Partially furnished. \$475 rent, \$250 deposit. NO HUD. (606) 262-4296.

Apartment for rent on US 23 at Ivel. 2bd, 1 bath \$350 mth \$350 security deposit. 1 yr lease. NO PETS. Call 478-8100.

Large Unicourt Apt for rent located at Stanville on US 23. 2br, 2 bath walk in closet. 1yr Lease. No pets. Please call 606-478-8100.

1, 2, and 3 bedroom apartments for rent. Call 886-8366.

Apartment for rent. \$100 deposit, \$125 a week. All utilities included. Call 886-7918.

1 Br efficiency apartment for rent located on 1428. No pets, NO HUD \$475 month utilities included. \$225 security deposit. Call 606-262-4296.

3br apt for rent. 2 baths, parking for trucks. Will rent to contractors. Mt 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

For rent furnished studio apt. Suitable for one person. Near college. Utilities included. Deposit required. No pets. Call 886-3565 or 874-9976.

1Br furnished apartment located 3 miles from Prestonsburg. Call 358-9483 after 6:00 pm or 794-9484.

Apt. For rent: 1 and 2 BR apartments on Rt. 321 near Porter school. Central heat and air, 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 in Prestonsburg. Call 886-8991.

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

Houses

House For Rent - 4 BR, at Allen, Ky. Central H / Ac \$800.00 per month + security deposit. Call 794-0249

2 br central H / AC Martin, Ky \$500 month plus deposit. Call 794-0249

3 br 2 bath house located at Betsylayne. 2 car garage w / extra storage Also fireplace, all appliances. \$1,000 mth. Call 606-434-2852.

House for rent. \$550. Per month. Also apt for rent \$450mth. Both located at Betsy Layne area. No pets. Deposit required. Call 606-478-5403

4 Bedroom 2 bath house central heat and air. At Allen Ky. \$800 mth plus deposit. Call 794-0249.

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

7 room house for rent in Martin. Recently renovated. 2 Br 1 bath. Stove, refrigerator, washer and dryer. \$500 mth plus utilities. \$300 deposit. References required. NO HUD. NO PETS. Call 285-3140.

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.

For rent 2 br Mobile Home on Mays Branch behind pizza hut. \$300 month plus security deposit. Call 886-1637.

Mobile Home for rent. 3 miles from Prestonsburg on David road. Call 8863902.

3 BR 2 bath MH for rent with large deck.. Located at 315 Adams Cemetery Road. Call 791-8617 or 791-4471. \$450 per month.

Mobile home for rent. 14x60 2 br all appliances total electric, private lot & garage on Arkansas Creek, Martin. \$425 month plus utilities. Serious inquires only please. NO HUD. CALL 886-6665.

Lost Dog

\$100 REWARD For more information leading to the whereabouts of a missing, large whitw male PYRENEES dog. He has been neutered. He is missing from just above Bonanza on Abbott Road in Prestonsburg. Call 886-3537. Nights and Weekends 886-0809.

Legals

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE Pursuant to Application No. 836-0307 Amendment No. 2

In accordance with KRS 350.070, notice is hereby given that Matt/Co., Inc., 439 Meadows Branch, Prestonsburg, Kentuc-ky 41653, has applied for an amendment to an existing surface coal mining and reclamation operation, located 2.6 miles north of Emma, in Floyd County. The amendment will add 199.80 acres of surface disturbance, and will underlie an additional 328.30 acres, of which 164.15 acres overlie area mining area, making a total area of 618.72 - acres, within the amended permit boundary.

The proposed operation is approximately 0.70 mile northeast from Sugar-loaf Branch Road's junction with KY 1428, and is located on Dials Branch of Sugarloaf Branch of the Levisa Fork.

The proposed amendment is located on the Lancer USGS 7-1/2 minute quadrangle map. The surface area to be disturbed is owned by Joe A. and Barbara Burchett, E. L. and Bertha Cline, Malcolm Layne, Rebecca Jarrell, The Elk Horn Coal Company, LLC, Wade and Ora Blackburn Heirs, John Dallas and Vina Sue Branham, Clark Pergem and Jesse Rudd, Tom and Melissa Reynolds, Albert and Janet Ratliff, Johnny and Patricia Huffman, Taulbee and Renisa Branham, Michael Hunt, Ransom and Betty Hunt, and Maxine Crider. The amendment will underlie land owned by Joe A. and Barbara Burchett, E. L. and Bertha Cline, Malcolm

Layne, Rebecca Jarrell, The Elk Horn Coal Company, LLC, Wade and Ora Blackburn Heirs, John Dallas and Vina Sue Branham, Clark Pergem and Jesse Rudd. The operation will use the contour, auger and highwall methods of surface mining. The amendment application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Natural Resources' Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director of the

Division of Mine Permits, No. 2 Hudson Hollow Complex, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE

Pursuant to Application No. 836-8064 Amendment 6

In accordance with 405 KAR 8:010, notice is hereby given that FCDC Coal, Inc., P.O. Box 77, Ivel, Kentucky 41642, has applied for an amendment to a permit for a coal processing facility, refuse disposal, underground, and contour and auger mining operation, located 1.9 mile

southeast of Printer, in Floyd County. The amendment will add 3.30 surface acres and 963.82 acres of underground disturbance, making a total of 733.38 acres within the amended boundary.

The facility is approximately 1.4 mile southeast from KY 122's junction with State Route 2030, and located 0.004 mile north-east of Spurlock Creek.

The facility is on the Harold U.S.G.S. quadrangle map. The operation will use the contour, auger, and area methods of mining. The surface area to be disturbed by the amendment is owned by Black Diamond Land

Company, LLC. The operation will underlie land owned by Black Diamond Land Company, LLC, The Elk Horn Coal Company, LLC, and Cindy Kidd.

The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Division of Mine Re-clamation and Enforcement Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653.

Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Mine Permits, No. 2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

Be A Disaster Relief Hero

Victims of the recent hurricane need help immediately. The American Red Cross is on the scene—providing shelter, food and counseling. But your help is urgently needed. Your contribution will help the victims of the recent hurricane and thousands of other disasters across the country each year.

Make a financial contribution to the Disaster Relief Fund. Please contact the Red Cross at **1-800-HELP NOW** redcross.org

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Make It CHILI Tonight

Texas-Style Beef Chili

FAMILY FEATURES

A bubbling pot of fragrant chili on the stovetop is a delicious signal that cooler weather has arrived. Warm up with four fantastic new recipes, each a twist on the traditional, which are sure to surprise and satisfy.

Blended organic tomatoes and green chiles add a smooth richness to Texas-Style Beef Chili, which tastes — and looks — great served over cornbread wedges. Mole Chicken Chili offers a balanced savory sweetness with hints of cocoa and cinnamon. Black Bean and Chorizo Chili features spicy sausage cut with crumbled white Mexican cheese. There's also a Vegetarian Tortilla Chili that pairs fresh ingredients like zucchini and avocado with the convenience of canned fire roasted tomatoes in a colorful, flavorful presentation.

Whether friends are dropping by on game day or you want to freshen up the weeknight dinner rotation — there's something tasty in store for chili fans of all ages! Visit www.MuirGlen.com for more recipe ideas.



Smoke Signals Lead to Secret Ingredient

You've heard about them on TV cooking shows and read about their one-of-a-kind flavor in food magazines, but what's the big fuss over fire roasted tomatoes?

Distinct fire roasted canned tomatoes are a convenient offering in the tomato aisle. Muir Glen takes its award-winning organic tomatoes and roasts them using a proprietary blend of natural hardwoods in an open-flame searing and smoking process to blacken the skins and deliver a signature smoky flavor.

"Fire roasted organic tomatoes can be used in place of regular canned tomatoes in most recipes where you want to create a subtle yet rich, smoky tomato flavor," explained Jennifer Kalinowski, test kitchen expert for Muir Glen. "They're a flavorful, versatile option for chili, soup, salsa, pizza and pasta sauce recipes." Look for Muir Glen convenient whole, diced and crushed fire roasted tomato varieties at your supermarket or natural foods store.

Texas-Style Beef Chili

Prep Time: 25 Minutes
Start to Finish: 1 Hour 55 Minutes

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 2 lb boneless lean beef top round steak, trimmed of fat, cut into 3/4-inch pieces
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1 can (14.5 oz) Muir Glen organic diced tomatoes, undrained
- 1 can (4.5 oz) chopped green chiles, undrained
- 1 can (14 oz) reduced-sodium beef broth
- 2 tablespoons chili powder
- 2 tablespoons yellow cornmeal
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher (coarse) salt
- 1/4 teaspoon ground red pepper (cayenne)
- Cornbread wedges, if desired
- Sliced green onions or chopped fresh cilantro, if desired

1. In 4-quart Dutch oven, heat oil over medium-high heat. Add half of beef; cook 4 to 6 minutes, stirring frequently, until browned. Remove from pan. Repeat with remaining beef. Return all of the beef to pan. Add chopped onion and garlic; cook 2 to 3 minutes, stirring frequently, until onions are crisp-tender.
 2. Meanwhile, in blender, place tomatoes and green chiles. Cover; blend until smooth.
 3. To beef mixture in pan, add tomato mixture, broth, chili powder, cornmeal, salt and red pepper; stir well. Heat to boiling. Reduce heat to low; cover and simmer 1 hour to 1 hour 30 minutes, stirring occasionally, until beef is tender. Serve over cornbread wedges; sprinkle with green onions.
- 5 servings (1 cup each)

Black Bean and Chorizo Chili

Prep Time: 20 Minutes
Start to Finish: 45 Minutes

- 1 lb chorizo sausage, casing removed and crumbled, or bulk chorizo sausage
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 large yellow or green bell pepper, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 2 cans (14.5 oz each) Muir Glen organic fire roasted or regular diced tomatoes, undrained
- 1 cup water
- 1 can (15 oz) black beans, drained, rinsed
- 1 tablespoon chopped chipotle chiles in adobo sauce
- 1 tablespoon chili powder
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- Crumbled white Mexican cheese (such as queso fresco), if desired

1. In 4-quart Dutch oven, cook sausage over medium-high heat 8 to 10 minutes or until browned; drain well. Add onion, bell pepper and garlic; cook 4 to 5 minutes, stirring frequently, until vegetables are crisp-tender.
 2. Stir in tomatoes, water, beans, chiles, chili powder and cumin. Heat to boiling. Reduce heat to low; simmer uncovered about 25 minutes, stirring occasionally, until slightly thickened. Serve with cheese.
- 8 servings (1 cup each)

Mole Chicken Chili

Prep Time: 20 Minutes
Start to Finish: 40 Minutes

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 1/2 lb boneless skinless chicken thighs, cut into 3/4-inch pieces
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 medium green bell pepper, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 2 medium jalapeño chiles, seeded, chopped
- 2 cans (14.5 oz each) Muir Glen organic fire roasted diced tomatoes, undrained
- 1/2 cup water
- 2 tablespoons unsweetened baking cocoa or 1 oz unsweetened baking chocolate, chopped
- 1 tablespoon chili powder
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher (coarse) salt
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- Roasted salted hulled pumpkin seeds (pepitas), if desired
- Soft corn tortillas, if desired

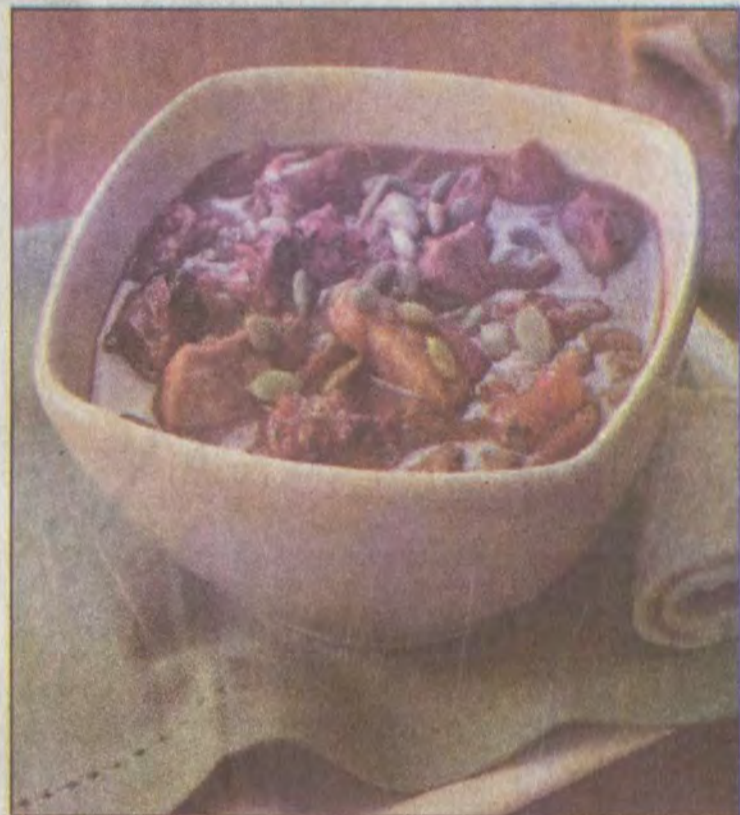
1. In 4-quart Dutch oven, heat oil over medium-high heat. Add chicken; cook 5 to 6 minutes, stirring frequently, until browned. Add onion, bell pepper, garlic and jalapeño chiles; cook 2 minutes, stirring frequently.
 2. Stir in tomatoes, water, cocoa, chili powder, salt and cinnamon. Heat to boiling. Reduce heat to low; simmer uncovered 15 to 20 minutes or until chicken is no longer pink in center and chili is desired consistency. Sprinkle individual servings with pepitas. Serve with corn tortillas.
- 6 servings (1 cup each)

Vegetarian Tortilla Chili

Prep Time: 20 Minutes
Start to Finish: 45 Minutes

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 Anaheim or poblano chile, seeded, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 2 cans (14.5 oz each) Muir Glen organic fire roasted or regular diced tomatoes, undrained
- 1 can (15 oz) pinto beans, drained, rinsed
- 1 cup water
- 1 tablespoon chili powder
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher (coarse) salt
- 1 medium zucchini, chopped
- 3 oz yellow corn tortilla chips
- 1 medium avocado, pitted, peeled and chopped
- 1/2 cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro

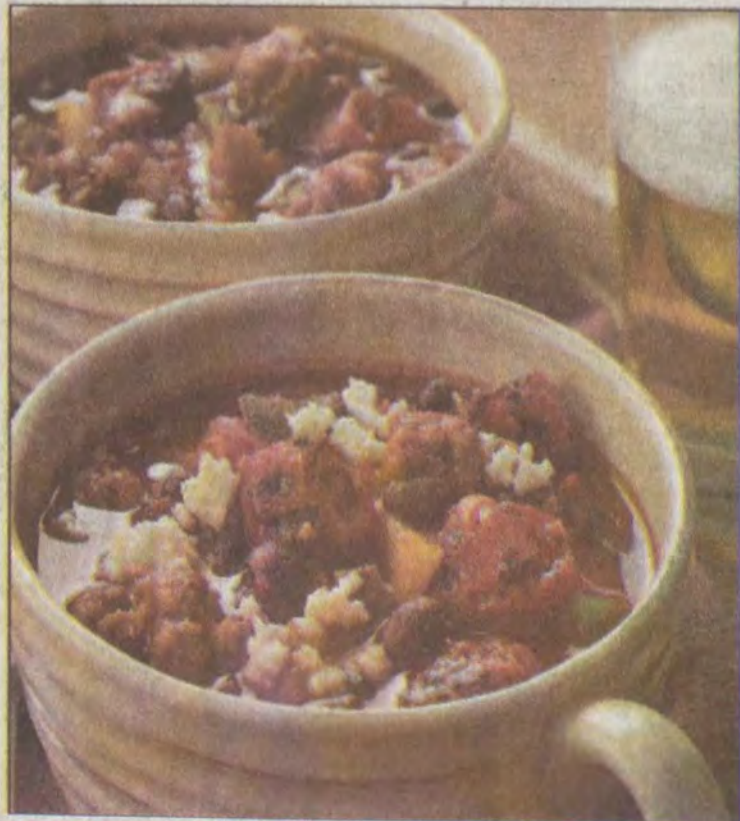
1. In 4-quart Dutch oven, heat oil over medium heat. Add onion, chile and garlic; cook 5 to 7 minutes, stirring frequently, until tender.
 2. Stir in tomatoes, beans, water, chili powder and salt. Heat to boiling. Reduce heat to low; cover and simmer 20 minutes, stirring occasionally. Stir in zucchini. Simmer uncovered 5 to 7 minutes longer, stirring occasionally, until zucchini is tender.
 3. To serve, place tortilla chips in individual serving bowls. Spoon chili over tortilla chips. Top with avocado, cheese and cilantro.
- 6 servings (1 cup each)



Mole Chicken Chili



Vegetarian Tortilla Chili



Black Bean and Chorizo Chili