



Bobcats sweep

page B1

The Courier

*****ALL FOR ADC 301
003095 12/27/2024
LEWIS BINDERY
190 LANDOR DR
ATHENS GA 30606-2428

www.floydcountytimes.com

One Voice for Eastern Kentucky

Member, Kentucky Press Association

In brief

'Crack' charge nets 21 years

by JACK LATTA
STAFF WRITER

LONDON — A Eastern Kentucky man was sentenced to prison Thursday by U.S. District Judge Karen K. Caldwell after pleading guilty to drug charges.

Billy Ray "Mudd" Watson, of Stearns, was sentenced to 21 years in prison after he pleaded guilty in August to attempting to sell crack cocaine to a McCreary County deputy jailer.

The jailer had been acting on behalf of law enforcement officials.

According to federal law, Watson will have to serve 85 percent of his prison sentence before he can be released under the supervision of the United States Probation Office.

Watson will serve eight years of probation.

The investigation was conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration in cooperation with the Lake Cumberland Area Drug Task Force.

Court squabbles, then makes peace

by JACK LATTA
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A special Floyd County Fiscal court meeting Friday had to be called to order by Judge-Executive R.D. "Doc" Marshall after Magistrates John Goble and Jackie Edford Owens would not cease trading barbs at one another.

The war of words began as the treasurer's report was about to be voted on, when Goble, of District 1, asked David Layne, treasurer for the Fiscal court, "Did we have \$18 million?"

The tension in the room stemmed from a Floyd County Times report that Owens' wife and son, both employees of the fiscal court, had survived the 60 percent workforce reductions made by the court.

Owens responded with ads in both The Floyd County Times and the Big

(See COUNTY, page three)

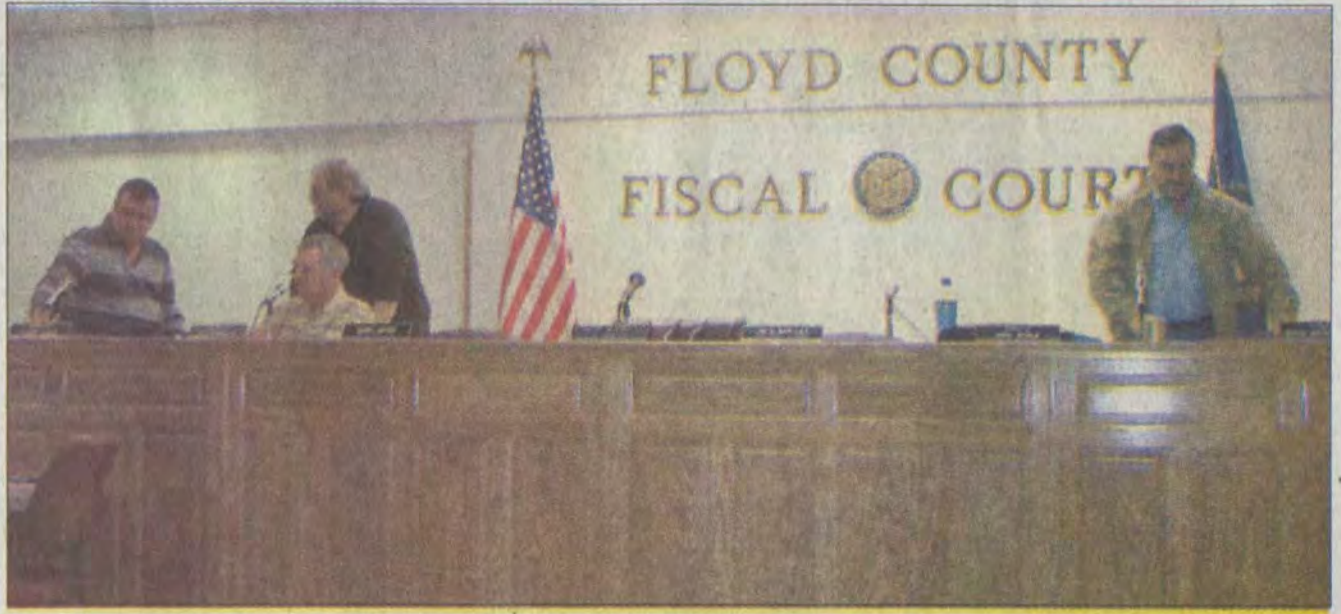


photo by Jack Latta

The battle lines were clearly drawn going into Friday's special meeting of the fiscal court. Following the meeting, the mood changed to cordial, as magistrates acknowledged misunderstandings and errors had led to recent controversies.

GOING RED



photo by Kathy J. Prater

Women, many dressed in the hallmark color of the month, came out in numbers to attend the second annual "Go Red for Women" luncheon, co-sponsored by Highlands Regional Medical Center and Jean Dorton, and held Friday afternoon at the Wilkinson-Stumbo Convention Center. The American Heart Association's "Go Red for Women" campaign is designed to focus awareness on the dangers of heart disease in women. More on the Go Red campaign and Friday's luncheon in Wednesday's Lifestyles.

Nominations accepted for Teacher of the Year

by JACK LATTA
STAFF WRITER

FRANKFORT — Nominations are underway, and will run through April 30, for the Kentucky 2007-08 Teacher of the Year award.

The winning teacher will receive \$1,000 as well as a \$500 grant to that teacher's school. The winner of the Kentucky Teachers of the Year Award will be eligible for the for the National

Teacher of the Year award, which includes a special recognition and \$2,500 travel voucher.

Teachers, students and parents may nominate any of the 55,000 accredited school teachers in the state of Kentucky.

Teacher of the year nomination forms can be found online at www.teachers.com/toty. The nomination form includes a place for a 250-word

(See AWARD, page three)

Floyd again among state Trust leaders

by JACK LATTA
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Floyd County licensed drivers showed their support for organ donation in 2007 by once again being "above average" in their donations of an extra dollar to the Kentucky Circuit Court Clerks Trust for Life.

"This is a great program set up to promote organ and tissue donation," said Douglas Hall, Floyd County circuit clerk and president of the Kentucky Trust for Life.

According to the Trust for Life, the Floyd Circuit Court Clerk's Office collected the \$1 donation from 75 percent of those obtaining a license last year. The average number for Kentucky's 120 counties was, by comparison, a mere 41.6 percent.

"Floyd County has been very cooperative and generous in their donations," Hall said.

"Doug Hall and his staff should be very proud of their efforts in collecting the \$1 donations and in

adding names to the donor registry," said Trust Executive Director Berkeley Scott.

Kentucky Circuit Court Clerks Association and the state legislature created the Trust for Life in 1992 in order to fund the year-round education and promotion effort to encourage organ and tissue donation in Kentucky. Hall has been president of the Trust for two consecutive terms.

"That's a reflection of the generosity of the county," Hall said. "If our numbers weren't what they are, I probably wouldn't be president."

In all, 1,525 county residents have put their names on the donor registry since May 15, when it was added to the drivers license process.

Hall said that Floyd County is usually in the top three in the state in donations. Hall also mentioned that Magoffin County's donation percentage has increased considerably under new Circuit Clerk

(See TRUST, page three)



photo by Jack Latta

Floyd Circuit Court Clerk Douglas Hall, right, has been instrumental in improving donations to the Trust for Life program, both as clerk and the program's president.

3 DAY FORECAST

Today



High: 53 • Low: 31

Tomorrow



High: 56 • Low: 39

Tuesday



High: 64 • Low: 48

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

inside

- Regional ObituariesA2
- Opinion.....A4
- Lifestyles.....A5
- Sports.....B1
- Classifieds.....B4



1 83176 00010 1

We know Construction Loans from start to finish!

Call Today! 1-800-422-1090

Loan to Value (LTV) up to 89.9%

Easy Application Low Closing Costs!

www.clbi.com Member FDIC

Community Trust Bank
building communities...built on trust

Regional Obituaries

FLOYD COUNTY

■ **Bobbie Jean Beverly**, 68, of Hueysville, died Thursday, January 17. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, January 20, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ **Margaret Conley**, 94, of Garrett, died Saturday, January 26 at Our Lady of the Way Hospital, Martin. Funeral services were held Monday, January 28, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ **Minnie Conley**, 93, of Wheelwright, died Tuesday, January 22, at her home. Funeral services were held Monday, January 28, under the direction of Lucas and Son Funeral Home.

■ **Waid Leroy Diddle**, 73, of Auxier, died Sunday, January 27, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. He is survived by his wife, Betty Bentley Diddle. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, January 30, under the direction of the Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ **Charles Junior Hackworth**, 88, of Prestonsburg, died Monday, January 28, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Mabel Owens Hackworth. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 31, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ **Phill Maurice Hall**, 67, of Wabash Indiana, a native of McDowell, died Tuesday, January 29, in his home. Funeral services were held Saturday, February 2, under the direction of Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wabash, Indiana.

■ **Reverend Daniel Thomas Heintzelman** (also known as Mr. Dan) of Martin, died Monday, January 28, at St. Joseph Hospital (Martin). He is survived by his wife, Sylvia Van Stedum Heintzelman. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 30, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ **Carada Hunt**, 81, of Stanville, died Friday, January 25 at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Monday, January 28, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ **Calvin Johnson**, 54, of Bevinsville, a native of Martin, died Friday, January 25, at Hazard Appalachian Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were held Monday, January 28, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ **Etta Rose (Hopkins) King**, 78, of West Chester, Ohio, a native of McDowell, died Monday, January 28, in the Bethesda North Hospital, in Montgomery, Ohio. Funeral services were held Friday, February 1, under the direction of Stine Kilburn Funeral Home, Lebanon, Ohio.

■ **Eva K. Robinette Layne**, 91, of Harold, died Saturday, January 19, at Pikeville Healthcare Center. Funeral services were held Monday, January 21, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ **Carol Ann Rowland**, 61, of Blue River, died Saturday, January 26, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, Cleaties Rowland. Funeral services were held

Tuesday, January 29, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ **Archer Shepherd Jr.**, 70, of Blue River, a native of Gunlock, died Friday, January 25, at Prestonsburg Healthcare Center. He is survived by his wife, Barbara Ann Shepherd. Funeral services were held Monday, January 28, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ **Timothy Wayne Shepherd**, 44, of Hueysville, died Friday, January 25, at Hazard Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Melva Shepherd. Funeral services were held Sunday, January 27, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ **Lillie Moore Sizemore**, 76, of Minnie, died Wednesday, January 16, at King's Daughters Medical Center, in Ashland. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 19, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ **Ellis Stone**, 94, of David, died Friday, January 18, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were held Monday, January 21, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ **Dora Dean Spencer**, 78, of Prestonsburg, died Tuesday, January 29, 2008, at the Riverview Health Care Center, Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Friday, February 1, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ **Maggie Jarrell Wilcox**, 60, of Lorain, Ohio, a native of Dana, died Tuesday, January 29, at Community Health Partners Regional Medical Center, Lorain. She is survived by her husband, Ward Wilcox. A memorial service was held Friday, February 1, under the direction of Schwartz, Spence, Boyer & Cool Home for Funerals, Lorain.

PIKE COUNTY

■ **Earl Adkins Jr.**, 77, of Westwood, a Pike County native, died Saturday, January 26, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Evelyn Trustee Adkins. Funeral services were held Monday, January 28, under the direction of Preston Family Funeral Home of Ashland.

■ **Larry Baker**, 60, of Byrdstown, Tenn., formerly of Dorton, died Thursday, January 31, in Frankfort. Arrangements, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ **Justine Blackburn**, 86, of Pikeville, died Saturday, January 26, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Monday, January 28, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ **Jimmie Hayes Blackburn**, 71, of McAndrews, died Tuesday, January 22, at St. Joseph Hospital, Lexington. He is survived by his wife, Elena Thacker Blackburn. A memorial service was held at 11 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 2, under direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ **Mary Louise Bevins Bragg**, 71, of Williamson Towers, died Wednesday, January 30, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Saturday, February 2, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ **Juanita "Granny" Bryant**, 86, of Greenup, a native of Jonancy, died Tuesday, January 29, at Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital in Russell. Funeral services were held Friday, February 1, under the direction of Wright's Funeral Home of Greenup.

■ **Lloyd "Coal Digger" Cable**, 74, of John Cable Hollow, died Tuesday, January 29, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Georgetta Judson Cable. Funeral services were held Saturday, February 2, under direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ **Emma B. Coleman**, 83, of Elkhorn City, died Sunday, January 27, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 30, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ **Tammy Coleman**, 41, a daughter of Billy Bentley and the late Juanita Tackett Bentley, died Tuesday, January 22. She is survived by her husband, Timothy Brian Coleman.

■ **Ralph Fannin**, 83, of Majestic, died Friday, January 25, at his residence. Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 29, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

■ **Ted Wesley Herring**, 86, of Murfreesboro, Tenn., formerly of Pikeville, died Friday, January 25, at Middle Tennessee Medical Center. Funeral services were held Monday, January 28, under the direction of J.W. Call Funeral Home.

■ **Denver Douglas "Doug" Harris**, 56, of Huntington, Ind., a Pikeville native, died Sunday, January 27, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Jean Griffith Harris. Funeral services were held Friday, February 1, under the direction of Deal-Rice Funeral Home of Huntington.

■ **Hazel Johnson**, 88, of Virgie, died Thursday, January 24, at her residence. Funeral services were held Sunday, January 27, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

■ **Kenneth Ray "K.J." Justice**, 48, of Mouthcard, died Monday, January 28, at Mouthcard. He is survived by his wife, Renee Denise Murphy Justice. Funeral services were held Friday, February 1, under direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ **Patty Crum Mullins**, 67, of Pikeville, formerly of Freeburn, died Thursday, January 31, at Pikeville Medical Center. Arrangements, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

■ **Melvina "Nina" Myers** of Millers Creek died Tuesday, January 29, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Friday, February 1, under the direction of Thacker Funeral Home.

■ **Orpha Ogle**, 84, of Phelps, died Sunday, January 27, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 30, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

■ **Alma Williams Potter**, 82, a Pike County native, died Thursday, January 24, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Sunday, January 27, under the direction of Bailey Funeral

Home.

■ **Gabe C. "G.C." Ratliff**, 78, of Shelby Gap, died Monday, Jan. 28, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Florene Potter Ratliff. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 31, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ **Mollie Rowe Smallwood**, 79, of Mt. View Healthcare Center, Elkhorn City, formerly of Rockhouse, died Thursday, January 24, at Mt. View Healthcare Center. Funeral services were held Sunday, January 27, under direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ **Eddie "Windy" Wolford**, 50, of Smith Fork, Phelps, died Friday, Jan. 25, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Vickie Gail Smith Wolford. Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 29, under the direction of Chambers Funeral Services of Mewan, W.Va.

■ **Scotty Wayne "Buck" Young**, 31, of Paintsville, a native of Pike County, died Saturday, January 26, in Pikeville. He is survived by his wife, Cindy VanHoose Young. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 30, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

KNOTT COUNTY

■ **Tandy Amburgey**, 89, of London, formerly of Knott County, died Friday, January 18, at the St. Joseph of London Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy Blair Amburgey. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 23, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ **Kathleen Combs Davidson**, 82, of Columbus, Indiana, formerly of Knott County, died Friday, January 18, in Columbus. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 23, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ **Hattie Carol Ritchie-Goeller**, 58, a Knott County native, died January 15, in her home. Funeral services were conducted Friday, January 18, under the direction Zaboran Funeral Home, South Bend, Indiana.

MAGOFFIN COUNTY

■ **Elmer Adams**, 81, of Salyersville, died Thursday, January 10, at Paul B. Hall Medical Center, Paintsville. He is survived by his wife, Katherine Burton Adams. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, January 13, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

■ **Joseph Claire Brubaker**, 82, of Salyersville, died Friday, January 18. He is survived by his wife, Jean Booz Brubaker. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, January 22, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

■ **Ruie Johnson**, 94, of Paintsville, a Magoffin County native, died Saturday, January

17, at Paul B. Hall Medical Center, in Paintsville. Funeral services were conducted Monday, January 21, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

■ **Minnie Rudd**, 82, of Marion, Ohio, a native of Salyersville, died Saturday, January 19, at Marion General Hospital. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 23, under the direction of Boyd Funeral Home.

■ **Ray Watts**, 78, of Burnside, formerly of Knott County, died Sunday, January 20, at the Lake Cumberland Hospital at Somerset. Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 22, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ **Julie Brown Williams**, 96, of Mount Sterling, a Magoffin County native, died Wednesday, January 16, at the Mary Chiles Hospital in Mount Sterling. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, January 19, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

JOHNSON COUNTY

■ **Robert Lee Borders**, 58, a Paintsville native, died Thursday, January 24. Funeral services were held Monday, January 28, at the Shiloh Terrace Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas. Information, courtesy of the Paintsville Funeral Home.

■ **Josephine Hannah Brown**, 89, of Swamp Branch, died Thursday, January 24, at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center, in Paintsville. Funeral services were held Sunday, January 27, under the direction of the Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ **Judy Keel Meade**, 65, of Defiance, Ohio, a Johnson County native, died Friday, January 25, at the Toledo (Ohio) Hospital. She is survived by her husband, Eston Meade. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 30, under the direction of Mast-Mock-Hoffman Funeral Home, in Defiance, Ohio.

■ **Gary Thomas "Tom" Underwood**, 50, of Paintsville, died Tuesday, January 29, at King's Daughters Medical Center, in Ashland. Funeral services were held Saturday, February 2, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ **Scotty Wayne "Buck" Young**, 31, of Paintsville, died Saturday, January 26, in Pikeville. He is survived by his wife, Cindy VanHoose Young. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 30, under the direction of the Preston Funeral Home.

MARTIN COUNTY

■ **Everett Hickman**, 71, a Martin County native, died Saturday, January 26. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 30, under the direction of Woodyard Co. Chapel, Columbus, Ohio.

■ **Darlene Moore Jennings**, 50, of Inez, died Tuesday, January 22, at Highlands

Regiona Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 26, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

■ **Donald Eugene Ward**, 68, of Tomahawk, died Tuesday, January 22, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Palma (Pam) Justice. Funeral services were held Friday, January 25, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

Obituaries



Margie Tackett Kiser
Margie Tackett Kiser, 75, of Beaver, died Thursday, January 31, 2008, at her residence.

Born September 11, 1932, in Floyd County, she was the daughter of the late Berry and Elva Hamilton Tackett. She was a homemaker and a member of the Little Rosa Regular Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Andy Kiser Jr. Survivors include three sons and daughters-in-law: Daylie and Patty Kiser of Howe, Indiana; Andy Jay and Cathy Kiser of Bronson, Michigan; and Zachary Kiser of Teaberry; a daughter and son-in-law: Angela and Jeff Brown of Beaver; two brothers, and one sister: Sterling Tackett of Betsy Layne; Jimmy Tackett of Pikeville; and Opal Reynolds of Beaver; eight grandchildren: Paul, Kent, Michelle, Heather, Anthony, Brandon, Shawn and Adam; and six great-grandsons.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by two brothers and one sister: Paul Tackett, John B. Tackett, and Olga Hamilton.

Funeral services will be held Monday, February 4, at 11 a.m., at the Little Rosa Regular Baptist Church, in McDowell, with Regular Baptist ministers of the Indian Bottom Association officiating.

Burial will be in the Kiser Family Cemetery, in Beaver, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin.

Visitation is Saturday, at 6 p.m., at the funeral home.

www.nelsonfrazierfuneralhome.com
(Paid obituary)

DO YOU SEE A BALLFIELD?

THEN YOU SEE THE POWER OF COMMUNITY COALITIONS.

They help community groups organize resources and fight to keep kids away from drugs. Contact a community coalition and find out what your group can do.

www.helpyourcommunity.org
or 1-877-KIDS-313

YOU GET MORE WHEN YOU GET TOGETHER

Office of National Drug Control Policy

FCT ONLINE POLL

RESULTS FOR WEEK OF FEB. 3 - FEB. 9, 2008

Who do you favor for the Republican nomination for president?

John McCain	█	(106 Votes, 30%)
Mike Huckabee	█	(75 Votes, 21%)
Mitt Romney	█	(36 Votes, 10%)
Rudolph Giuliani		(14 Votes, 4%)
Ron Paul		(13 Votes, 4%)
Don't Know		(6 Votes, 2%)
Doesn't matter, I'm voting Democrat	█	(105 Votes, 30%)

Go online today and answer this week's question!

Are you in favor of casino gambling in Kentucky?

- Yes
- Yes, if a casino is located in Floyd County
- No
- Yes, as long as a casino is NOT located in Floyd County

FCT ONLINE POLL

U.S. mine agency approves tracking system to locate miners

by **DIBYA SARKAR**
AP BUSINESS WRITER

WASHINGTON — Federal mine-safety regulators on Thursday said they approved the first wireless-tracking system to locate miners trapped underground.

The U.S. Mine Safety and

Health Administration said the technology was developed by Liberty Lake, Wash.-based Venture Design Services Inc., a subsidiary of Singapore-based Venture Corp. Ltd.

"Since the Sago Mine disaster, MSHA has received dozens of proposals from manufacturers and distributors of

emergency communication and tracking systems," Richard Stickler, acting assistant secretary of labor for mine safety and health, said in a press release. The Venture Design system allows mine operators to track miners underground before and after an emergency event, he said.

After deadly mine explosions in 2006, Congress passed legislation that year requiring that mine operators adopt wireless communications and electronic tracking systems by June 2009.

The wireless requirement was part of comprehensive safety legislation to improve conditions for the nation's 43,000 underground coal miners. In a January 2006 explosion at the Sago Mine in West Virginia, 12 men died from carbon monoxide poisoning. In May of that year, five men died in an underground explosion at the Kentucky Darby mine.

In August 2007, nine people died in two cave-ins at the

Crandall Canyon mine in Utah.

Since 2006, the agency issued 36 new or revised approvals for communications and tracking systems and is examining 41 more, including several applications for other wireless systems, an MSHA spokesman said.

During emergencies, mine operators are required to shut down power, a cautionary move that also cuts off other mining-tracking systems. Dave Chirton, MSHA's supervisor of the electrical safety division, said Venture's system resorts to battery power for up to 48 hours and more accurately tracks miners than other systems.

The Big Branch mine in Naugatuck, W.V., has been using Venture Design's MineTracer Miner Location Monitoring System since May, said Jim Barrett, the product's research and development manager.

The complex system, which Barrett described as a cell phone network "blanketing a city that is shrunk down and installed underground," is designed to work during emergencies, especially in hazardous gas environments.

The installation cost is about \$35,000 per mile, or \$100,000 to \$1 million depending on the size of a mine, he estimated.

County

Sandy News, blasting the other magistrates for "spending like drunk sailors."

In the ad, Owens said that the other three magistrates had squandered an \$18 million budget, as well as \$500,000 in money borrowed from the bank.

According to the treasurer's report, the county actually spent little over \$13 million — \$5 million under their budgeted amount.

"We can't spend money we don't have," said Goble. "It's like trying to get blood from a turnip."

Layne said that a half-million-dollar Kentucky Advanced Revenue Program was needed at the beginning of the fiscal year in July, or "You would have been laying people off then." The fiscal court voted 3-to-1 to pay off the KARP loan after discussion ended. Owens was the lone magistrate to vote against the resolution.

Marshall said that the county had no other outstanding loans and that only the bond issues remain.

Also a source of controversy between the magistrates had been a proposal made by District 4 Magistrate Ronnie Akers that, "due to the financial circumstances," he have \$5,000 dollars withheld from his salary and donated to the fiscal court. District 3 Magistrate Donnie Daniels and Goble both also agreed to withhold \$5000 each.

The magistrates were however notified by the county attorney that because their salaries are set at the beginning of their term, KRS statutes forbid any changes be made to those salaries until the next elections. "Once it's yours, you can donate it back if you like," said Assistant County Attorney Stacy Marshall.

Owens had said in his ad that he didn't believe the other

magistrates planned to "donate one red cent." When asked, Layne affirmed that \$200 had been withheld from each donating magistrate's paycheck, and that money would have to be credited back to them because of the law.

Marshall made the motion to rescind the resolution and then waited patiently for a second. When a second was not forthcoming, Marshall said, "Gentlemen, we can't break the law."

After Akers asked again if they were in violation, he offered a reluctant second. The vote to rescind the resolution featured Goble and Daniels abstaining, Owens voting against, and Akers voting for. Judge Marshall cast the tie-breaking vote to rescind the resolution.

Marshall had to call the meeting to order after Goble and Owens became locked in a back-and-forth over financial matters.

During a vote on a resolution to void and reissue checks, Owens vote against the measure was quickly followed by Goble interjecting, "As usual."

The vote to adjourn the meeting was the only unanimous decision during he special meeting.

After the meeting, Goble asked citizens and the media to stay and receive a "Factual Accounting of Fiscal Court Matters." The handout had been approved by Magistrates Daniels, Akers and Goble.

After some time to review, Magistrates Goble and Owens sat down and seemed to work out some of their issues, explaining a lot of the last two weeks controversy as being "big misunderstandings."

Owens admitted the statements he had made in his ad saying that controversy surrounding Rodney Ousley was misunderstood.

"Rodney stated to me (that

Goble had told him he had to go), and I stated it as fact," Owens said.

The issue of Owens' brother-in-law arose when The Big Sandy News erroneously reported that Carl Cooley worked for the county. Magistrate Goble clarified that Greg Cooley, of no relation to Magistrate Owens, does in fact work for the county, and that Carl Cooley, as Owens stated, does not work for the county.

A dispute over a salt truck between Owens and Goble was also laid to rest, as both magistrates admitted that their argument over the issue had been a misunderstanding. While Goble had in fact volunteered to have the truck picked up by his rollback truck, the salt truck in question never left District 2.

"It was a bad week for all of us," Goble said.

Magistrates Daniels, Akers and Goble are all still planning to donate \$5,000 of their salaries back to the fiscal court, and will do so when they are certain they are not in violation of state law.

Daniels said he would like to set up a district fund, to insure that the money he donates goes back to the people of his district. Akers was also in favor of the donated money staying in his district.

When asked again if he would commit to donating a portion of his salary back to the fiscal court, or as the other magistrates had suggested, back to his own district, Owens remained steadfast.

"I wouldn't want to commit to something, without knowing what it is," Owens said.

It was also stated by the county attorney after the meeting that money for the Garth Landfill, \$212,000, has in fact been paid in full.

Judge Marshall said afterwards that "Things are gonna be tight for a while, but we are on the right track."

■ Continued from p1

Trust

Tonya Ward

According to Trust for Life, currently there are more than 770 Kentuckians on waiting lists for lifesaving organ transplants. The numbers are even greater for those needing life-enhancing procedures that require donated tissue such as corneas, heart valves and veins.

"Somebody in every family probably knows someone who either needs or has received an organ or tissue transplant," Hall said.

Kentucky residents with a valid driver's license or state identification card can now become organ donors by registering on Kentucky's new Organ Donor Registry when

they go in to renew their license. Those wanting to become a donor before their next renewal can access registry at

www.DonateLifeKY.org.

For more information about Trust for Life and the Organ Donor Registry, call toll-free (866) 945-5433 or visit their website at

■ Continued from p1

BIG TRUCKS cause BIG ACCIDENTS

If You or a Family Member are a Victim of a BIG TRUCK ACCIDENT, You Need

KIRK LAW FIRM

Paintsville • Inez • Prestonsburg • Lexington • Pikeville • Ashland • McDowell

Check Our Record
Call 297.5888 www.kirklawfirm.net

This is an advertisement

Award

explanation why a teacher should be teacher of the year.

Winners will be announced at the beginning of the 2008-09 school year.

The teacher of the year award is sponsored by Teachers Insurance Plan, a car insurance program created exclusively

for teachers and the educational community.

Each spring, the President introduces the National Teacher of the Year to the country, after which the teacher is released from classroom duties while receiving full pay and benefits for one year, to act as

spokesperson for the teaching profession both nationally and internationally.

Last year's Kentucky winner was Susanne M. Burkhardt, a second- and third-grade teacher at Simpsonville Elementary School.

■ Continued from p1

NEW SHOW! GUN & KNIFE SHOW

February 9-10

Saturday, 9-5 and Sunday, 9-4

HINDMAN

KNOTT COUNTY SPORTSPLEX
(450 Kenny Champion Loop)

BUY • SELL • TRADE

INFO: (563) 927-8176

Presented by Kenny Woods Gun Shows Inc.

Have an Idea?

Bring it to our table
and watch it come to life!

SKYY Studio Advertising Agency
is your full-line marketing, advertising,
design & print studio!

- Radio/TV/Newspaper Design
- Graphic Design
- Web Design
- T-Shirts & Full Line Promotional Company
- Printing - Brochures, Business Cards, Catalogs, Cards, Flyers Etc.

Specialize in Large Format Printing!
Courtroom Displays - Posters - Banners (Indoor & Outdoor)

Also - Vinyl Decals, Signs & Banners!

SKYY Studio
Advertising, Inc.

Owned/Operated By: Julie Goff & Rachel Campbell

137 PIKE STREET - PIKEVILLE
(ACROSS FROM CHIRICO'S RESTAURANT)

606-437-0777

WWW.SKYYSTUDIO.COM

Visit The Times Online

floydcountytimes.com

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

Science bills deserve swift passage

On Jan. 23, the Kentucky Senate passed two important math and science initiatives, 36-0.

No doubt Senate leaders put these initiatives at the top of their agenda to make a point: Improving math and science education can't wait. In 2007, similar initiatives passed the Senate but then died in the House because of gubernatorial election-year politics and objections of the teachers unions. Modifications have been made to accommodate the teachers — although the offending parts will have to be confronted one day.

The House should act quickly on these bills. Kentucky lags in science and math the way it lags in so many areas. Consider a few statistics:

We rank 47th in the nation in the number of scientists and engineers and 42nd in high-tech jobs. And that situation isn't about to change.

That's because only 4.75 of every 1,000 Kentucky graduates get degrees in science or engineering. That low percentage — far below the national average of 7.82 — put the commonwealth in 49th place.

Why does it matter? First, many of the best jobs of the future will depend on math and science skills. The expanding fields in the new economy include computer science, environmental engineering, health care and biomedical engineering. At the top of the list of jobs that are on the decline are manufacturing and agriculture — two Kentucky staples.

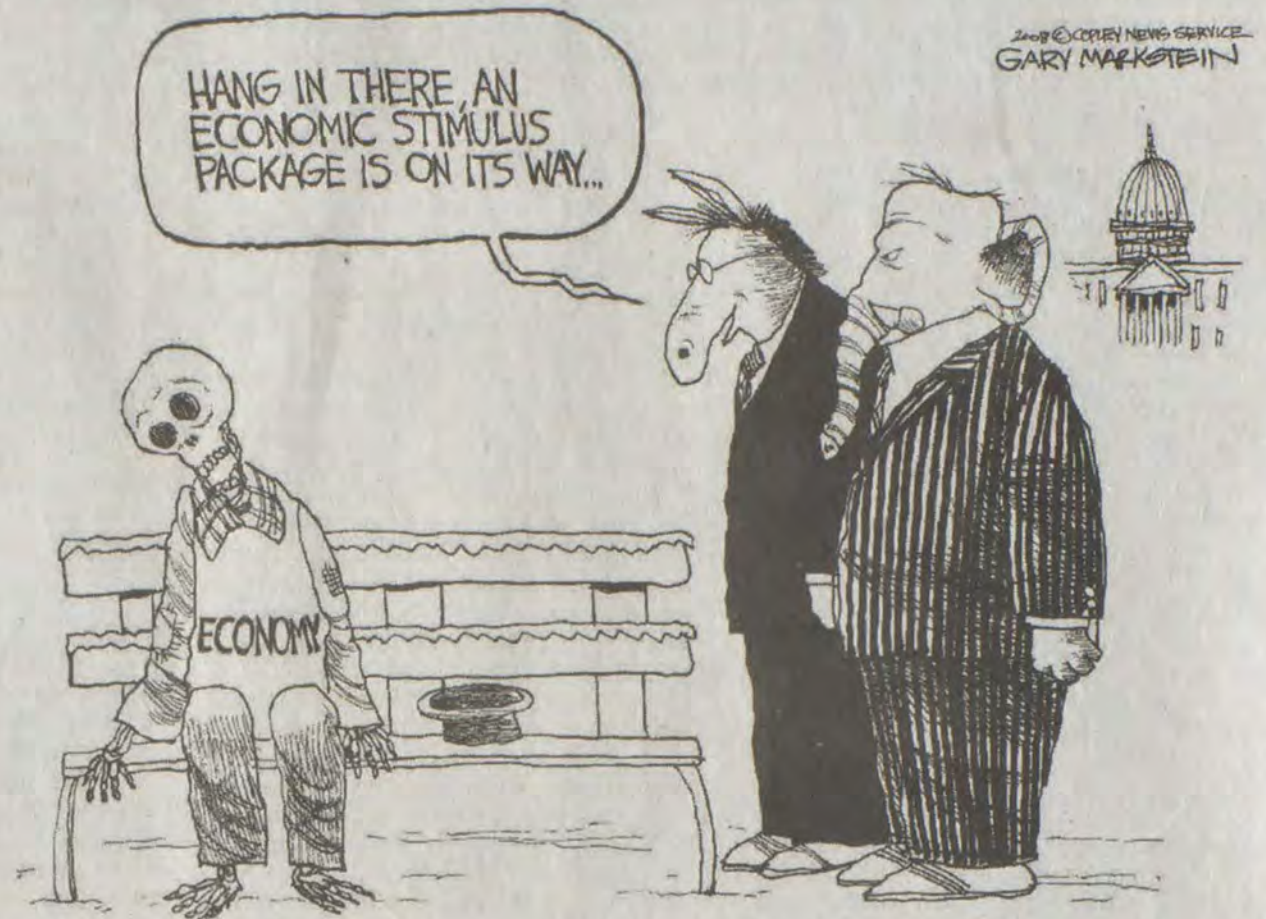
But our extraordinarily low number of science grads is tragic for another reason: It shows our schools are failing to excite students in science. Certainly, more than 4.75 of every 1,000 students have a natural curiosity about science — and a natural inclination. Somehow that is being killed.

So, Senate Bills 2 and 64 are meant to attack the problem in many ways. SB 2, to cite just a few of many provisions, offers teachers professional development grants and high schools grants for creating Advanced Placement courses, and it demands that all middle schools and high schools implement courses of study that will get students ready for AP courses in calculus, chemistry and physics. SB 64 creates alternate routes for teacher certification to help lure real scientists and real mathematicians into Kentucky classrooms, where they can pass their passions along.

Clearly, not everyone is built to be a scientist. And universities have many more missions than to prepare the next generation for jobs.

But in most national rankings, something else is clear: We have one of the nation's lowest per capita incomes. Responsible lawmakers must confront that truth, as must responsible university presidents.

— The Courier-Journal, Louisville



Rich Lowry Column

When an assassin succeeds

The roll call of U.S. allies in the Middle East and its neighborhood has always read like a target list: Maliki, Karzai, Sistani, Musharraf. One bullet or one suicide blast could wipe out all our work and rip apart a strategically important country.

Assassinations have steadily picked off pro-Western politicians in Lebanon, and one of our key tribal allies in Western Iraq, Sheik Satter, was murdered shortly after meeting with President Bush. But since Sept. 11, we have been lucky. There have been no assassinations of true geo-strategic significance, except perhaps that of anti-Syria former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, whose killing prompted a popular backlash that ended the Syrian occupation of his country.

Until now. Until Benazir Bhutto was killed in a shooting and suicide bombing at the end of a political rally in the city of Rawalpindi. Until her return to Pakistan from exile a few months ago, met immediately with threats to kill her from Islamic extremists, ended in a tragedy that is still shocking even if it seemed inevitable.

It's always been the assassin's conceit that he can move history with a single blow. Sometimes, as most

infamously with Gavrilo Princip's shot that precipitated World War I, he succeeds. But it is much harder to do in stable, institutionally mature democracies where established parties can be as important as a single man or woman.

Pakistan, alternately ruled by civilian kleptocrats and generals, is not such a country. Bhutto will be hard to replace.

In keeping with the clan-nishness of Pakistani politics, her Pakistan Peoples Party was entirely dependent on her (authoritarian-style) leadership. Her civilian rival, Nawaz Sharif, who also recently returned from exile, is soft on Islamic militants and has even been accused of having taken bribes from Osama bin Laden. That leaves President Pervez Musharraf, increasingly isolated politically, without a decent civilian ally with whom to try to broaden his support as his country totters from this latest blow.

If Bhutto's murder were to create a spiral of violence in nuclear-armed Pakistan that Musharraf couldn't control, it would be the most successful post-Sept. 11 terrorist act since the bombing of the Golden Mosque

in Iraq, which stoked a civil war that nearly brought us to our knees there. Chaos is militancy's friend, and it is much easier to bring about than lawfully constituted order.

For the terrorists, murder rather than persuasion is the very stuff of politics. Where it has no majority support and no democratic inspirational leaders of its own, al-Qaida can always kill and hope to gain in the resulting whirlwind.

As Iraq during the past year shows, chaos needn't prevail. As our Iraq policy spiraled downward in 2006, it benefited from the sort of thorough rethinking that we now need to bring to bear to Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Because what we always feared has happened — an assassin has killed a strategically significant target. Bhutto's martyrdom will understandably obscure her misrule the first two times she was prime minister. But on her return, she was a frank voice against Islamism, and no one can deny her this: She was very brave.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

The Rich Lowry column



— beyond the beltway

The economy — another conservative screw-up

by DONALD KAUL
MINUTEMAN MEDIA

The world's financial markets have reacted to the bursting of the U.S. housing bubble with the quiet, calm confidence of 14-year-olds fleeing a burning building. Make that 10-year-olds.

From Hong Kong to London, from Tokyo to Paris and back to Frankfurt, the world's financiers are trembling in their custom-made boots. Markets plunged as investors rushed to dump stocks.

The spectacle so unnerved Ben Bernanke, the chairman of the Federal Reserve, that he called his board members together and lowered the Fed's benchmark interest rates by [begin ital] three-quarters of a percent. [end ital] (This is a group that normally treats a one-quarter rate-drop as surrender to licentious urges.)

The cutting of interest rates seemed to help some and congressional leaders quickly gathered to promise a "stimulus package" (which the Democrats define as giving cash to working stiff and Republicans as tax cuts for people who are having trouble financing their third homes) but the situation remains muddled.

Some say we're headed for a recession. Some say we're in one already. Others favor the "don't just do something, stand there" approach.

I don't know what to think. I just know that if God really did make George W. Bush president, as Mr. Bush claims, He's got a lot to answer

for. At everything the president has tried his hand at — foreign affairs, domestic affairs, environmental affairs, energy policy, economic policy, administration of justice — he's been a disaster. If he were a boat he'd be the Titanic; a car, the Edsel. It's not just that he's gotten us in this hole, he and his gang have used the available ladders for kindling.

Any stimulus package will increase the budget deficit, already huge, which will require us to go begging to Japan and China to bail us out, which they might not want to do because the dollar keeps getting weaker because we're running so large a budget deficit.

And don't forget, we've got a war to pay for.

So the next president will come into office facing a huge deficit, a staggering economy, an endless war, an empty treasury and bad credit.

Not only that, if he or she is a Democrat, he or she will have promised to give health care and a variety of other goodies to the masses — if a Republican, big tax cuts — with no way to pay for it.

It kind of makes you wonder why anyone would want to be president doesn't it?

The situation reminds me of an old baseball joke. A rookie in spring training takes the field playing third base. A batter hits the ball to him; he boots it. A second batter hits the ball to him; he boots it again. Improbably, a third batter finds him with a grounder. It goes through his legs.

The manager yanks the kid and

puts in his veteran third-base man. The next batter hits the ball to him and [begin ital] he [end ital] boots it.

At which point the old third-base man throws down his glove and storms off the field, saying:

"That kid's got the position so screwed up, can't nobody play it."

Which is pretty much the situation with George W. Bush and the presidency.

To be fair, however, (and there's no reason to be fair; I'm doing it out of the goodness of my heart) Mr. Bush

had help — principally Alan Greenspan, Mr. Bernanke's predecessor as Fed Chairman.

As the housing bubble grew to alarming proportions, Mr. Greenspan refused to be alarmed. Rather than impose lending restrictions on banks, he dismissed the bubble as mere froth, something trivial and of little concern.

This contempt for regulation is part of the laissez faire economic philosophy he shares with President Bush, Milton Friedman and most doctrinaire conservatives. They hold that all government regulation is bad; that only through the working of free markets can an economy reach its potential. The invisible hand of competition sorts things out.

Well, what we've been seeing of late is that invisible hand at work.

How do you like it so far?

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
jbyers@heartlandpublications.com

MANAGING EDITOR

Ralph B. Davis
web@floydcountytimes.com

ADVERTISING MANAGER

Kim Frasure
advertising@floydcountytimes.com



INSIDESTUFF

- Sports.....page B1
- Classifieds.....page B4

CAR TALK:

Tom and Ray play referee

see pg. A6

www.floydcountytimes.com

"The BEST source for local and regional society news"

Email: features@floydcountytimes.com

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.

SCIENTIFIC QUEST

The Groundhog, if he or she was in the neighborhood of where I was, and if he or she ambled forth at the right moment, Monday afternoon, saw his or her shadow. I would have passed up that earth-shattering truth, had not a certain scientist been quoted as saying the groundhog doesn't look for his shadow, that he rises from his long winter's nap to look for a female groundhog. Being of a scientific turn of mind myself, as all who know me are aware, that statement set me to thinking. If the groundhog that came out from aforesaid hole was a female, what was she looking for?

IN REBUTTAL

I knew when I printed that bit about Minnesota being the Land of Ten Thousand Lakes and only 500 fish, that we would stir something up. Now comes a letter from Mrs. David Armstrong, of La Rue, Ohio—not Minnesota—to say that the woman who made this report must be a fisherman of my calibre; that she knows one body of water. Juggler Lake, which produced more than 599 fish during one resort season, and that she has never failed to catch fish in Minnesota during 12 years of fishing. And she sends along a picture of as fine a string of crappie as you'll see, to prove she's not the liar, most fisher-folk are said to be.

□□□

Wish I had, ready for the telling, something that would brighten up the scene. There's so much that is deadly serious, often sad and discouraging, that we all could do with a bit of the lighter side, these days. But I haven't been fishing in months, and I can't truthfully say that I have done a bellybuster in any of our lakes or streams, or have hooked myself in the seat of the pants on the back-cast, or anything of that sort. And those fellows who usually have one to tell about somebody else have hibernated; so, till fairer weather we must struggle along in our bumbling, prosaic way. But just let me near the water!

LETTER FROM A DEBTOR

The following, handed to me, purports to be a letter from a fellow whom most of us know, or have some sort of rapport with. He's writing one to whom he owes a bit of money.

Dear sir:

It is impossible for me to send you a cheque.

My present financial condition is due to the effects by federal laws, county laws, corporation laws, by-laws, brother-in-laws, mother-in-laws and outlaws, that have fostered upon an unsuspect-

(See ALLEN, page six)



Kory Caudill, of the Kentucky Opry, will perform tomorrow night in the Belmont University School of Music's 16th Annual Commercial Music Showcase, in Nashville.

Caudill making name for himself in music world

by KATHY J. PRATER
FEATURES EDITOR

With already having made quite a name for himself locally, Kory Caudill, whose talents are displayed seasonally on the Mountain Arts Center stage as a veteran member of the arts center's Kentucky Opry, is fast making quite a name for himself in parts away from here as well.

On Monday, February 4, Kory will distinguish himself by performing in the Belmont University School of Music's 16th Annual Commercial Music Showcase. The free, one hour concert will feature the school's best solo performers, arrangers, instrumentalists, background vocalists and production crew in the university's commercial music program. Kory is one of only four students selected for this prestigious concert.

A senior commercial music major with a piano performance emphasis, Kory will perform Bruce

Hornsby's "Spider Fingers," the traditional hymn "Great is Thy Faithfulness," and Stephen Still's "Love the One You're With."

In September, 45 students auditioned on the first of two nights of try-outs in front of a diverse group of music industry professionals for one of four coveted showcase spots. Ten students were called back for the second night of auditions.

Belmont's commercial music program is designed for students who wish to study contemporary/non-classical styles of music. The solo performers in the Commercial Music Showcase are indicative of the broad range of the university's commercial music program. The annual concert also features the best of the School of Music's background vocalists, instrumentalists and crew. All of the music charts for the concert have been arranged by students of Belmont's arranging classes.

In addition to Floyd County's

Kory Caudill, also appearing in the showcase as solo performers will be: Jordan Dean, of Lexington, Alabama; Cheryl LuQuire, of Meridian, Mississippi; and Mary Maples, of Cookeville, Tennessee.

Kory, the 21-year-old son of Keith and Kathi Caudill, of Prestonsburg (formerly of Hi Hat), has performed with the Kentucky Opry since the age of four. He is a graduate of Prestonsburg High School.

The Commercial Music Showcase is open to the public free of charge and will be held in the Massey Concert Hall, on the Belmont campus, in Nashville, at 6 p.m. For more information, you may call (615) 460-6408.

Belmont University School of Music offers students a comprehensive curriculum in diverse musical styles for students of all ages, including bachelor's and master's degree programs, as well as preparatory study.

Dave Evans at Appalshop

Dave Evans, one of bluegrass music's most popular performers, will be in concert at WMMT's Bluegrass Express Live, Thursday, Feb 7, at the Appalshop Theater in downtown Whitesburg. The concert will be broadcast live on WMMT-FM, 88.7.

Dave Evans, with his band River Bend, is among the most requested performers on WMMT. He has been performing since 1968 and has been a part of such bands as Red Allen and the Kentuckians, The Boys from Indiana, the Goins Brothers, and

Larry Sparks and the Lonesome Ramblers. In 1978 he formed Dave Evans and River Bend.

At the age of eight, Evans was introduced to the clawhammer banjo by his father. That was when he gave up the accordion and fell in love with the "five-string banjo." As he says, "After six or seven years of hard, never ending practice and determination, I found I was well on my way to becoming what I wanted: to be called a 'banjo picker.'"

(See EVANS, page six)



Dave Evans, a bluegrass favorite, will appear in concert on Thursday, Feb. 7, at the Appalshop Theater in downtown Whitesburg.

MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

'Alligator'

by TOM DOTY
TIMES COLUMNIST

A long neglected gem finally joined the DVD marketplace last Halloween when Lions Gate Films released this classic monster movie to DVD.

If you like 1950s-style creature features, but crave 1980s-style gore, then this effort should be in your collection and will doubtless see many spins in your player.

The film opens in Florida as a family of tourists, from Chicago, enjoy a gator wrestling show. The event goes better for the gator, which manages to take a bite out of its slow witted opponent while an emcee tries to make light of the attack by noting, "Sometimes the gator wins."



Tom Doty
Times Columnist

The couple's young daughter, Marissa, has a great time and happily accepts a baby gator for the trip home. All it takes is one bad day at the office for dad to lose it and send that baby reptile down the drain.

Cut to 12 years later where we meet a harried detective, Madison, charged with tracking down a killer when the leg of a sewer worker turns up in a storm drain. Meanwhile, a shady pet store operator is observed kidnapping pooches and selling them to an unscrupulous pharmaceutical company (is there any other kind?). Madison buys a puppy from said pet store shortly before the creep behind the counter is gobbled up by the film's killer, which is same gator glimpsed in the prologue, though now it's grown to super size due to a steady diet of animal corpses fresh from the lab seen earlier.

When pieces of the pet shop guy show up in the same storm drain, an autopsy reveals that an animal is the culprit. Madison realizes he must search the sewer system and looks for a uniformed volunteer. This turns out to be tougher than it sounds owing to Madison's lousy reputation, which he earned after losing his last partner in a gun battle. One brave young officer (read: a hotshot waiting for his abilities to catch up with his attitude) agrees to help but is soon regretting his decision as he is being chewed on by the mutant reptile.

That development doesn't help Madison's reputation and it's further complicated by a brash reporter who does a big story on Madison's ability to survive encounters which kill his compatriots. Said reporter gets wind of the alligator angle and is soon treated to an up close and personal interview with the beast when he enters its lair. This turns out to be good news for Madison, as it kills the stories about the high mortality rate of his partners. Better yet, the reporter turns out to have had a Protestant work ethic which compelled him to snap pictures of the critter as it was tucking into him.

(See LAGOON, page six)

Follow through

by SALLIE A. RODMAN
"CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE WOMAN
GOLFER'S SOUL"

"I don't want to go! How stupid, pushing little white balls around with a stick? Who ever heard of playing 18 holes as a final exam?" I fumed at my mom.

"Sallie, you have to go," she reminded me. "Your sister plays golf all the time, and she'd love to take you out on the course."

"I think I'd rather flunk out right now than play that dumb game," I

said as I stomped off to my room.

Mom was right. I did have to take the final. And my sister, Gloria, was a semi-pro golfer, so she'd probably want to get it over with quickly and painlessly. Playing with me wasn't going to be a cakewalk for her. She might even let me take a couple of mulligans to end the game faster.

The Saturday of my final arrived, and Gloria appeared at our door bright and early. How could she look so chipper and pulled together in her red, white and blue ensemble at 5 a.m.? I trudged to the car like a

woman condemned to death.

We pulled into Meadowlark Golf Course in her convertible, and she unloaded her Calloways and put her golf shoes on. I admit she did look like a pro. I got my rental clubs and headed for the first tee.

"Whoa there, Sis," Gloria called out. "If you're taking your final, you're doing it in style. We're getting a cart, and you're driving."

A cart and I'm driving. Now this is getting interesting, I thought. Maybe I'll even get to yell "fore!"

We hopped in the cart, bags of clubs in the back, and with a jerk took off for the first tee. I felt very grown up; we were playing with the big boys now.

"Head down, hips first, knees

bent, let your arms glide along after

your shoulders. Always remember to follow through." Gloria coached me.

"I'm tryin', Sis, but this isn't as easy as it looks. The follow-through is hard."

"Took me awhile to get the hang of it, too," she said with a knowing smile.

Why did I feel as though

we weren't talking golf anymore? "I only took golf as a cologne

class were geeks," I confessed to my



"I know, Mom told me," she replied. "I'm proud of you taking a Saturday off from your friends to finish your class. Do you know why I started playing this game?"

"No," I admitted. "I thought you loved golfing."

"Oh, I do now. But in the beginning this was the only place

where I could go to be alone. Just me; no kids, no husband, no

house, no phone. Out here I'm only

(See SOUP, page six)

Tom and Ray play referee

by TOM and RAY
MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:
Please save me from the brutal verbal badgering I must endure every time my husband rides with me. We have a manual transmission. Sometime during my lifetime I developed what I perceive a harmless, if not helpful, habit. As I approach slower-moving traffic or a red light, I push in on the clutch and begin to brake. When my speed gets down to,

say, where it would be in fourth gear, I put the car into fourth but don't release the clutch. I do that all the way down the gears, never releasing the clutch unless traffic starts to move, at which time I am in the proper gear and simply let out on the clutch, and voila — I am in the right gear for my speed. My husband insists that this is "down gearing" and that I am wearing out the transmission linkage or gear shifter or something. I know it's not "down gearing"

since I don't actually use the lower gear to slow down. But really, am I causing enough wear on the transmission in any way that would require maintenance sooner than the way he does it — which is to push in the clutch, leave it in until he knows what gear he wants and then move directly to that gear? My contention is that if there is an impact, it is so minimal that the car would be a rust bucket before the added "wear" would affect anything. A lot is riding on this. If I am right, I get to say "Tom and Ray say it's OK" every time I get into the car with him. But if I'm wrong, I have to do it his way. — Suzanne

TOM: The answer is, It hardly matters, Suzanne. While neither of you is doing it exactly as we would recommend, both of your methods are fine.

RAY: Neither of you is technically "downshifting,"

because downshifting occurs only when you let out the clutch in a lower gear. When you downshift to slow the car for a red light, for instance, that does wear out your clutch disc — the most expensive and most rapidly used-up part of the clutch. But that's not an issue for you guys. So you're both off the hook.

TOM: Technically, by pushing in the clutch and holding it in, you are putting a little bit of extra wear on the "throw out" bearing, which is involved in engaging and disengaging the clutch. But in most cars, that lasts for the life of the car anyway, or certainly longer than the clutch disc. The same is true for the shifter linkage and synchros, or anything else you might be using a little bit by driving your way. So I wouldn't even worry about it. Like you said, Suzanne, your car will be on my brother's shopping list (it'll be a heap) by the time



CLICK & CLACK
Talk Cars

the engine down to 1,500 or 1,000 rpm, before the car started bucking or protesting, THEN you'd push in the clutch, put the shifter in Neutral, let out the clutch, and come to a stop with the clutch still out — and leave it out until it's time to go again.

RAY: Or if, instead, the light turned green anytime while you were slowing down, you'd just shift into the appropriate gear then, let the clutch out and keep going.

TOM: So now, if you so desire, you can verbally badger your husband for not doing it the right way either, Suzanne. Or you guys can have peace talks and create a demilitarized zone on the console between the front seats.

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

Evans

Continued from p5

Evans began his picking with traditional tunes, such as "Pretty Polly," "John Henry," and "Little Maggie" and began writing his own songs at the age of 13. His music today is a blend of the traditional and modern. In fact, his most popular songs "One Loaf of Bread" and "Be Proud of the Gray in Your Hair" have become classics in their own right. He has spanned the spectrum and his rendition of "Pretty Green Hills" is on current bluegrass hit lists.

As an added bonus, Mountain Drive, a local band formerly known as Pine

Mountain Grass, will open the show at 7:30 p.m. They have delighted audiences in the mountains for years.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for students. Reservations may be made by calling the Appalshop at 606-633-0108.

88.7 WMMT-FM is a non-commercial community public radio station and is part of the Appalshop, central Appalachia's not-for-profit arts and education Center. WMMT has been broadcasting The Bluegrass Express Live since 1986.

Allen

Continued from p5

ing public. These laws compel me to pay a merchant's tax, capital tax, income tax, real estate tax, property tax, auto tax, gas tax, water tax, light tax, cigar tax, sales tax, street tax, telephone tax, telegram tax, food tax, and carpet tax.

The Government has so governed my business that I do not know who owns it. I am suspected, expected, inspected, disrespected, examined, re-examined, until all I know

is that I am supplicated for money for every known need, desire or hope of the human race, and because I refuse to fall down and go out and beg, borrow and steal money to give away. I am cussed, discussed, boycotted, talked to, talked about, lied to and lied about, held up and held down, and robbed, until I am nearly ruined—so the only reason I am clinging to life is to see what in hell is coming next.

Lagoon

Continued from p5

Armed with photographic proof, Madison is able to enlist the aid of a reptile specialist who turns out to be — wait for it — Marissa. She even tells Madison that she lost her pet alligator, which she named Ramon, but nobody does the math so that angle never goes anywhere.

After a concerted effort to comb the sewers proves fruitless, Madison decides to investigate the pharmacy chain which endorsed the experiments. He runs into a brick wall and is later booted off the force when the pharmacy's billionaire owner, Slade, gets wind of his investigation. Slade also opts to milk the situation for publicity and publicly grants the mayor a generous stipend to hire a great hunter named Brock.

Meanwhile, the gator goes on a rampage that includes fishing for tots at a pool party and crashing the wedding of Slade's daughter. That sequence is the highlight, with the creature alternating between chomping on guests and sending others into orbit with its massive tail. Brock eventually corners it in an alley but realizes too late that his ammo is not up to the task.

It all comes down to a showdown between Madison and the gator in its sewer lair in an action-packed sequence that delivers on all fronts.

What makes this work is a sharp screenplay by independent filmmaker extraordinaire John Sayles. He admits on the featurette that he loved the challenge of writing a monster movie under a two-week deadline. His reasoning was

that a director pressed for time would stick to his script and the result is a heck of a monster flick that acknowledges all things sewer related.

The best joke is that the first victim, the sewer worker, was named Ed Norton (a wink to you "Honeymooners" fans) but there are plenty of other bits, such as some scribble on a sewer wall that "Harry Lime lives." Lime was the name of Orson Welles' character from the spy classic "The Third Man" who appears to perish in a sewer during the film's climax.

Sayles' script is well directed by Lewis Teague ("Cujo") who assembles an amazing cast. Robert Foster anchors the film as the laconic Madison and proves to be a true professional by insisting that the screenplay incorporate lines about his encroaching baldness rather than making with a comb over.

Henry Silva, of Rat Pack fame, is appropriately arrogant as the hunter, and character veteran Sydney Lassick ("One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest") is suitably sleazy as the pet store owner.

Also look for Michael V. Gazzo ("The Godfather, Part 2") as a harried police chief and Vegas comedian Jack Carter as the glad handing mayor.

All in all, this is a smart low-budget treat from the same guy who wrote "Piranha" and "The Howling."

Best line: "I could bring mother. She could talk it to death."

1980, rated R.

Soup

Continued from p5

responsible for me. I have a good time, then I go back home refreshed and ready to follow through, so to speak."

I thought about that for a moment and the different reasons people golf. All of a sudden it didn't seem like such a stupid game after all.

Now, I won't lie and say I

took up golf after that day, so many years ago. I still prefer to dance rather than play 18 holes. My sister went on to win many golf tournaments before she lost her life to cancer. But I learned one thing that day — in golf, as in life, you always have to follow through.

Attention, Floyd Countians:

SPECIAL ELECTION TUESDAY, FEB. 5

Please Come Out And Vote To Re-Elect Democrat Greg STUMBO 2008 State Representative

Paid For By The Floyd County Democratic Executive Committee.

FLOYD COUNTY Sports

Inside

- Reds signing • B2
- Spring soccer • B2

No. 2 G'town clips No. 10 Pikeville in OT

TIMES STAFF REPORT

GEORGETOWN — No. 2 Georgetown scored the final nine points in overtime Thursday night to knock off No. 10 Pikeville College 87-79 in Alumni Gymnasium.

Georgetown remains one of three unbeaten teams in NAIA Div. I basketball at 22-0 and 2-0 in the Mid-South Conference. For Pikeville, a 14-game win streak comes to an end; the Bears are 17-3 and 1-1 this season.

Pikeville scored the first five points in the extra frame as senior Anthony Ighodaro

sank a three and freshman Justin Hicks scored to give Pikeville a 76-71 lead.

After the teams traded baskets, Jerry Turner scored before Taylor converted on a layup to tie the game at 78 with 2:30 left in overtime.

Nine seconds later, senior Jeff Ferguson sank one of two from the line to put the Bears back on top; from there, however, the Tigers scored the game's last nine points to win.

Kyle Sexton tied the game with a free throw with 1:57 left, and from there, it was all Taylor. Consecutive layins put the Tigers in front by four.

With 24 seconds left Saxton hit two free throws for a team that finished 13-of-31 from the stripe on the night.

Taylor finished it with a pair of free throws himself.

Junior William Harris led Pikeville with 19 points. Ferguson had a double-double with 18 points and 12 rebounds. Hicks had 16 to go with seven rebounds.

Georgetown put five players in double figures, led by Gus Chase with 19 points and 10 rebounds. Taylor had 16 markers, while Saxton and David Graham followed with 14 each. Jerry Turner tossed in

11.

PIKEVILLE COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL

UPCOMING GAMES: Feb. 7—at Lindsey Wilson, 9 p.m.; Feb. 9—Cumberlands, 4 p.m.; Feb. 12—Brescia, 7 p.m.; Feb. 16—at West Virginia Tech, 4 p.m.; Feb. 21—Georgetown, 8 p.m.; Feb. 23—at Campbellsville, 4 p.m.; Feb. 28—Lindsey Wilson, 8 p.m.; March 1—Cumberlands, 4 p.m.



photo courtesy of Dusty Layne Photography/East Kentucky Miners
EAST KENTUCKY MINER JOSH PACE missed Thursday's game versus the Albany Patroons. Pace is due back this week for the Miners.

H.S. volleyball rules changes announced

TIMES STAFF REPORT

INDIANAPOLIS — Three revisions related to officials are among changes in high school volleyball rules approved by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Volleyball Rules Committee at its January 6-8 meeting in Indianapolis. The changes subsequently were approved by the NFHS Board of Directors.

In an effort to reflect current terminology, all references to referee and umpire in the NFHS Volleyball Rules Book will be changed to first referee and second referee, respectively.

"The other major rules codes - the NCAA and USA Volleyball - use this terminology, and officials refer to themselves in this manner as well," said Becky Oakes, NFHS assistant director and liaison to the Volleyball Rules Committee.

In a similar type of "name" change, the position of "assistant scorer" will now be referred to as "libero tracker." Since the duty of this individual is to track libero replacements and substitutions, the committee determined that this change more easily identifies the position and its responsibilities.

Although the use of flags by line judges is not required in high school volleyball and has been optional, the committee revised Rule 5-8-4 to allow the use of flags on a state association-adoption basis.

"The opportunity to use flags continues," Oakes, "but the use of flags will be determined by the various state high school associations rather than on an individual basis."

A final change in Rule 1-6-2 will allow a team to have more than one captain at the pre-match conference. Previously this conference was conducted with only the head coach and one captain from each team.

"Since many teams have co-captains, the committee believed this change was needed to more accurately reflect what many states already permit," Oakes said.

As it does each year, the Volleyball Rules Committee adopted several points of emphasis for the upcoming season. The six topics identified this year were risk minimization during

(See VOLLEYBALL, page two)



FLOYD COUNTY BASKETBALL

BESTY LAYNE won all three Floyd County grade school boys' basketball divisions last week. Bobcat fans had plenty to celebrate Wednesday night as Betsy Layne won the A-, B- and C-team Floyd County championships. Betsy Layne Coach Mike Howard (pictured to the left) was named the Floyd County Coach of the Year in the B-Team and C-Team divisions. Allen Central Coach Brad Short (not pictured) was named the Floyd County A-Team Coach of the Year.



photos by Jamie Howell

Lady Eagles defeat Allen Central

by STEVE LeMASTER SPORTS EDITOR

EASTERN — Hayley Meek scored a game-high 12 points and Celena Conley added 10 Thursday night as perennial 15th Region title contender Johnson Central upended Allen Central 57-37.

Johnson Central set the tone early on in the non-district game. The Lady Eagles outscored Allen Central 22-8 in the opening quarter. Johnson Central held a scoring advantage over the Lady Rebels in each quarter.

The Lady Eagles carried a 30-12 lead into halftime.

Johnson Central improved to 15-6. The Lady Eagles own the 15th

Region's second-best record.

Amber Shepherd scored a team-high nine points for host Allen Central. Sara Johnson added eight points for the Lady Rebels.

With the loss, Allen Central dropped to 3-12.

In another game involving a 15th Region team, host Pikeville defeated Williamson, W.Va. 55-43.

Pikeville jumped out in front in the first quarter, leading 15-8 at the end of the initial period. The West Virginia team managed to battle back before Pikeville finished strong. Pikeville outscored Williamson 19-9 in the final quarter.

In a 14th Region matchup, Heather Sturdivant scored 20 points as Perry

County Central defeated Knott County Central.

The Lady Commodores improved to 11-8 after posting the win.

Megan Mosley paced Knott County Central (13-6) with a game-high 24 points.

JOHNSON CENTRAL (15-6) — Meek 12, Conley 10, C. Salyers 8, B. Salyers 7, Young 5, Workman 4, Mollette 3, Burton 2, K. Wireman 2, Stacy 2, E. Wireman 1, McKenzie 1.

ALLEN CENTRAL (3-12) — Shepherd 9, Johnson 8, Mullins 7, Brown 5, Bilter 4, Jones 4.

JC.....22 8 12 15-57
AC.....6 7 10 14-37

McLeish leads Miners past Patroons, 113-108

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE — Former Eastern Kentucky University point guard Jason McLeish scored a game-high 31 points, dished out six assists and pulled down five rebounds Thursday night as the host East Kentucky Miners defeated CBA American Conference rival Albany 113-108 at the Expo Center. The Miners outscored Albany in both the first and fourth quarters of the conference matchup.

East Kentucky won without the services of leading scorer Josh Pace, who endured cortisone shots to his feet earlier in the day and was unable to play against the Patroons.

East Kentucky won the quarter points 5-2.

The Miners led 30-27 when the first quarter drew to a close. East

Kentucky wasn't as sharp in the second period as Albany entered halftime out in front 55-53.

McLeish, registering the career-high 31 points in 48 minutes, ended the game as one of five players in double figures scoring for the Miners. Boo Jackson scored 26 points and pulled down eight rebounds for the East Kentucky professional basketball team. Lawrence Barnes, who earned a starting role in Pace's absence, contributed 14 points. Mike Dean and Marcus Heard added 13 points apiece for the Miners.

East Kentucky center Reo Logan flirted with a double-double. Logan scored nine points and hauled in a team-high 10 rebounds.

Albany left East Kentucky stunned



Jason McLeish

Wednesday night after battling back and defeating the Miners 109-108.

"I'm extremely proud of the way our team played," East Kentucky Coach Kevin Keathley commented at the end of the conference game. "Despite putting a new defense in recently, we played well defensively. From top to bottom, our guys played well — especially coming off of such a heartbreaking loss one night earlier."

East Kentucky, trailing at the end of each of the two middle quarters, finished strong. The Miners outscored Albany 113-108 in the fourth quarter.

East Kentucky went 29-for-38

from the charity stripe.

Defensively, East Kentucky excelled on several trips down the floor. The Miners forced Albany into committing 21 turnovers.

The Miners improved to 17-16, rising one game back above the .500 mark.

Nat Burton led Albany with 29 points. Jason Williams netted 24 points and Dajan Smith scored 22 for the Patroons. Lucious Jordan and Chad Timberlake also reached double figures for Albany, finishing with 13 and 12 points, respectively.

The Patroons dropped to 16-12 after suffering the setback.

East Kentucky will return to action on Monday when the Great Falls Explorers visit the Expo Center for a non-conference matchup. Tip-off for Monday's game is slated for 7:05 p.m.

Lady Bears fall to Georgetown

TIMES STAFF REPORT

GEORGETOWN — The Georgetown Lady Tigers improved to 2-0 in Mid-South Conference play with a 74-43 win over Pikeville College Thursday night.

For Pikeville (5-16, 0-2), the downfall was shooting from all three spots. The Lady Bears hit only 26 percent from the field and only 4-of-12 from the arc. But the most problematic shooting came from the line, where they sank only 13-of-26.

The 43 points are a season low for the Lady Bears, who had scored at least 55 points in all 20 of their previous games.

Georgetown, on the other hand, was 23-of-29 from the line for 79.3 percent for the game, connecting on 16-of-20 in the second half, when the Lady Tigers outscored Pikeville 40-22.

Georgetown (14-6) had three players in double figures, with sophomore Jayme Gilbert and senior Kim Ingle tossing in 17 apiece. Gilbert, who was 9-of-9 from the free throw line, had six rebounds and four assists on the night.

Junior Makaine Huffer came off the bench for 10 points.

Pikeville was paced by freshman Lakia Bailey, who came off the bench to lead the Lady Bears with 13 points and seven rebounds. Only one other Lady Bear had double figures, as junior Alice Daniel hit four three-pointers and finished with 12 points.

PC coaches, staff wear sneakers to support fight against cancer

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE — On Saturday afternoon at the Pikeville College Gym, Pikeville College and Campbellsville University joined the National Association of Basketball Coaches and their staff members as they wore sneakers with their game attire to show their support in the fight against cancer.

By wearing sneakers with their suits, participating coaches drew attention to the fact that while cancer remains a major health concern, we can all reduce our risk; for those who don't smoke, control their weight, exercise, and maintain a healthy diet are the best ways to reduce the risk of cancer. The American Cancer Society can help by providing free, lifesaving information, resources and services to anyone affected by cancer.

"Cancer is a disease that affects most every member of all our teams in some way," said Coach Kelly Wells. "We were honored to participate in cancer awareness."

"None of us are immune to cancer and we've all felt the effects of it on our lives in some way," said Coach Bill Watson. "Anything we can do to raise awareness of the efforts of the NABC is well worth it, and we're proud to participate on Saturday."

The Pikeville-Campbellsville men's and women's basketball games ended too late to make this edition.

Ask AP

By The Associated Press

It's 1974 and you're almost out of gas. Thanks to the oil crisis, a fill-up will be expensive, and might involve waiting in line — but at least those government gas rationing coupons haven't gone into effect.

Gas rationing coupons?

Whether or not you have memories of this chapter in American history, you might be curious to know what these 4.8 billion coupons were all about — and what ever happened to them all. That curiosity inspired one of five reader-submitted questions being answered in this installment of "Ask AP," an interactive Q&A column where AP journalists respond to questions about the news.

If you have your own news-related question that you'd like to see answered by an AP reporter or editor, send it to newsquestions@ap.org, with "Ask AP" in the subject line.

□□□

What can a person or family do to help stimulate the economy and avoid a recession? That is, if we weren't getting checks and someone had the idea of just TELLING the American people how they can help, what would they say?

Sharon O'Connor
Scottsdale, Ariz.

For starters, think about a poster on every street corner that reads, "Uncle Sam wants you to ... spend, spend, spend."

The fact is, fear of a recession can lead to behavior that causes a recession.

When times are uncertain, consumers and businesses become reluctant to spend their money. So, for example, companies don't build new factories or hire new employees if they're not sure they'll be able to maintain production. And consumers don't invest in a new car or TV if they're unsure they'll have a job in three months.

On the other hand, if consumers keep spending, it has a cascade effect. The consumer's money goes to the retailer, which pays its workers as well as its wholesalers; the wholesalers, in turn, pay their workers and their manufacturers; and so on down the line.

The problem, of course, is that what's good for the economy may not be good for an individual's pocketbook. Spending without regard to the security of your job — or the amount of savings and debt you've got — could be hazardous to your personal finances.

Eileen Alt Powell
AP Business Writer

□□□

What happened to the gas rationing coupons printed the 1970s?

Richard Deon
Dover Plains, N.Y.

In response to the Arab oil embargo that began in October 1973, the idea was hatched to limit gas consumption by distributing coupons that drivers would need to present whenever they went to fill up their cars. The plan was to let most drivers have 32 to 35 gallons of gas a month.

(Rising gas prices, apparently, weren't enough to limit consumption. The average price for a gallon of gas went up from 38.7 cents before the embargo to 54.2 cents a year later — in today's dollars, that's a jump from \$1.81 to \$2.28.)

The 4.8 billion coupons, created in 1974, were never distributed. Ten years later, most were shredded and buried by the Department of Energy at an estimated cost of \$145,000.

At least two sheets of the coupons were saved for the National Archives and the Smithsonian. And few other coupons managed to avoid the shredder — one is among the items on display in an ongoing exhibit on the 1973 oil crisis at the Canadian Centre for Architecture in Montreal. The museum says the coupon was bought on eBay for \$95.

Rhonda Shafner
AP News Research Center

The women's medical team at
Physicians for Women Center
is available to guide and care for you through your pregnancy and the delivery of your baby.
This group also provides annual check-ups and gynecological services and surgeries for women.



Angela Maggard, MD



Joanna Santisteban, MD



Pam Newsome, PA-C



Wendy Martin, ARNP

Physicians for Women Center

23 Willow Drive - Auxier, Kentucky

(Located 0.7 miles from Highlands Regional Medical Center)

(606) 886-8997

www.bshc.org

Physicians for Women Center accepts Medicare, Medicaid, Kenpac and most major insurance plans. The Clinic serves all persons regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, disability or national origin.



Physicians for Women Center is a division of Big Sandy Health Care, Inc.
"A proud tradition of providing access to quality health care"

When You're Having A Heart Attack Time Is Of The Essence.

You need to get help quickly from an experienced heart team that does more procedures than anyone else in the region.

Because the closest hospital isn't always the best hospital.*

- King's Daughters Medical Center is
- One of the nation's 100 Top Cardiovascular Hospitals
- An accredited Chest Pain Center
- The number one heart surgery program in the region

Tell your doctor, "I want to go to King's Daughters."

To request a free women and heart disease DVD, visit kdmc.com.

*Circulation, A Journal of the American Heart Association, Vol. 113, Issue 9 (March 7, 2006)

KING'S DAUGHTERS MEDICAL CENTER

"Talking Medicine Further."

Richard Heuer, M.D.
cardiothoracic surgeon