



Miners sign All-Star

page B1

The Times

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In brief

Feds issue new rules designed to improve coal mine rescues

by TIM HUBER
AP BUSINESS WRITER

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — The nation's 700 underground coal mines must have better trained and equipped rescue teams an hour away under new rules issued Friday by the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration.

"This regulation will help ensure that no matter where or when a mine accident occurs, dedicated men and women will be readily available and properly trained to assist in the rescue of their comrades underground," acting MSHA director Richard Stickler said in a statement.

The rules are required by a sweeping mine safety law Congress adopted after the deaths of 12 men from an explosion at the Sago Mine in January 2006 and two other high-profile accidents that year that killed seven more West Virginia and Kentucky coal miners.

One of the key provisions of the rules cuts response times for mine rescue teams in half. Mines must have rescue stations located no more than an hour away by ground. Previous rules set a two-hour response time.

Each mine also must have two rescue teams and a person familiar with how to respond to mine emergency present during each shift.

The rules also require teams to practice 96 hours a year, up from 40. MSHA says that practice must include training in smoky conditions, as well as training at mines they serve and participation in two local mine rescue contests annually.

2 DAY FORECAST



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inside

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



Mother criticizes handling of 1992 cold case

by JACK LATTA
STAFF WRITER

A Florida woman, whose son disappeared from the Prestonsburg area in 1992, openly criticized the Prestonsburg Police Department for mishandling the case in a recent interview.

"I have never in my life dealt with anything like what I dealt with there," said Kathy Cropper-Powe, the mother of Walter Joseph Cropper.

Powe, in an interview on Missing Pieces, said that she called Prestonsburg Police twice after she learned that her son had been missing, once before "the 24-hour mandatory wait period for missing persons," and again after that time had expired. Powe said after 48 hours Walter Cropper's name had still not been put on the BOLO (Be On the Look Out for) list.

"We were told by the police that they were looking for my son, that there were persons out, that they had

questioned everybody," Powe said.

Powe said that Ricky Conn, formerly a detective with the Prestonsburg Police Department, had said, "Well you know, he could be out partying somewhere."

The body of Walter Cropper was found along the roadside one month later in Adairville, Ga. According to Powe the body was so decomposed that dental x-rays were needed to identify the body.

Greg Hall, who was police chief at

the time of Cropper's disappearance, said on Friday, "We did conduct several interviews, though our involvement was minimal."

Powe said later she and her mother and sister came to Prestonsburg looking for answers and that the detective would not see them, "because he was too busy moving into his new home."

In an Oct. 16, 1992, issue of The Floyd County Times, the discovery of

(See MOTHER, page three)

YOUNG LEADERS



The Floyd County Chamber of Commerce recently announced this year's students selected to participate in the Chamber Youth Leadership Program. The leadership program was created to share various aspects of our county with our future and potential leaders. Participation in Youth Leadership Floyd County is a competitive process open to high school sophomores living in Floyd County. The students will attend full day sessions on topics such as leadership, education, government, economic development, environmental concerns, and drugs and drug abuse. The first meeting of the 2008 leadership program was held January 31, at the East Kentucky Science Center. Henry Webb, Superintendent Floyd County Schools, opened the first session delivering a message centered on leadership. The following students are participants this year: Whitney May, Samantha Williams, Elizabeth McKinney, Cody Kinney, Ambrianna Tackett, Nathan Hall, Alyshia Collins, Seth Jones, Jessica Toole, Poncho Watson, Brittany Springer, Corey Paige, Brianna Jones, Jordan Burke. They represent all four Floyd County High Schools.

Tax rebates expected to arrive beginning in May

by ANDREW TAYLOR
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Congress, facing the prospect of an election-year recession, passed an emergency plan Thursday that rushes rebates of \$600 to \$1,200 to most taxpayers and \$300 checks to disabled veterans, the elderly and other low-income people. President Bush indicated he would sign the measure.

House passage by a 380-34 vote came a few hours after Senate leaders ended a drawn-out stalemate over the bill. Still, by congressional standards, lawmakers approved the legislation with exceptional speed to jolt the weak economy. The plan, which adds \$168 billion to the deficit over two years, is intended to provide cash for people to spend and tax relief for businesses to make new investments — boosts for an economy battered by a housing downturn and credit crunch.

Rebate checks could begin arriving in May. They would be based on 2007 tax returns, which are due April 15.

The Senate's 81-16 vote capped more than a week of political maneuvering. The logjam broke when majority Democrats dropped their demand that rescue proposal offer jobless benefits, heating aid for the poor and tax breaks for the home building and energy industries.

GOP senators blocked those ideas, but agreed to add \$300 rebates for older people and disabled veterans to a \$161 billion measure the House passed last week.

Bush called the bill "robust, broad-based, timely, and it will be effective." The compromise, he said in a statement after the Senate acted, was "an example of bipartisan cooperation at a time when the American people most expect it." The White House said Bush would sign the bill sometime next week.

The legislation would deliver rebates — \$600

for individuals, \$1,200 for couples — to most taxpayers, plus an additional \$300 per child. Individuals making up to \$75,000 a year and couples earning up to \$150,000 would get the full rebate, with those making more than that or too little to owe taxes getting smaller checks.

People who paid no income taxes but earned at least \$3,000 — including through Social Security or veterans' disability benefits — would get a \$300 rebate.

"We believe the stimulus, the way it is targeted, will put money into the hands of those who will spend it immediately, injecting demand into the economy and therefore creating jobs," House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., told colleagues.

The measure also includes steps to boost the ailing housing market. It would temporarily raise the limit on Federal Housing Administration loans and the cap on loans that Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac can buy to \$729,750.

The package was the product of a rare spate of bipartisan cooperation on Capitol Hill, where Democrats and Republicans teamed with the White House on a bill that fell far short of both parties' priorities but could draw broad consensus.

An early agreement forged by Pelosi and Minority Leader John Boehner, R-Ohio, along with Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson enjoyed a fast and smooth ride through the House, with lawmakers loath to stand in the way of a plan that could address their constituents' economic worries in advance of November's elections.

But it bogged down in the closely divided Senate, where Democrats were determined to exact a political price from Republicans by forcing them into tough votes on whether to add popular items such as \$14.5 billion in jobless aid for those whose unemployment benefits have run out, \$1 billion in heating aid for the poor and tax

(See REBATE, page three)

Pike funeral director indicted on 25 charges

by CHARLOTTE SANDERS
WILLIAMSON DAILY NEWS

PIKEVILLE — The November 2007 Pike County Grand Jury has indicted a local man on one count of acting as a funeral director without a license and 24 other charges involving alleged fraud and violations of state insurance and funeral trust acts.

Richard D. Justice, 54, Pikeville, is charged with acting as a funeral director without a license from about July 31, 2004, to Oct. 25, 2006 in Pike County, performing the functions of a funeral director without the appropriate license as required by law.

Justice also is charged with 10 Class D felonies, including eight counts of committing the offense of fraudulent insurance acts by

collecting payments in excess of \$300 for life insurance burial policies for eight individuals and then failing and refusing to submit such monies to the appropriate insurer as required by law.

The defendant also is charged with 14 counts of violating the Kentucky Funeral Trust Act by collecting funds in excess of \$300 for the pre-need funerals of 14 persons and then failing and refusing to create or place such funds in a trust as required by law. Two other counts charge him with theft by failure to make required disposition of collected funds, dealing with said property as his own.

The indictment accuses Justice of committing the offenses personally or in complicity with agents of Justice Funeral Home.

Beshear says gambling plan due out this week

The Associated Press

FRANKFORT — Gov. Steve Beshear says he's planning to unwrap his casino gambling proposal by the end of the week.

Casino license fees could be sold to bring in money to help offset a projected shortfall of nearly \$900 million in the next budget cycle, Beshear told reporters Friday. The Democratic governor said

he will propose a constitutional amendment that could lead to the legalization of casinos.

"Obviously, issues like this are controversial and much depends upon the details," Beshear said at an impromptu press conference outside his office. "People need to see it. They need to be able to digest it and talk about it and dis-

(See PLAN, page three)



photo by Bud Kraft, LRC Public Information
Rep. Johnny Bell, D-Glasgow (left), looks over an amendment with Rep. Leslie Combs, D-Pikeville, prior to the start of the day's legislative session in the Kentucky House.

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Regional Obituaries

FLOYD COUNTY

■ Dorothy Jean Fletcher Allen, 80, of Allen, died Thursday, January 24, at Paul B. Hall Medical Center, Paintsville. Funeral services were conducted Monday, January 28, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

■ Opal Lafferty Branham, 94, of Dwale, died Wednesday, January 23, at home. Funeral services were held Friday, January 25, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Judy Mae Caudill, 66, of Melvin, died Tuesday, January 22, at Central Baptist Hospital in Lexington. Funeral services were held Friday, January 25, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ George Cooley, 56, of Banner, died Tuesday, February 5, at his residence. Funeral services were held Friday, February 8, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Martin Gregory Halbert, 55, of Langley, died Thursday, February 7, at McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Belinda Lee Jones Halbert. Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 10, in the Hall Funeral Home Chapel.

■ Ethel Hamilton, 80, of Teaberry, died Wednesday, February 6, in the Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, February 9, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Joe Wheeler Jarrell, 93, of Louisa, a native of Water Gap, passed away, Thursday, January 31, at the Prestonsburg Health Care Center. Funeral services were held Monday, February 4, under the direction of Young Funeral Home Chapel, in Louisa.

■ Pauline Sexton Johnson, 72, of Melvin, died Monday, February 4, at the Pikeville Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, L.A. Johnson. Funeral services were held Thursday, February 7, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Archie Gale Kennedy, 61, of Christiansburg, Va., a Floyd County native, died Saturday, February 2, at Montgomery Regional Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Bonnie McClintock Kennedy. Memorial services were held Tuesday, February 5, under the direction of McCoy Funeral Home of Blacksburg, Va.

■ Lucinda Alice Hunter Kidd, 81, of Martin, died January 27, at Bordean Long Term Care in Nashville, Tennessee. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 31, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Carla Jeanne Meade, 43, of Hi Hat, died Tuesday, January 22, at Otter Creek Correctional Center. Funeral services were held Saturday,

January 26, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Dorothy Miller, 51, of Lackey, died January 23, at the Golden Years Rest Home. She is survived by her husband, Charles Miller. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 26, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Willie D. Petry, 76, of Prestonsburg, died Monday, February 4, at her residence. Funeral services were held Thursday, February 7, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Dillard (Snow Ball) Shepherd, 65, of Hueysville, died Friday, February 1, at St. Joseph Hospital, in Martin. He is survived by his wife, Judy Cole Shepherd. Funeral services were held Tuesday, February 5, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Roger Lee Williams, 66, of Mallory, W.Va., a native of Craynor, died Friday, February 1, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Jeanette Johnson Williams. Funeral services were held Tuesday, February 5, under the direction of Krantz-McNeely Funeral Home of Man, W.Va.

■ Rubel G. Wright, 96, of Hi Hat, died Tuesday, February 5, at the McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Friday, February 8, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

PIKE COUNTY

■ Larry Baker, 60, of Byrdstown, Tenn., formerly of Dorton, died Thursday, January 31, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Peggy France Baker. Funeral services were held Sunday, February 3, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ 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 the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ Brian "Heavy Duty" Cable, 38, of Dorton, died Tuesday, February 5. He is survived by his wife, Beverly Lynn Cable. Funeral services were held Sunday, February 10, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ Pricey Casey, 89, of Roseann, Va., a native of Phelps, died Friday, February 1, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Monday, February 4, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

■ Travis Coleman, 73, of Shelbiana, died Sunday, February 3, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Trula Mariah Coleman. Funeral services were held Wednesday, February 6, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ Bill Coles, 75, a Pikeville native, died Wednesday, Jan. 30, after an extended illness. He is survived by his wife, Elsie Cole. Funeral services were held Monday, February 4, under the direction of Cotner Funeral Home, Reynoldsburg, Ohio.

■ Floyd Collins Jr., 38, of Kimper, died Sunday, February 3. He is survived by his wife, Lillian Jean Collins. Funeral services were held Thursday, February 7, under the direction of Community Funeral Home.

■ Josephine "Jo" Edmonds, 82, of Pikeville, died Saturday, February 2, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Tuesday, February 5, under the direction of J.W. Call Funeral Home.

■ Lucille Akers Estep, 82, of Dorton, died Sunday, February 3, at Pikeville Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Lester Estep. Funeral services were held Tuesday, February 5, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

■ Dixie Leedy Hess, 87, of McAndrews and Kimper, died Saturday, February 2, at Appalachian Regional Hospital. Funeral services were held Tuesday, February 5, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Marshall Hopson Jr., 81, of Stopover, died Thursday, February 7, at Williamson Memorial Hospital. Arrangements, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

■ Dewayne Kendrick, 35, of Pikeville, died Saturday, February 2, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Angela Necley Kendrick. Funeral services were held Wednesday, February 6, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ Joshua Morgan, 22, of New Mexico, formerly of Pike County, died Monday, January 28. Funeral services were held Monday, February 4, under the direction of Thacker Funeral Home.

■ Patty Crum Mullins, 67, of Pikeville, died Thursday, January 31, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Monday, February 4, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

■ Alice Coleman Mullins, 93, of Buckfield, a Pike County native, died Wednesday, February 6, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Saturday, February 9, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ Ray Slone, 73, of Kimper, died Friday, February 1, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Phyllis Slone. Arrangements, under the direction of Community Funeral Home.

■ Judith Karen Bostic Wallace, 57, of Goody, died Monday, February 4, at Williamson Memorial

Hospital, Williamson, W.Va. She is survived by her husband, Gordon Lee Wallace. Funeral services were held Wednesday, February 6, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Glema Potter Ward, 78, of Elkhorn City, died Monday, February 4, at Pikeville Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Eugene Ward. Funeral services were held Friday, February 8, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ Beulah Mae "Butchie" West, 85, of Canada, died Friday, February 1, at her residence. Funeral services were held Monday, February 4, under the direction of Hatfield Funeral Chapel.

KNOTT COUNTY

■ Jerald Hugh "Coz" Cosimini, 33, of Chillicothe, Ohio, died Monday, January 28, at the Fairfield Medical Center, Lancaster, Ohio. He is survived by his wife, Jennifer Cosimini. Funeral services were held Saturday, February 2, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Ida Lovins, 75, of Vest, died Tuesday, January 29, at the Hazard ARMC. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, January 31, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Josephine Conley Moore, 83, of Hazard, a native of Estill, died February 7 at the Hazard ARMC. Funeral services were conducted Monday, February 4, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Rosa Lena Noble, 56, of Emmalena, died January 29, at Hazard ARMC. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 31, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Aretta Smith Reynolds, 79, of Littcarr, died Tuesday, January 22, at the Hazard Nursing Home. She is survived by her husband, Raymond Eugene Reynolds. Funeral services were held Friday, January 25, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Rudolph Smith, 69, of Leburn, died February 2, at Clay City. Funeral services were held Tuesday, February 5, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Hindman.

■ Ray Watts, 78, of Burnside, formerly of Knott County, died Sunday, January 20, at the Lake Cumberland Hospital at Somerset. He is survived by his wife, Eureka Joe Boleyn Watts. Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 22, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

MAGOFFIN COUNTY

■ Roland H. Conley, 89, of

Salyersville, died Monday, January 21. He is survived by his wife, Hazel Matthews Conley. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, January 26, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

■ Delphia Marie Hale, 87, a Magoffin County native, died Sunday, January 6, at the University of Kentucky Hospital.

JOHNSON COUNTY

■ Charles "Red" Butcher, 69, of Boons Camp, died Saturday, February 2, at Hospice Care Center, in Ashland. Funeral services were held Tuesday, February 5, under the direction of the Preston Funeral Home.

■ Billy E. Clifton, 62, of Wabash, Indiana, a native of Van Lear, died Thursday, January 31, at Wabash Skilled Care Center, in Wabash. Funeral services were held Monday, February 4, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Dixie Lee Coats, 83, of Staffordsville, died Thursday, February 7, at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center, Paintsville. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Jon Brennan Davis, 30, of Lexington, formerly of Sitka, died Tuesday, February 5, at his residence. Funeral services were held Friday, February 8, under the direction of the Phelps & Son Funeral Home.

MARTIN COUNTY

■ George H. Endicott, 71, of Louisa, a Martin County native, died Friday, February 1, at Three Rivers Medical Center, in Louisa. He is survived by his wife, Laura Maynard Endicott. Funeral services were held Sunday, February 3, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

LAWRENCE COUNTY

■ Jerald Hugh "Coz" Cosimini, 33, of Chillicothe, Ohio, died Monday, January 28, at the Fairfield Medical Center, Lancaster, Ohio. He is survived by his wife, Jennifer Cosimini. Funeral services were held Saturday, February 2, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Troy "Ralph" Justice, 86, of Louisa, died Thursday, January 21, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Mildred Olive Hammond Justice. Funeral services were held Sunday, February 1, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

■ Ida Lovins, 75, of Vest, died Tuesday, January 29, at the Hazard ARMC. Funeral

services were conducted Thursday, January 31, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Josephine Conley Moore, 83, of Hazard, a native of Estill, died February 7 at the Hazard ARMC. Funeral services were conducted Monday, February 4, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Rosa Lena Noble, 56, of Emmalena, died January 29, at Hazard ARMC. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 31, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Rudolph Smith, 69, of Leburn, died February 2, at Clay City. Funeral services were held Tuesday, February 5, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Hindman.

Obituaries

Lorene Wright

Lorene Wright, 67, of Van Lear, passed away, Thursday, February 7, 2008, at her home.

She was born April 24, 1940, in Richmond, the daughter of the late Roy Lee and Barbara Ann Fransted Callahan. She had been an LPN at the VA Hospital in Lexington, and attended the Old Log Cabin Church.

She is survived by her husband, Carl Wright.

Other survivors include three sons: Marty and Cindi Wright, and family, of Lucasville, Ohio; Lindy and Darlene Wright, and family, of Candler, North Carolina; and Eddie Kelly of Florida; two sisters: Gerry Lockhart and husband, Gerald, of Corbin; and Carol Ann Rucker of Bulls Gap, Tennessee; four brothers and their wives: Daniel and Bev Callahan of Van Nuys, California; Robert and Patty Callahan, and Jim and Valerie Callahan of Batavia, Ohio; and Roy Lee and Rita Callahan of McKee; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a brother, Paul Callahan; and two sisters: Wanda Baker and Willa Wells.

Her funeral will be at 2 p.m., Sunday, February 10, at the O'Neil Funeral Home Chapel, in Corbin, with Rev. Herbert Wells officiating.

Burial will be at Rest Haven Cemetery.

Visitation will be after 12 noon, Sunday, at O'Neil Funeral Home.

Condolences may be sent to www.oneilfh.com. (Paid obituary)

FCT ONLINE POLL

RESULTS FOR WEEK OF FEB. 10 - FEB. 16, 2008

Are you in favor of casino gambling in Kentucky?

Yes	██████████	(129 Votes, 47%)
Yes, if a casino is located in Floyd County	██████	(51 Votes, 19%)
Yes, as long as a casino is NOT located in Floyd County	██	(5 Votes, 2%)
Not under any circumstances	██████████	(90 Votes, 33%)

Go online today and answer this week's question!

Of the final four viable candidates, who do you favor as the next president?

- Hillary Clinton
- Mike Huckabee
- John McCain
- Barack Obama
- Either Democrat
- Either Republican
- None of the above
- Undecided

FCT ONLINE POLL

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The official web portal
of the Federal Government

For government information by phone, call 1-800-FED-INFO (that's 1-800-353-4636).
A public service message from the U.S. General Services Administration.

Critics squawk at move to make fried chicken official picnic food

by ROGER ALFORD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — Animals rights advocates are squawking at a measure that would make fried chicken Kentucky's official picnic food.

State Rep. Charles Siler is sponsoring legislation to honor the late Colonel Harland Sanders, the Kentuckian who founded the fried chicken chain that now has 11,000 restaurants in more than 80 countries. The bill singles out KFC's "finger lickin' good" Original Recipe, which Sanders first served in a Corbin restaurant in 1940, for the designation.

The Colonel's fried chicken deserves the title from Kentucky lawmakers, Siler said, because of the worldwide attention and the economic benefit it has brought to the state. By approving the bill, he said, the legislature would be helping Louisville-based KFC to market the product.

"It's not a tongue in cheek action," Siler said. "It has economic considerations both for the state of Kentucky and for the city of Corbin, and I'm sure the company sees value in it as well."

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals bristles at the idea. The animal rights group claims that the chickens KFC serves are abused, even tortured.

"If the state legislature moves forward with this one, then they should change Kentucky's state bird from the cardinal to the debeaked, crippled, scalded, diseased, dead chicken," said PETA vice president Bruce Friedrich.

PETA has been involved in a long-standing battle with KFC, and even began a push two years ago to have a bust of the bespectacled Colonel Sanders removed from the Kentucky Capitol. Sanders, with his white goatee and black string tie, became recognizable worldwide by marketing his fried chicken.

Siler's move to honor Original Recipe comes on the heels of an announcement by Louisville-based KFC that all 5,500 of its U.S. restaurants have stopped frying chicken in artery-clogging trans fats. The company switched to a new soybean oil believed to be less likely to cause heart disease.

KFC spokeswoman Laurie Schalow said the company is glad Kentucky lawmakers are

considering Siler's legislation. "We think this is a great way to honor the Colonel's legacy,"

Schalow said. "Whether left wing or right wing, we think this is something both sides can agree on."

The legislation is House Bill 331.

Plan

cuss it."

Beshear's support for legalizing casino gambling in Kentucky has been no secret. He campaigned against former Gov. Ernie Fletcher, a Republican, on a platform that included his call for a constitutional amendment allowing casinos.

Home of the Kentucky Derby, the Bluegrass state has long allowed gambling in various forms — at race tracks, bingo halls and through a state lottery. Casinos would be new, and are likely to be a polarizing issue in a Bible belt state where the Ten Commandments are posted in the Capitol Rotunda.

Recently, Beshear proposed an \$18.5 billion two-year spending proposal that calls for significant cuts to state government agencies and public universities. Soaring costs in the state's Medicaid and prison systems are causing financial woes across state government.

But Beshear, the son of a preacher, says the revenue generated from casinos can help plug a gaping budget hole.

Lawmakers could, if they desire, pass a supplemental budget contingent upon the legislature passing the proposed constitutional amendment and then Kentucky vot-

ers ratifying it.

"It would be enlightening for everybody in the legislature and the general public to know that if this does pass, and we'll generate those revenues, then we would have a plan for the spending of those revenues that would relieve some of the significant reductions that we've had to propose at this point," Beshear said.

House Speaker Jody Richards, D-Bowling Green, said he thought the idea of passing a supplemental budget based on possible revenue from selling casino licenses could "probably" make it easier to pass a constitutional amendment out of the House.

Nevertheless, such legislation could have problems navigating the General Assembly in an election year. Senate President David Williams, R-Burkesville, opposes the idea.

"We don't need this corrupting influence in this state," Williams said earlier this week.

Beshear said he was "relatively confident" that he could convince lawmakers in both the House and Senate to support his proposal.

"If expanded gaming were approved, it would go a long way toward resolving our revenue problems right now and for the foreseeable future," Beshear said.

Continued from p1

Vet rep at library

by JACK LATTA
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — The Emma Wells May Library will host a function to assist veterans with filing for benefits next week.

The Veterans benefits Field Representative will be at the Floyd County Library in Prestonsburg from 1:30 to 3:30

pm. The service is provided free of charge by the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs. Veterans will need to furnish copies of pertinent documentation to verify eligibility.

For more information, contact the office for veterans affairs at 1-877-856-0004.

Bill would exclude federal rebates from state taxes

The Associated Press

FRANKFORT — A lawmaker has filed legislation that would excuse Kentuckians from paying state income tax on federal tax rebate checks.

Republican State Rep. David Floyd of Bardstown filed the measure on Friday.

Congress passed an emergency plan Thursday that rush-

es rebates of \$600 to \$1,200 to most taxpayers and \$300 checks to disabled veterans, the elderly and other low-income people. President Bush has indicated he would sign the measure.

Floyd said "people need to understand that it's not going to be a tax burden to accept the checks."

Rebate

Continued from p1

breaks for energy companies, including coal producers.

Senate Democratic leaders paired those items with rebates for older Americans and disabled veterans and threatened that Republicans would have to accept them or risk being blamed for leaving those politically powerful groups out of the stimulus plan.

In the end, though, Democrats couldn't draw enough support for their \$205 billion alternative to break a GOP filibuster blocking it.

The turnaround in the Senate came after Democrats on Wednesday fell just one vote short of overcoming the Republican objections and pressing ahead with their more costly plan.

They relented Thursday and allowed a vote on a more limited proposal that included the rebates for the elderly and veterans, plus language designed to prevent illegal immigrants from getting the checks.

"I could have played around with this and tried to pick up that 60th vote, but I made a commitment to get this bill done before (Feb. 15), and we did that," said Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev.

The retreat came after Pelosi sided with Republicans, including Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, and urged the Senate to stop its fighting and pass the bill.

Thirty-three Republicans joined 46 Democrats and the Senate's two independents to pass the measure. Sixteen Republican senators voted against the plan.

The two Democratic presidential candidates, Sens. Hillary Rodham Clinton of New York and Barack Obama

of Illinois, skipped the vote. The Republican front-runner, Sen. John McCain of Arizona, cast his first vote of the year on the bill, voting "yes." McCain had missed the vote the evening before.

Reid defended his decision to try to pressure Republicans on the larger proposal by offering it as a take-it-or-leave-it proposition along with the rebates for the elderly and veterans. "I feel very strongly that we did the right thing," Reid said.

Democrats said Republicans would pay a political price for their opposition.

"If today (Republicans) are squirming because they voted 'no,' that's what democracy is all about," said New York Sen. Charles Schumer, the head of the Senate Democratic Campaign Committee. "The political chips will fall where they may."

But Democratic Sen. Max Baucus of Montana, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, said: "Discretion is the better part of valor. The best thing for us to do is declare a big victory that we've achieved; namely, getting the rebate checks to 20 million seniors and 250,000 disabled veterans."

Some Republicans expressed reservations that the rebate checks would help much. Other lawmakers worried about expanding the budget deficit.

"We have to remember that every dollar being spent on the stimulus package is being borrowed from our children. And our children's children," said Sen. Judd Gregg, R-N.H., who voted against the bill.

Cropper's body was reported. According to that report, Cropper had been attending career retraining courses at the Carl D. Perkins Job Corps Center, when he disappeared under mysterious circumstances. Cropper had last been seen at 1 p.m. on Sept. 20, 1992.

In a letter to the editor in The Times on Oct. 23 of that year, Kim Slone, then of Bevinville, said, "Why is it that nothing was said or written by the news media until his body was found and positively identified almost a month later?"

In the letter, Slone continued to assail the lack of attention Cropper's disappearance had generated, saying, "Would his description and picture have been on local newscasts and the front page of the FCI — if he had been a well-known, well-liked student from PCC or Prestonsburg High School who disappeared under 'mysterious circumstances' — instead of 'just another runaway from the Job Corps Center?'"

Ricky Conn was not immediately available for comment. After leaving the PPD Conn went to work as a Kentucky State Trooper.

Conn, now retired, was recognized for heroism for a 2004 incident in which, after an explosion occurred in his Ivel neighborhood, he rescued a mother and child from their burning home, despite suffering severe burns himself.

In 2005, Gov. Ernie Fletcher presented Conn with the Governor's Medal of Valor, which is reserved for troopers displaying conspicuous heroism in the line of duty under circumstances of extreme danger.

According to the Georgia Department of Investigation, police in Florida arrested a Floyd County man in February of 1993, Harry Eugene Hale, 46, of Martin, for questioning in Georgia in connection with a missing Swiss exchange student, Chris Zahn, sexual assaults against young males, and possibly the slaying of Cropper. According to reports, Hale was a resident of Austell,

Ga., at the time of Zahn's 1992 disappearance. He also owned homes in Kentucky and Florida.

No evidence ever came forward linking Hale to Cropper's murder, though he was incarcerated for credit card fraud after being filmed using cards belonging to Zahn. Hale is currently serving a prison sentence in Georgia and will not come up for parole until 2013.

Missing Pieces is a weekly one hour public service broadcast aired over the internet at www.LFGRC.org.

According to its website, The Lost & The Found Global Resource Center provides

news and highlights existing programs and services, in the volunteer sector, that assists law enforcement identify the deceased as well as help locate the missing.

Continued from p1

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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

A strong effort for uncertain times

As a starting point, Gov. Steve Beshear's budget proposal is a strong effort. His recommendation that base funding for public elementary and secondary education stay at the current level is the correct approach, reflecting the importance of K-12 education. School districts will still feel pressure because the budget includes no increases for many other school services and there's no new money for teacher raises, but protecting the Support Education Excellence in Kentucky formula from cuts will allow districts to hold their own. Reducing the amount districts receive based on their average daily attendance would have been destructive and caused schools to lose ground.

Shielding K-12 education during austere times means that cuts had to be made elsewhere. Beshear spread the pain around. The Kentucky Department of Education would lose 12 percent of its funding under the Beshear proposal, which means districts will lose money for professional development, safe-school initiatives, textbooks and extended school services. Social service and public health programs other than Medicaid will have much less to spend.

By preserving the SEEK formula, Beshear placed a strong priority on elementary and secondary education that should send a clear message to lawmakers to also protect it. Cuts in other areas of government reflect the reality of tight revenues.

Public colleges and universities will suffer most under the Beshear proposal. Higher-education spending will be trimmed 12 percent in the first year of the budget, with only slightly more money the second year. Higher tuition, lower enrollment and canceled programs will be the likely result. But Beshear's plan supports universities being able to issue bonds to pay for their projects, restores vetoed projects, maintains funding for need-based financial aid and funds Bucks for Brains with a \$60 million bond issue. Bucks for Brains brings top researchers to state schools. Those recommendations should make the pain more bearable.

The governor's budget cuts spending for human services, but it increases Medicaid and criminal-justice spending.

Beshear did the smart thing by not simply cutting the budget across the board to meet what is expected to be much lower revenue growth than previously anticipated. The budget for 2006-08 was \$18.1 billion, but spending cuts had to be made to pay the state's bills through June. The general fund budget Beshear presented on Jan. 29 for 2008-10 totals \$18.5 billion in spending.

With so little new revenue to work with, it will be challenging for the House and Senate to improve the budget, but we don't doubt that the collective experience of many legislators can make a difference. It will be interesting to follow the budget process in the coming two months. If savings or additional money can be found, the first priority should be to lessen the blow to higher education.

—Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer



—Rich Lowry Column

'Liberal Fascism'

The f-bomb of American politics is the word "fascist," routinely hurled by the left at conservatives. Ronald Reagan and Barry Goldwater were smeared as incipient fascists, and George W. Bush now receives the honor.

The operational meaning of the word "fascism" for most liberals who invoke it is usually "shut up." It's meant to bludgeon conservatives into silence. But many on the left also genuinely believe there is something fascistic in the DNA of contemporary conservatism.

In his brilliant new book "Liberal Fascism," Jonah Goldberg (a colleague of mine) demonstrates how the opposite is the case, that fascism was a movement of the left and that liberal heroes like Woodrow Wilson and Franklin Delano Roosevelt were products of what Goldberg calls "the fascist moment" in America. How we think of the ideological spectrum — socialism to the left, fascism to the right — should be forever changed.

Benito Mussolini earned the title "Il Duce" as the leader of the socialists in Italy. When he founded the fascist party, its program called for implementing a minimum wage, expropriating property from landowners, repealing titles of nobility, creating state-run secular schools and imposing a progressive tax rate. Mussolini took socialism and turned

it in a more populist and militaristic direction, but remained a modernizing, secular man of the left.

The Nazis too were socialists, "enemies, deadly enemies, of today's capitalist economic system," in the words of the party's ideologist Gregor Strasser. The Nazis wanted to chase conventional Christianity from public life and overturn tradition, replacing them with an all-powerful state. Both Hitler and Mussolini were revolutionaries, bitterly opposed to "reactionary" forces in their societies.

By what standard, then, are they considered conservatives who took things to extremes? The left points to their anti-Semitism and militarism. But anti-Semitism isn't an inherently right-wing phenomenon — Stalin's Russia was anti-Semitic. As for militarism, these regimes looked to it as a way to mobilize and organize society, something deeply anathema to the anti-statist tradition of postwar American conservatism.

On the other hand, the progressive movement of the early 20th century looked to Mussolini as an inspiration. Goldberg eviscerates Woodrow Wilson as the closest we have ever

had to a fascist president. Wilson and his supporters welcomed World War I as an opportunity to expand the state, instituting "war socialism" and a far-reaching crackdown on dissent.

FDR picked up where Wilson left off. The crisis of the Great Depression was the occasion for reviving "war socialism," the classic fascist impulse to mobilize society and put it on a war footing.

Goldberg argues that "liberal fascism" — the phrase was coined by H.G. Wells, and he meant it positively — is a distant heir to European fascism. The liberal version is pacifist rather than militaristic and feminine rather than masculine in its orientation, but it also seeks to increase the power of the state and overcome tradition in sweeping crusades pursued with the moral fervor of war.

Goldberg's book is a profound cautionary tale about the perils of state aggrandizement and of revolutionary movements. If nothing else, it should convince liberals that it's time to find a new insult.

□□□

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.



—beyond the beltway

A primary season we shan't miss

by DONALD KAUL
MINUTEMAN MEDIA

If all goes well, as you read this I will be in Patagonia taking a last look at the magnificent glaciers there before the global warming our president says does not exist swallows them. (I know, he's finally admitted that it exists but since he's not going to do anything about it, so what?)

Never fear. I shall continue to follow the presidential election from the bottom of the world. Not a bad vantage point, actually. It kept me away from the president's State of the Union address, for one thing, thus sparing me from ingesting more lies than are good for me.

The primary campaigns are all but over by now and not a moment too soon. I have found watching them a rather dispiriting exercise. The Republicans, of course, have been hopeless, empty of any ideas that William McKinley didn't have first.

John McCain has been somewhat of an exception but by so little a margin as to be inconsequential. The Republicans are wedded to the mistakes of the past and seek to relive them. Good luck to them as well as good riddance. I admit that I had hope for the Democrats. The first black man to be a serious candidate for president. The first woman. A slick lawyer who could talk Southern. What's not to like? Well, it would have been nice if

they'd been more realistic, for one thing. After Barack Obama rode the theme of "change" to victory in Iowa, they all got on that horse. Suddenly everybody was an agent of change. Elect Obama-Clinton-Edwards and change would be on your doorstep the next morning. I don't buy it. As a meaningless rallying cry, "Change" ranks up there with "Boola-Boola."

Change what? How, who and why? You're going to give us national healthcare? How are you going to pay for it? Oh, you're going to tax the rich, make businesses pay extra, cut those three Horsemen of the Bureaucratic Apocalypse: Waste, Fraud and Abuse.

That won't do it. There aren't that many rich people and even if there were, they didn't get rich by letting political mendicants take money away from them.

Our businesses have trouble competing overseas now, but the added burden of financing our health care system on them and they'll collapse altogether. Waste, Fraud and Abuse? Everybody promises to do away with them. They're like cockroaches; they'll be here long after we're gone. What of the campaigns then? Disappointing.

I like Obama. I'm a sucker for a well-turned phrase and he (and his speechwriters) have a facility that borders on eloquence. I think back on his victory speech after the Iowa caucuses when he said: "... on this January night, at this defining moment in history you have done what the cynics said we couldn't do

... In lines that stretched around schools and churches, in small towns and in big cities, you came together as Democrats, Republicans and independents, to stand up and say that we are one nation. We are one people. And our time for change has come."

Not a lot of meat there, perhaps, but good poetry and a campaign should have that. I was moved by it.

And how did the Clintons (there are two of them, you know) respond? By launching a smarmy attack larded with half-truths and misrepresentations. Obama has complained about it and he's been right. Again and again, one or the other of the Clintons has mischaracterized Obama's record and his words. I shouldn't have expected any better from Bill. Although an exceptionally brilliant, gifted man he has a hole where his character is supposed to be. He's proven it time and again and he's doing it still.

I am not offended by Obama's sake. If he's nominated the Republicans will give him 10 times worse. But I expected more from Hillary than a standard-issue Republican slash-and-burn campaign of disinformation. It is a noble thing to become the first woman president. One should seek it nobly.

□□□

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 dkaul@verizon.net.

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INSIDESTUFF

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

CAR TALK:

What to do when your mechanic is a drip

see pg. A6

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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.

Why I wait till it won't wait any longer to do this column, I do not know. But I have waited again, here we are, and that sheet of paper, looks mighty blank. Almost as blank as the stare that is fixed on it.

HOPEFUL LIMP

This man was making his way down the street as if on a "gimpy" leg when an acquaintance inquired about what had happened him.

"Nothing," the other grumbled. "The other leg has hurt so much I'm just favorin' the good one, hopin' it won't give me so much trouble."

CHRISTMAS STORY

It might just be that the most vivid recollection a certain young saleslady here has of Christmas, is that of Lenna Moore turning up at the check-out counter, bearing a giant, economy-size bottle of Milk of Magnesia and asking her if she minded gift-wrapping it.

SOLVING THE TAX PROBLEM

We join those who are opposing the bill before the General Assembly seeking state aid to parochial schools. We have nothing against schools operated by churches, but separation of church and state should also include separation, when the financial going gets rough.

A good-humored view of the subject is taken in the following, which was written by an anonymous contributor to the Buffalo Evening News, and sent me by W. G. Duncan of Louisville.

"To all those who want the taxpayers of the community to underwrite the cost of a special interest private school, I respectfully submit the following solution.

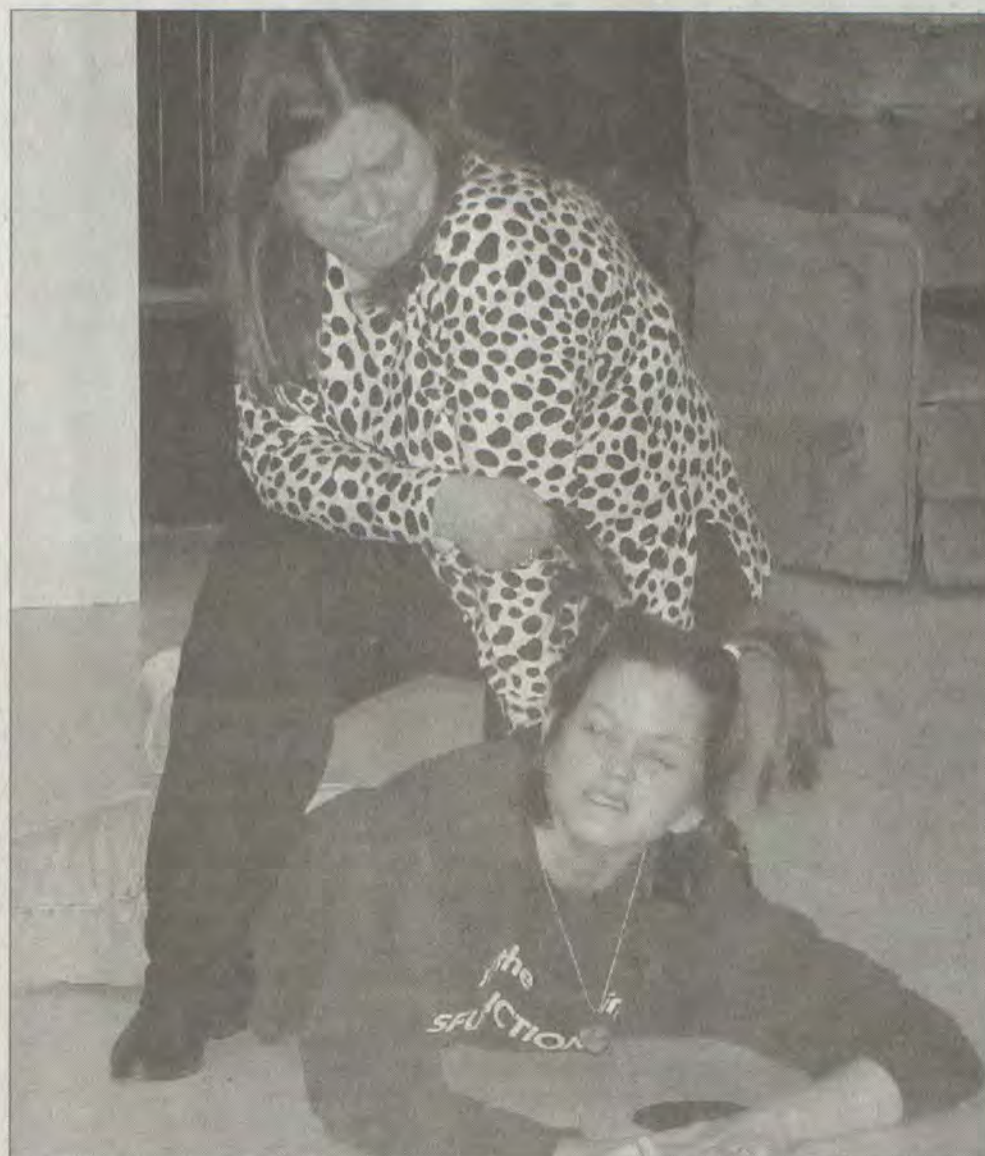
"Let's return public school taxes to all parents who send their children to parochial schools. Also, let's return these same taxes to those having no children in school. Then we'll return tax money used for national defense to all people whose religious convictions do not permit armed conflict. Next, refund Social Security payments to those people of means, who will never receive their benefits.

"In addition, let's reimburse all tax money used for public swimming pools to those owning private pools, and return all tax money used for road construction to those not having an automobile. How about the thousands of people who own large farms and never use the public parks? We'll return their tax payments too.

"After all taxes have been returned, we'll return the country to the Indians and all jump in the lake."

CANDIDATE IN THE MAKING!

(See ALLEN, page six)



Terry Thies and Janet McReynolds battle during rehearsals for the upcoming performance of SYLVIA, a play involving a family pet. May the better species win. Show dates are Feb. 22, 23 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 24 at 3 p.m. in the Jolly Classroom Auditorium on the Hazard Campus of Hazard Community and Technical College.

The stars are out in 'Sylvia'

Watching others on the stage often spurs thoughts of our own dreams of stardom, which almost everyone has encountered at some point in life. But, what is it that constitutes a star? Do you have to have a degree in Theatre? Do you have to be able to recite Shakespeare? No way! The great thing about community theatre is that it is composed of everyday Joe's that you would meet on the street. They just all happen to have an interest in theatre. The actors who will be performing Sylvia as part of the Greater Hazard Area Performing Arts Series are your neighbors, business owners and fellow citizens, but they will demonstrate in this performance that they are also comedians!

This is the first show performed by the Appalachian Regional Theatre Society where the lead is a member of the canine species. Yes, "Sylvia," the play's title character, is a dog. Sylvia is played by Janet McReynolds who seems to have captured the essence of this free-spirited pooch with her lop-sided ears and heart-shaped collar. You may actually forget, for a brief moment, that she is really human, even though many of her lines are delivered while standing on two, as opposed to four, feet. Janet was active in theatre in Nashville before moving to Kentucky. She has performed in plays such as Camelot, Once Upon a Mattress, Quilters (twice), and The Good Doctor. Janet has had two roles with Hazard Little Theatre: Tilly in 2005's My Son Is Crazy, But

Promising, and Truvy in 2006's Steel Magnolias.

Robert Campbell plays as Greg, the kind-hearted gentleman suffering a mid-life crisis whose proverbial wounds of life are to be healed by his chance encounter with Sylvia. Robert has been in many past performances for ARTS including his role as King Arthur in Camelot, Max in The Sound of Music, Daddy Warbucks in Annie, the lion in The Wizard of Oz, and Charlie Brown in You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown. Robert is the husband of Susan Campbell and father of Noah and works at Kentucky River Properties.

In her debut role with the Appalachian Regional Theatre Society, Terry Thies is happy to be performing without the pressure of directing this time around! Her favorite productions for Little Theatre as director have been My Son is Crazy but Promising and The Odd Couple, Female Version—her directing debut. Terry is also a seasoned actress, having performed in over 25 plays. Her favorite roles include Quiser in Steel Magnolias, Mrs. Hale in Trifles, and Doty in Noises Off. Terry also loves directing children, and is preparing for this June's Summer in the Park show. When not on or around the stage, Terry works part-time for Professional Pharmacy of Hazard, owned and operated by son Daniel Thies, as well as her full-time position with the Housing Development Alliance.

Adding to the laughs are John Hansen, local attorney, as Tom,

Greg's fellow dog-loving friend. Audiences may remember John from his role in Smoke on the Mountain. Jackie Goodin, whose recent performance in Steel Magnolias left most audiences in tears (in a good way) plays the hilarious Phyllis, a sympathetic friend of Kate's who appears to take the news of Kate's new rival a little harder than one might expect. Finally, Michelle Stacy plays Leslie, the psychiatrist who is determined to mend the marriage of Greg and Kate.

Sylvia is sure to please and delight audiences and promises to be another side-splitting directorial performance for Carol Combs. Sylvia will be presented Friday and Saturday, Feb. 22 and 23 at 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 24 at 3 p.m. in the Jolly Classroom Auditorium on the Hazard Campus of Hazard Community and Technical College.

Admission: \$10 Adults, \$8 Seniors & Students.

Event sponsors are David and Susan Duff and Perry Oil Company, Inc.

Series underwriters are: Appalachian Regional Healthcare, Mayor Bill Gorman and the City of Hazard; Hampton Inn and Suites, and Peoples Bank and Trust. The Kentucky Arts Council, a state agency in the Commerce Cabinet, provides operational support funding for the Greater Hazard Area Performing Arts Series with state tax dollars and federal funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art.

MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

'My Bloody Valentine'

by TOM DOTY
TIMES COLUMNIST

Valentine's Day always gets the Lagoon all mushy but not for the obvious reasons. Valentine's weekend of 2004 marked the first appearance of the column in the Times (after four years at another paper).

All I had to do to get the Lagoon out was put in 50 hours a week as a reporter for Floyd County. It was a fair trade and one that brought me into places I never thought I'd go and introduced me to public servants who share a strong passion for the county and its citizenry. It is Thanksgiving weekend as I write this so please forgive my sentimentality. Now on to the gore.



Tom Doty
Times Columnist

A lot of horror movies flooded theaters in the early 1980s and most of them stuck to the same formula, which pitted an unstoppable killer against helpless, oversexed and frequently high teenagers. This effort deserves some props for having adult characters despite the fact that they are oversexed, mostly helpless and frequently drunk.

The story takes place in the Canadian mining town of Valentine Bluffs. (Come to think of it, this film also deserves credit for being filmed in Canada and not trying to pass as a generic American location like some other flicks I know, such as "Friday the 13th: Jason Takes Manhattan.")

The town is anxiously awaiting Valentine's Day and the ensuing dance which will be the first such celebration in 20 years — the reason being that the last party led to a pair of horrific deaths when a methane explosion killed all but one man on a mining crew.

The lone survivor, Harry Warden, later found out that two supervisors ditched work and their responsibility to monitor methane levels in favor of the annual Valentine's party. Warden made it a point to attend the next party, where he slaughtered both guys responsible for his friend's deaths and promptly exited after dropping off a note warning against any future celebrations.

While the miners get pumped up for the party, the mayor and police chief receive a message warning them to cancel the celebration. The wording of the message is simple enough, but the most compelling reason they find to pay attention is that it's accompanied by a human heart.

The next day sees the death of the town's laundress and that is the last straw for both men, who show good sense and cancel the gig. Unfortunately they show poor judgment in explaining their action and resist imparting the news that Warden might be back. This leaves the miners with no recourse but to stage their

(See LAGOON, page six)

Last outing

by JAMES HERT

"CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE NATURE
LOVER'S SOUL"

I looked out of my tent, and the snow was coming down so hard that I couldn't see a thing. It was blowing sideways and had already drifted up one side of my tent. It was cold, very cold. It must have been 20 or 30 below. Why was I out there?

By the first of November, snow in Michigan is not unheard of, but this was a downright blizzard. I was sure that this would be an all-time record. Thirty-two degrees and a foot of

snow can be a beautiful, pleasant experience. This was not!

What is it about me that makes me do these things? Why do I take these chances? I love the outdoors — the sounds of the wild, the sunrises and sunsets, everything that you can only experience by getting outdoors and camping. I have all of the equipment to stay warm and dry in any weather, but this was ridiculous.

I was wishing that I had not ventured out that weekend, but there I was, and I was going to have to survive! The wind was making my tent flap and snap so hard and so loud that sleep was totally out of the question. My goose-down sleeping bag was supposed to be good to -10, but I was already shivering quite a bit.

My last meal had been the night before, and it was going on 11 a.m. I hadn't eaten any breakfast, and I didn't have anything with me in the tent. My energy wouldn't last much longer.

My wife, Amy, was probably worried about me, too. She had warned me that it was going to be cold and windy last night. She is so loving that I know she would have joined me if I had asked her to. But I told her not to bother, that I just wanted to get this one last outing out of my system. She was probably snuggled up in front of the fireplace with a good book. I wished that I were with her. I had carried a couple of my magazines along, thinking I would read by flashlight, but I was too cold to enjoy reading

about bass fishing.

With that thought, I knew I had to get out of there. My original plan was to try to wait out the blizzard, but I realized that wouldn't work. I was cold, and I was hungry. I would freeze or starve to death before this one was over. But how should I do it?

Should I try to take everything with me? I hated to abandon my equipment, but it would have taken too long to break down the tent, and the sleeping bag is too bulky if it isn't rolled up tight and

stuffed in its bag. My hands were too cold to do that, and it's almost impossible to do with gloves on. I was sure my things would be all right here for a while. I would carry what I could and leave the rest behind.

I took another peek out the flap, and a blast of wind with tiny ice darts smacked me in the face. This wasn't going to be as easy as I'd thought. At 30 below, your skin can freeze in a matter of

(See SOUP, page six)



What to do when your mechanic is a drip

by TOM and RAY
MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:

I went to one of those 10-minute-oil-change places, and I got out of my vehicle to watch the employee work on my car. He began pumping oil into my engine from one of the overhead hoses, and while he pumped the oil, he started talking with his buddy who was servicing the next car over. He wasn't paying any attention to what he was doing, and he didn't realize that the oil hose had slipped out of the hole. He was holding the trigger and spraying oil all over my engine. When he realized his mistake several seconds later, he repositioned the hose back in the hole and continued pumping oil. Once it was full, he tightened the cap and tried to spray off the oil with water and wipe some oil off with a rag. I was amazed and didn't know what to say. He had gotten oil all over the valve cover, on all the wiring, on the spark-plug wires, on the windshield and on all sorts of things that I'm sure I don't know about yet. My question: Is it possible that I will experience problems in the future as the oil seeps into just about everything? And what should I do to resolve the problem? Will an engine detail be enough? — Alex

TOM: The windshield? Geez, he really painted the thing, huh, Alex?

RAY: Actually, this happens a lot. And while there's no danger of engine parts being ruined by being covered in oil, there is a slight fire danger. If oil were to pool on the

hot exhaust manifold, it could ignite. And that would be very exciting, wouldn't it?

TOM: That's why, when my brother squirts oil all over someone's engine, he always cleans it off with a solvent.

RAY: Right. It's a pain in the butt, but if we don't clean it up, the oil will burn off and will smoke and smell bad, and we'll probably lose a customer.

TOM: You mean ANOTHER customer!

RAY: Right. So we clean it off with a solvent rather than water, because a solvent will actually WORK. Then we'll run the engine to burn off anything we missed while my brother stands by with twigs and marshmallows, just in case.

TOM: So, having your engine steam-cleaned would be more than adequate, Alex. And you should ask those guys to pay for it.

RAY: And next time, sit in the waiting room and read a People magazine like you're supposed to, so you won't have to see stuff like this.

Numbers lie, but seller shouldn't

Dear Tom and Ray:

My boyfriend recently diagnosed (correctly, I assume, since all the idiot lights are no longer glaring at me all the time) a problem with the instrument cluster in my 1999 Grand Prix. He was able to pick up a replacement at the salvage yard and install it himself, saving a couple of hundred dollars from the dealer quote. I'm happy because my car works fine now.

Unfortunately, the car the replacement was taken from had fewer miles on it than mine, and I'm worried about what will happen when I go to trade this one in. Do I keep my mouth shut, like he says, and hope that nobody will notice? Or, if I tell the dealer, will the mileage police haul my trusting rear end off to jail? I'd really like to get a new car before something else goes wrong with this one, but I'm scared. Help me! — Libby

TOM: Libby, you are facing a classic ethical dilemma. You have been handed, through no fault of your own, something that will increase the resale value of your car, but at the expense of some other, innocent buyer.

RAY: So, the ethical question is, Do you spend all the extra money yourself, or do you have to give half of it to your boyfriend?

TOM: Actually, this is not a dilemma at all, Libby. We can

tell that you're an honest person at heart (unlike your sleazeball boyfriend!), so you simply have to follow the rules set out by the state you live in.

RAY: They're different in every state, but the common element is disclosure.

TOM: You are required simply to inform any future owner of the car that the mileage reading on the odometer is not the actual mileage of the car.

RAY: Some states require that the person doing the repair place a sticker under the odometer; some require that a form be filed with the state Department of Motor Vehicles; some require you to note the difference on the car's title.

TOM: But everybody knows that odometers and speedometers DO break. And you're entitled to replace yours with a new or a used one. Neither you nor your sleazeball boyfriend did any-



CLICK & CLACK
Talk Cars

tion for your boyfriend.

TOM: So check with your state DMV and do whatever is required to disclose the new odometer reading, and then you can stop worrying about it forever, Libby.

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.

People know Pueblo for its...

...free federal information. You can download it right away by going into the Consumer Information Center web site, www.pueblo.gsa.gov.



U.S. General Services Administration
PSA

Allen

Continued from p5

A certain Floyd County businessman tells how he got a whole passel of kinsfolk. For years, while he was struggling to keep the old nose above water, there apparently wasn't a cousin to be found. Then, after he had built a fine building and his whole business had taken on the air of prosperity, and it became fairly obvious that he was making a go of it after all, kinsmen began popping up, almost overnight, and from every corner of Floyd

County. Now he wonders how a man, born at the mouth of Johns Creek, could have kinsmen scattered to the farthest corner of the county.

When he was asked if he had it all to do over again, would he go into the same business, he reflected on his new-found popularity and the number of his kin, then made answer:

"No, I wouldn't. Believe I'd just run for office."

Lagoon

Continued from p5

own party at the mine's rec room.

If you guessed that the killer is coming despite the lack of an invitation, then go to the head of the class and enjoy the ensuing gore. Bodies begin piling up like a stack of buckwheats as the young people pair off and are slaughtered by a killer wielding a pickax and decked out in full mining gear.

Here they get original and spice up the stabbings with a few novelty killings, such as the improper use of a nail gun and one death by drowning in weenie water. Eventually the bodies turn up and the party ends, but a group has headed into the mine for a tour so two brave men head down after them. The killer is down there too, however, and he decimates most of the group before being unmasked in a climactic duel with a young couple who refuse to go down easy.

This one has much to recommend it. One strong factor is that the killer never appears to be in two places at once and his motivation is believable when finally revealed. The

murders are well staged, though they smack of post production editing which trims down the gore quotient.

There is plenty of suspense on hand as evidenced in an excellent opening sequence that plays a trick on you as the camera follows two miners in full gear heading down a shaft. They stop and one strips to reveal she's a gorgeous blonde with a heart-shaped tattoo over her chest. She later regrets the ink work as it makes it easier for her partner to slam his ax into her ticker and stop her clock.

Another great bit involves the killer stalking his prey down yet another shaft but stopping every few feet to put out another light with his weapon.

About the only thing that drags this one a bit is a protracted bit about a love triangle between the three young leads that stops the movie dead every 10 minutes or so.

Best line: "What are you guys doing with a loose heart?"

1981, rated R.

Soup

Continued from p5

minutes. Once that happens, well, I wasn't going to think about that ...

I was ready to make a run for it. I wasn't in great shape and I couldn't run far, but I was afraid that if I walked, I would freeze before I got there. I looked around inside the tent one last time to make sure I wasn't forgetting anything critical. It took a couple of seconds to get my glove around the tent zipper, but when I did, it jerked straight up to the ceiling, and I bolted out into the frozen landscape.

The snow was deep, but light. I kicked my way through the snow. How far would I have to run? Could I make it all the way? I was almost out of breath when I hit the back door of the house and burst through.

"Hi, honey, how did you sleep?" asked Amy. "I thought that bit of snow and wind we had last night might have woken you up sooner. Are you going to bring the tent in from the back yard, or do you want to sleep out again tonight?"



Thank You

FLOYD COUNTY

For allowing me
the opportunity to
represent you
in Frankfort.

Greg Stumbo

Pol. adv. pd. for by the Stumbo for Representative, Mary Karen Stumbo, Treasurer.

Sports

LWC women top PC, remain unbeaten in MSC

TIMES STAFF REPORT

COLUMBIA – Lindsey Wilson College remained unbeaten in the Mid-South Conference with an 85-72 win over Pikeville College Thursday night.

With the win, the Lady Raiders improved to 16-8 overall and 4-0 in the league. They will be halfway through the round-robin MSC schedule after Saturday's trip to Georgetown College.

Freshman Viktoria Krell powered Lindsey Wilson to the win with 28 points and 16 rebounds. Of her boards, 10

were off the offensive glass. She was the main reason the Lady Raiders dominate the glass 51-30.

Despite those numbers, the Lady Bears pulled within six (68-62) with 4:12 to play. Freshman Shalane Moore tossed in a three-point shot followed by consecutive baskets inside by senior Heather English and junior Whitney Hogg.

But from there, the Lady Raiders went on a 12-2 run to stretch the lead to 80-64 on a basket by Krell with 1:32 remaining. The Ludwigsburg, Germany, product had seven

during the run to put the game on ice.

Krell had three teammates in double figures, with senior Kara Osterfeld tossed in 17 to go with six rebounds, five steals and four assists. Senior Terran Duncan had 15 points and nine rebounds, while junior Ewa Bukowska added 10.

Pikeville had two players in double figures, led by senior Heather English with 18 points and seven rebounds. Junior Alice Daniel followed with 13 points and five assists. She matched Hogg in the help category, who also

had six points and five rebounds.

LADY BEARS UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Feb. 16 at West Virginia Tech, 2 p.m.

Feb. 21 Georgetown College, 6 p.m.

Feb. 23 at Campbellsville, 2 p.m.

Feb. 28 Lindsey Wilson, 6 p.m.

March 1 at Cumberlands



photo courtesy of Lindsey Wilson College
Viktoria Krell led Lindsey Wilson to an 85-72 win over Pikeville Thursday night. Whitney Hogg is pictured for the Lady Bears.

Kentucky Afield Outdoors: White bass runs

TIMES STAFF REPORT

FRANKFORT – Place names such as Rankin Bottoms, Bryant's Camp, Broad Ford, Bacon Creek and Glensboro hold special significance for white bass anglers in Kentucky. These areas lie in the headwaters of Herrington Lake, Nolin River Lake and Taylorsville Lake and produce white bass each spring year after year.

Warming water along with the current provided by spring rains signal white bass to run upstream into the headwaters of these lakes from mid-March to mid-April. This could happen earlier if we have a dry, mild winter or later if have a cold, wet winter.

When white bass make their spawning runs into the shallow headwaters of these lakes, the fishing is fast and furious. A minnow cast under a bobber catches these fish as does a white or silver in-line spinner, a chrome or golden spoon, white or chartreuse curly-tailed grubs rigged on a lead head or shad colored crankbaits.

The white bass run may extend up the Nolin River all the way to the KY 224 Bridge at Millerstown in spring. Be careful if navigating a boat upstream of the Bacon Creek Boat Ramp as the lake quickly returns to the pools and riffles of Nolin River. The Broad Ford Bridge on KY 1214 provides bank fishing opportunities.

The peculiar thing about the white bass run in Salt River above Taylorsville Lake is there didn't appear to be any white bass present during the early years of the lake. They appeared during the early 1990s and populations continually increased. The run is now one of the strongest in Kentucky.

Boating anglers may launch at Van Buren Boat Ramp and venture upstream or may access the Salt River by way of Taylorsville Lake Wildlife Management Area (WMA) off KY 248.

White bass fishing in the headwaters in Herrington Lake is returning to its glory days of the 1940s and 1950s, when anglers from all over Kentucky and surrounding states came to Rankin Bottoms to fish. Old photos show long lines of cars and trucks up and down KY 52 near the bridge over Dix River between Danville and Lancaster.

(See BASS, page two)



LONGTIME COUNTY RIVALS

photos by Jamie Howell

ALLEN CENTRAL VISITED PRESTONSBURG on Tuesday night for a Floyd County Conference/58th District matchup. The Blackcats defended their home hardwood, defeating the Rebels 67-57. Prestonsburg used an explosive second half on the offensive end to get past defending Floyd County Conference/58th District champion Allen Central. Teams in Floyd and surrounding counties are winding down regular-season competition in preparation for the upcoming post-season.



Cordia cuffs June Buchanan, 65-61

TIMES STAFF REPORT

CORDIA – The Cordia boys' basketball team recorded a signature win Thursday night at home when defending 14th Region champion June Buchanan visited. Cordia forced June Buchanan to play from behind. The Lions outscored June Buchanan in each of the first three quarters en route to a 65-61 win.

Cordia survived a late rally. June Buchanan outscored the Lions 22-17 in the final quarter.

Cordia enjoyed balanced scoring in the 53rd District matchup.

Zach Hurt, Josh Taylor and Tyler Noble netted 16 points apiece for the Lions. Mosley also reached double figures scoring for Cordia. Mosley tossed in 12 points in the impressive district performance.

Cordia edged June Buchanan 13-11 in the opening quarter and carried a

30-24 lead into halftime.

The Lions stretched their lead in the third quarter, outscoring June Buchanan 18-15 in the first frame after the intermission period.

Cordia is thriving in a successful season one year removed from a 7-20 campaign.

Clark Stepp led June Buchanan. Stepp, a Mr. Basketball candidate, scored a game-high 17 points. Trey Short ranked as June Buchanan's second-leading scorer, netting 16 points. Collins pushed in 12 points and Tate Cox added 11 for the Crusaders. Clint Stepp and Brent Hall rounded out the June Buchanan scoring, finishing with three and two points, respectively.

Eric Combs added five points for the Lions.

June Buchanan, Cordia, Knott County Central, Letcher County Central and Jenkins make up the 53rd District.

Girls – Pike County Central 63, Belfry 62: In a rematch of last season's 15th Region championship game, Pike County Central edged the Lady Pirates.

Kayla Lowe led defending 15th Region champion Pike County Central with 20 points. A.D. Slone added 13 points for the Lady Hawks.

Shea Deskins scored a game-high 24 points for the Lady Pirates. Merissa Pruitt pushed in 18 points for Belfry in the 60th District matchup.

CORDIA 65,

JUNE BUCHANAN 61

JUNE BUCHANAN (16-6) – Cla. Stepp 17, Cox 11, Collins 12, Short 16, Cli. Stepp 3, Hall 2.

CORDIA (15-7) – Hurt 16, Mosley 12, Combs 5, Taylor 16, Noble 16.

June Buchanan.....11 13 15 22-61
Cordia.....13 17 18 17-65

CBA MOVE: Miners sign forward Steve Thomas

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE – Another CBA All-Star has joined the East Kentucky Miners professional basketball organization. East Kentucky – one of four CBA expansion teams – has signed forward Steve Thomas (6-8, 235). A native of Carrollton, Ga., Thomas has enjoyed hardwood success throughout his basketball career. He played three seasons at Georgia before moving on to Middle Tennessee State for his senior campaign. As a junior at Georgia during the 2002-03 season, Thomas averaged 10.2 points and 7.3 rebounds per game. After sitting out the 2003-04 season per NCAA rules, Thomas finished strong at Middle Tennessee. He averaged 10.5 points and 7.5 rebounds while shooting 48.5 percent from the field in 24 games for the Blue Raiders.

Thomas helped to lead Georgia to the 2002 SEC Eastern Division Regular Season Championship.

The former Georgia Bulldog has been active in professional basketball across the United States and overseas since 2005.

His professional basketball accolades have included: All-WBA 1st Team (2005), Polish League All-Star (2006), Eurobasket.com All-Polish League Defensive Player of the Year (2006), Eurobasket.com All-Polish League 2nd Team (2006), Eurobasket.com Polish League All-Imports Team (2006), Eurobasket.com Polish League All-Defensive Team (2006) and CBA All-Star (2008).

Earlier in the season, Thomas starred for the Atlanta Krunk, an American Conference rival of the Miners. He averaged a double-double of 12.7 points and 11.1 rebounds in 20 games for the Krunk.



STEVE THOMAS

"Steve (Thomas) was a very productive player for the Atlanta franchise earlier in the season, averaging a double-double for a talented team," said East Kentucky Coach Kevin Keathley. "We're looking for him to bring a bigger interior presence on a more consistent basis. He's an individual we hope will play big on the inside. We're excited to have Steve Thomas onboard with the East Kentucky

Miners." In another move, East Kentucky has waived forward Byron Allen. In 28 games, Allen averaged 3.1 points and 2.3 rebounds. Thomas filled Allen's spot on the East Kentucky roster. He will wear jersey number 30 for the Miners.

EAST KENTUCKY MINERS UPCOMING GAMES

Feb. 11 at Pittsburgh, 7:05 p.m.

Feb. 13 at Great Falls, 6:05 p.m.

Feb. 14 at Great Falls, 6:05 p.m.

Feb. 17 at Albany, 7:05 p.m.

Feb. 22 at Pittsburgh, 7:05 p.m.

Feb. 24 at Atlanta, 3:05 p.m.

Feb. 25 at Atlanta, 3:05 p.m.

Feb. 28 Oklahoma, 7:05 p.m.

March 2 Atlanta, 4:05 p.m.

March 6 at Minot, 7:05 p.m.

Lindsey Wilson pulls off upset win over Bears

TIMES STAFF REPORT

COLUMBIA – Lindsey Wilson College shot 51 percent from the floor and made some three-point shots when it needed them to knock off No. 11 Pikeville College 65-57 Thursday night.

The win, combined with Campbellsville's 63-46 win over Cumberlands Thursday night, puts the 3-1 Blue Raiders in sole possession of second place in the Mid-South behind unbeaten and second-ranked Georgetown, who knocked off West Virginia University Tech 71-55 on Thursday.

Pikeville, meanwhile, will play host to Cumberlands Saturday at 4 p.m. with the winner holding third place in the MSC at the midpoint of the 10-game schedule.

Trailing 33-31 at the half, Pikeville opened the second half with a 10-2 run, getting four points apiece from senior Jeff Ferguson and junior Xavier Yates to go ahead 41-35 with 16:51 left.

Ferguson at that point had 21 after scoring 17 in the first half. But the 6-10 center would get only one more point the rest of the night.

The teams were tied at 54 with 3:51 left when Justin Hicks nailed a three-pointer from the corner. But seconds later, Lindsey Wilson got the ball in the hands of junior guard George White, who sank a three to give the Blue Raider a lead they never lost.

From that point on, Lindsey closed it out with an 11-3 run that included two of its three three-point shots in the game, including a dagger from wide-open senior Donte Williams with 32 seconds left to double the lead at 61-55.

Ferguson, the reigning Mid-South Conference player of the week, turned in a double-double for the Bears with 22 points and 11 rebounds. Junior William Harris had 11 points and four assists, while junior Xavier Yates finished with 10.

Justin Hicks, a freshman from Hazard, had six points, seven rebounds, six assists and three steals.

White led Lindsey Wilson with 23 points. Junior Sam Walton had a double-double of his own with 12 points and 11 rebounds to go with six blocked shots. Williams finished with 11 points along with five rebounds and four assists.

Pikeville 74, Pike Central 65

TIMES STAFF REPORT

BUCKLEYS CREEK – Matt Clevenger scored 22 points and dished off eight assists to help lead Pikeville past Pike County Central 74-65 Thursday night. Deven Adams, a Floyd County native, added a double-double of 19 points and 11 rebounds for the Panthers.

Pikeville outscored Pike County Central 24-11 in the second quarter en route to a 36-23 halftime advantage.

Tyler Baker tossed in 11 points for visiting Pikeville.

Michael Thompson paced Pike County Central, scoring a team-high 20 points.

No more T-Os, Baby, Dick Vitale is back behind the mike again

by JIM O'CONNELL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — Dick Vitale's first "Welcome Back" came well before the start of the Duke-North Carolina game.

College basketball's signature analyst-ambassador arrived at the Smith Center on Wednesday about five hours before he was to return to the air after two months away while he underwent and recovered from throat surgery.

And Vitale couldn't believe the reception he received.

As he turned the corner toward the media entrance, Vitale was suddenly in the middle of the North Carolina students already in line to get the prime seats for the game against their archrival.

"Dickie V. Dickie V." The students, who have been known for changing his nickname to "Dukie V." on

occasion because of some perceptions that he favors the "other" school in the rivalry, were genuinely excited to see the man who coined so many phrases that have become part of the lexicon of college basketball.

"Get a T-O, baby."
"This game's an M&Mc."
"You're a P-T-Per."
"Shoot the rock."

The more the students cheered and chanted, the closer Vitale got to crying and eventually the tears streamed down his face. And tipoff for the ESPN telecast between No. 2 Duke and No. 3 North Carolina was still hours away.

"This is unbelievable. It's been like this since Dec. 5 when I found out about the lesions in my throat," said Vitale, a man who admits he's emotional most of the time anyway. "The phone calls, the notes and letters, the gift baskets. How lucky can a man be?"

On Dec. 5 I never thought I'd be here again."

It's hard to imagine college basketball without Vitale. His coaching career never brought him this kind of attention. His broadcasting career started in 1979 and he's been with ESPN ever since.

Hardly a broadcast journalism example for diction and decorum, Vitale has left his feelings out there for almost three decades and the last two months let him know his unique style was appreciated and missed.

At 5:20, Vitale had to tape an interview that would be played during SportsCenter. When the red light went on he was answering with enthusiasm and his voice was echoing around an empty Smith Center.

The cameramen and technicians were sitting in the first few rows of the lower level and as Vitale's voice started booming, the smiles and nods started.

Dickie V. was back.

When the interview ended, one fan up on the course level screamed "Dickie V." and started bowing from the waist with his arms extended.

One of the hardest parts of his first day back was that Vitale couldn't accommodate local TV radio stations for brief pregame interviews, a staple of his pre-surgery days.

"I feel so bad I can't talk to them all but it's doctor's order," he said.

Every turnaround, instead of being greeted with a head shake or a grumble, was met with a handshake and a welcome.

"I feel like I'm 12 years old again. When you're laying in a hospital bed you feel 68," he said using his age. "I want to be 12."

Vitale bumped into Tim Brando, who was doing the play-by-play for Raycom, which was also broadcasting

the game. After a hug and some small talk, Brando told Vitale about a concoction he used to help his voice during games after nodules were found on his vocal chords five years ago.

"You take ginger root and slice it like a potato, mix it with warm water and ...," was all Brando, who did his first game for ESPN with Vitale next to him in January 1985, got out.

"Please tell that to Lorraine," Vitale said referring to his wife. "I can't remember all that."

When he sat eating his pregame meal and drinking plenty of water (another doctor's order that left him worrying about where the closest men's room was from the mid-court broadcast position), Vitale admitted the last time he was this anxious before a game was when he was coaching at the University of Detroit.

"We had won 20 straight

and were playing Marquette in Milwaukee and needed to win the game to make sure we got an invitation to the NCAA tournament that at that time was just 32 teams," he said. "This is my Super Bowl. This is a very special moment in my career and my life."

And it was smooth at the start.

Following one more "welcome back" from play-by-play partner Mike Patrick, Vitale — in a strong voice that showed he has been doing his exercises such as singing children songs — again expressed his joy at being able to do what he loves. Then, it was time to analyze the game.

After Duke beat North Carolina, 89-78, Vitale walked across the court with a huge smile on his face and summed the day up as only he can:

"It was awesome, baby."

Pat Knight loses debut as head coach after taking over for father

by STEPHEN HAWKINS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WACO, Texas — When Pat Knight planned changes in the way Texas Tech would do certain things, he didn't worry about the opinions of anyone else. Not even those of the coach he succeeded.

Who just happens to be his father, Bob Knight, the NCAA's winningest Division I men's coach.

"Like when you grow up and leave the house, you have got to be on your own," Pat Knight said after his first game, an 80-74 loss at Baylor on Wednesday night. "That's pretty much the way it's going to be. He's not going to be there to bail me out when I lose games, or when I win."

Bob Knight wasn't there

for his son's head coaching debut with the Red Raiders (12-9, 3-4 Big 12), when it was clear that a different Knight was in charge.

"Wow! Coach Knight to Coach Knight is definitely a little different," Baylor coach Scott Drew said. "Press, zone, some things that you wouldn't expect."

Two days after Bob Knight's sudden resignation after 902 wins and three national championships over 42 years, the younger Knight was already putting his imprint on the team.

"I'm not sitting here doing this job now thinking about what other people think," he said. "I'm either going to win my way or lose my way, just like he did."

The Red Raiders were trap-

ping on defense and putting a lot of pressure on the ball. And what about that 3-2 zone defense, far from the man-to-man schemes his father prefers?

"The reason I used 3-2 was because of him. We talked during the year and he always thinks that's the best zone to run," said 37-year-old Pat. "Everything I really did tonight were ideas from him, even though he hasn't done it in a game."

Then he added a phrase repeated several times after his first game: "It's my team."

Despite their effort, the Red Raiders couldn't overcome missing 10 of their last 11 field goals before halftime, then having six turnovers in a 2-minute span right after the break when Baylor stretched

its lead to 12 points.

Curtis Jerrells led Baylor (17-4, 5-2) with 16 points, including a 3-pointer followed by an inside bucket in that 12-1 spurt right after halftime.

The Bears snapped a two-game losing streak that had knocked them out of the Top 25 after they were in the national rankings for the first time since 1969.

"They're still a Knight-coached team," Baylor's Aaron Bruce said. "They caught us at a bad time. We were really hungry and wanted to win."

The Red Raiders' miscues put them in a hole they couldn't get out of — even though they cut a 14-point deficit to 74-71 on John Roberson's 3-pointer with 33 seconds left before Baylor made six

straight free throws.

Mike Singletary had 20 points for Texas Tech, which dropped to 1-7 on the road — 0-4 in the Big 12. Alan Voskuil added 16, including four 3-pointers.

"I was just happy that they got it back within range where we could have a chance to maybe win the game instead of letting it get totally out of hand," said Knight, who was admittedly nervous before the game.

At times, Knight wrote notes in a small pad he held in his hand. He alternated between sitting in his seat and pacing the sideline throughout the game.

Knight spent a decade as a college assistant. The only season he wasn't with his father was 2000-01, when Bob

Knight didn't coach between his departure from Indiana and his hiring at Tech.

During Tech's turnover-plagued stretch early in the second half, Knight sat at one point staring at the ground and rubbing his temples with both hands. Then, when leading scorer Martin Zeno committed his fourth foul with almost 17 minutes left, the coach stood with his hands on his hips.

While disappointed with losing, Knight appreciated the effort from players asked to "do a lot of things they weren't used to." He had "a blast" coaching his first game.

"I haven't had this much fun since I played," he said. "I haven't felt this much nervousness or energy since I was lacing up and playing for my dad."

Bass

The good spring fishing starts at Bryant's Camp and continues upstream to Rankin Bottoms. A white curly-tailed grub is deadly on Herrington Lake white bass during the

spring runs.

An in-depth article about the past and present of Kentucky's white bass runs, along with information about how to fish them, will appear

Continued from p1 in the spring issue of Kentucky Afieid magazine. To receive this issue, subscribe online at fw.ky.gov by Feb. 20.

NFL at its peak, but league needs to address some issues

by TIM DAHLBERG
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Roger Goodell was working the room, going from table to table and shaking hands with almost anyone lucky enough to have a ticket to the NFL's Super Bowl postgame buffet in downtown Phoenix. He had a smile on his face, and a lot to be happy about after a game that kept the country tuned in all the way through the very last Bud Light commercial.

It wasn't just the game that made the commissioner happy, though it would have been hard to write a better script than Eli Manning leading the New York Giants to a last-minute touchdown to beat the big, bad New England Patriots. Nearly half the country watched at one time or another, making it the most watched Super Bowl ever and further cementing the NFL's position as America's favorite sport.

Good times indeed for a league that seems to have everything going its way. In an increasingly fragmented sports landscape, the NFL is the proverbial 500-pound gorilla, flush and fat with no real challenges to its dominance.

A half century after the Giants and Baltimore Colts played the iconic championship game that ushered in the league's new era, people can't get enough of pro football. Things are so good that not only are the owners getting rich but they're letting the players enjoy some of the fruits of success, too.

Los Angeles still doesn't have a team, but it doesn't seem to matter anymore. There are billion dollar stadiums going up in Dallas and New Jersey, and the league is so determined to expand even further that there will be games played in both England and Canada next season.

Goodell has gotten generally good marks himself for his per-

formance since taking over the league, and he hasn't hesitated to crack the whip for misconduct on sidelines and in strip clubs.

Still, issues remain, and they can't all be blamed on one Pennsylvania senator who picked just the right time to issue a good sound bite. None threaten the league's runaway success by themselves, but Goodell might be wise to address them all by the time pre-season camps open.

So here is a to-do list for the offseason:

— Put Spygate to rest. The commissioner's initial reaction in fining Bill Belichick \$500,000 and taking away a first-round pick from the Patriots for cheating was right on, but since then there have been more questions than answers. Why were the tapes destroyed? Why didn't anyone from the NFL talk to the cameraman himself? Why are there new rumors that the Patriots taped the 2002 Super Bowl practice of the St. Louis Rams? Why does Sen. Arlen Specter want to make it a federal case? Why does Belichick always look like he just ate some bad oysters?

Inquiring minds want to know, and this is one scandal that won't go away simply because the NFL wants it to.

— Stop the supersizing of players. The amazing thing about the NFL isn't that the players are freakishly big and strong, but that no one seems to know how they did it. Unlike baseball, no one seems to care, either, even when stars such as Shawn Merriman and Rodney Harrison are suspended for performance-enhancing drugs. Suspensions are rare, though, meaning a lot of players are either getting away with being juiced because the testing is not all that good or that they are just naturally 6-foot-2 and 275 pounds of solid muscle.

— Figure out something to

do with former players who need help. This is an issue shared jointly by the league and its players' association, both of which have not been overly sympathetic to the plight of disabled players. Yes, the players themselves share part of the blame for taking pensions early and not securing their own future. But with individual teams worth more than a billion dollars and the players' union flush with cash, there should be a way to help the players and also eliminate a huge public relations problem for the league.

— Keep games on free TV. Lost in the debate between the league and cable companies over the NFL Network is that the move of games to the network is just another way to get people to pay for something they have always gotten for free. The billion-dollar contracts in place with television networks ensure that most games will still be available, but you are already paying to see games on ESPN and now the NFL wants you to pay even more to watch them on the NFL Network. What's next, a pay-per-view Super Bowl?

— Quit taking home games away from fans. The people in London didn't seem all that enthused over the Giants-Dolphins game this year, so why give them another game next season? And why make it a Saints home game when the people of New Orleans desperately need every game they have to help them forget what happened to their city?

The offseason is short, and the to-do list isn't all that long. Goodell has already shown a willingness to tackle tough issues and make tough decisions.

The best time to do that is when times are good.

Tim Dahlberg is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at tdahlberg@ap.org

Junior Johnson set to drive Daytona 500 pace car

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Junior Johnson, who won 50 NASCAR races including the 1960 Daytona 500, will drive the pace car for the start of the 50th edition of The Great American Race on Feb. 17 at Daytona International Speedway.

The 76-year-old Johnson will drive a 2008 Corvette Z06 to get the season-opening event under way.

Inducted into the International Motorsports Hall of Fame in 1990 and named one of NASCAR's 50 greatest drivers in 1998, Johnson won the 1960 Daytona 500 in only his second start at the track.

Johnson was immortalized by Tom Wolfe in a 1964 article in Esquire. Wolfe coined the phrase "good ol' boy" in his story about Johnson, who was deemed "The Last American Hero."

The article eventually was turned in a movie script — 1973's The Last American Hero starring Jeff Bridges in a fictionalized version of Johnson, who served as technical advisor for the film.

As an owner, Johnson's cars earned 139 victories and six

championships in NASCAR's top division.

Seven-time Daytona 500 winner Richard Petty, the winningest driver in NASCAR history with 200 victories, will be the honorary starter.

— Daytona also announced that all of its 168,000 grandstand seats have been sold for the historic race, leaving only infield tickets on sale. The crowd is expected to top 180,000.

— It's the earliest sellout of the grandstand in modern history, according to speedway president Robin Braig.

Fans help Wheeler install new seats for LMS project: The first phase of Lowe's Motor Speedway's \$200 million renovation project marked a major milestone Thursday with the installation of the first of 22,850 new seats along the frontstretch of the legendary 1.5-mile super-speedway.

The plastic back and bottom of the seat were installed by H.A. "Humpy" Wheeler, president and general manager of Lowe's Motor Speedway, with assistance from Coca-Cola 600 ticket holders Larry and Jeff McCorkle, of Huntersville, N.C., and Johnny Bustle, of

Comelius, N.C.

A new steel-and-aluminum structure is being built over the lower concrete bleacher sections of the Chrysler, Ford and General Motors grandstands along the track's front straightaway. The sections being covered were the track's only frontstretch seats when the facility hosted the inaugural Coca-Cola 600 on June 19, 1960.

The massive new structure includes more than one million pounds of steel and aluminum. It features 20-inch-wide seats and the width of each row has been increased to give fans additional leg room. Handrails are being added down the center of each aisle and the aisles will be wider for easier entry and exit. Additional handicap-seating accommodations are also part of the project.

While the grandstand structure and seats are new, a large portion of the frontstretch renovation is already part of Charlotte sports history. The green metal uprights that will support nearly 20,000 of the seat backs and bottoms have been recycled from the Charlotte Coliseum where they served sports fans and concert goers from 1988 to 2005.

— Times Staff Report



McDOWELL ELEMENTARY finished runner-up in the Floyd County C-Team Tournament Wednesday, Jan. 30. Cody Thornberry (left) claimed the tournament's most valuable player award.



SEC: Strong inside game lifts UK over Ole Miss

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — The University of Kentucky women's basketball team used a strong inside game to help catapult the Wildcats to a 59-54 win over Ole Miss in Rupp Arena on Thursday night. UK won the rebounding battle 47-31, its largest in SEC play this season and outscored the Rebels 38-16 in the paint. Senior center Sarah Elliott led the efforts with 14 points and 12 rebounds while senior Chelsea Chowning (Berea, Ky.) and freshman Victoria Dunlap (Nashville, Tenn.) added 12 points apiece. Dunlap also charted nine rebounds and two blocks.

"I'd like to start by saying how proud I am of our players tonight," UK Coach Matthew

Mitchell said. "It was a tremendous game and a tremendous performance from them. We were clearly up against a big challenge tonight with the way Ole Miss plays defense. I thought we really pulled together. We really needed a group effort and it certainly was tonight. I'm just very happy for our players and I'm very proud of them."

The Wildcats (12-11, 6-3 Southeastern Conference), playing without a true point guard due to injuries to junior Carly Ormerod (foot) and freshman Amber Smith (knee), used a committee of players to feed a strong post game. UK's 38 points in the paint were the most in a SEC game this season and the most since UK scored 44 post points vs. William & Mary on Dec. 4. UK's six con-

ference wins equals last year's win total when the Cats went 6-8.

"Points in the paint were a big key for us," Mitchell said. "Having 38 points in the paint is a great sign that our team did well offensively. Rebounding is something that we talk about everyday in practice."

Mitchell was forced to use the ninth different lineup this season, starting seniors Chante Bowman, Chowning and Samantha Mahoney (Detroit) along with Elliott and Dunlap. Chowning flourished in her starting assignment, netting a career-high 12 points, including a career-high three three-pointers.

"That's what I love about Chelsea Chowning, she is not afraid to take shots," Mitchell said. "Every time she shot the

ball it looked like it was going in. Those were critical times in the game where I thought we were struggling to score."

UK built an 11-point lead early in the second half before Ole Miss pulled to within one, 40-39, with 12:58 to play. Back-to-back three-pointers by Chowning helped push UK's lead to nine at the 8:10 mark but the Rebels would not back down. With the Cats up seven, 55-48, UM's Shantell Black hit a three-pointer and then followed up with a layup on a UK missed three-pointer. That five-point swing helped shrink the Cats' lead to just two points, 55-53, with 1:37 to go. Mahoney grabbed one of her five defensive rebounds and hit a key field goal on the other end with 21 seconds to give UK a 57-53 lead. Sophomore

Amari Franklin (Decatur, Ga.) added two free throws with 10 ticks left and UK held on for the 59-54 victory. UK is now 9-5 in games decided by 10 points or less this season.

"Ole Miss was a tough match up for us especially without a point guard," Mitchell said. "I just thought the players were marvelous filling in; Chante (Bowman) and Samantha (Mahoney) handled those duties. It was just a good effort. We are pleased that our team has been able to handle adversity this year."

UK controlled much of the first half, pulling to a 10-point lead with 2:35 to play. UK took a 32-24 advantage to the locker room at halftime, led by Elliott's eight points and six rebounds. Red-shirt junior Eleia Roddy (Columbus) came

off the bench to score four of her season-high six points in the first half.

The Wildcats shot 38.7 percent from the floor compared to UM's 32.1 percent. UK has held four of its last six opponents to under 40 percent shooting.

The Rebels (9-12 overall, 3-5 SEC) were led by Shawn Goff with 18 points, six rebounds and three blocks.

Ole Miss still leads the overall series 19-10, including a 9-5 advantage when playing in Lexington. UK is now 20-11 all-time in Rupp Arena.

After a much-needed weekend off, the Wildcats head to the Music City for their next game on Feb. 14 vs. Vanderbilt. Game time in Nashville, Tenn., is 8 p.m. EST.

BIG TEN BATTLE: Indiana outlasts Illinois, 83-79

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — Eric Gordon finally gave Illinois fans something to cheer. Armon Bassett wasn't as kind.

Armon Bassett scored 11 of his 16 points in the second overtime, and No. 14 Indiana rallied to beat Illinois 83-79 Thursday even though Gordon struggled for much of the night.

The Hoosiers' freshman was jeered throughout the night for reneging on an early verbal commitment to Illinois and he committed what looked like a costly turnover in the second overtime.

Illinois' Calvin Brock had just converted a runner, cutting it Indiana's lead to 79-76, when Gordon got called for a 10-second violation with 26 seconds left. The Illini's Demetri McCamey dribbled with ball off his knee and out

of bounds. Bassett then hit two free throws, and he converted two more to make it 83-79 with five seconds left following a 3-pointer by McCamey, who scored 31 points.

No. 5 UCLA 67, No. 17 Washington St. 59; At Pullman, Wash., Darren Collison scored all of his 18 points in the decisive second half and freshman Kevin Love added 16 points and nine rebounds to lead No. 5 UCLA to a victory over reeling No. 17 Washington State.

Collison made all seven of his free throws and coolly shook off 0-for-4 shooting in the first half as the Bruins (21-2, 9-1 Pac-10) stayed one game ahead of Stanford atop the Pac-10. UCLA, which has appeared in two consecutive Final Fours, remained on its best start since the 1994-95 team went 32-1. That team

won the NCAA title.

Kyle Weaver scored 13 points and Aron Baynes added 11 despite foul trouble for the Cougars (17-5, 5-5), who are now 1-70 against teams ranked in the top five. Washington State, not so long ago a top-10 team, lost for the third consecutive time and for the fifth time in eight games.

No. 9 Stanford 72, Oregon 43; At Stanford, Calif., Robin Lopez had 15 points, six rebounds and two blocks and No. 9 Stanford jumped to an early lead on the way to winning its sixth straight game.

Lawrence Hill had his second straight productive outing with 13 points, including four 3-pointers, after a slow start this season. Robin Lopez led Stanford (19-3, 8-2 Pac-10) in scoring this time instead of his twin brother, Brook.

Brook Lopez, swarmed each time he touched the ball,

figures for Xavier, which has won five in a row and 11 of 12. Kevin Lisch had three 3-pointers and a three-point play in the final minute, and his driving layup and free throw with 11.6 seconds to go tied it at 68. Lisch was a career-best 6-for-9 from 3-point range and scored 25 points for Saint Louis, which also got 11 points from Luke Meyer and 10 from Tommie Liddell III.

Brown, who finished with 12 points and nine rebounds, tipped in a missed shot by a driving Drew Lavender just ahead of the buzzer.

No. 21 Pittsburgh 55, West Virginia 54; At Pittsburgh, Ronald Ramon barely beat the final horn with a game-winning 3-pointer from the left wing and No. 21 Pittsburgh rallied in the final minute. The Panthers (18-5, 6-4 Big East) got an important

win that substantially helps their NCAA tournament hopes and damages those of West Virginia (16-7, 5-5), which led 53-50 with a minute to play.

Alex Ruoff, an 85 percent free throw shooter, missed one of two free throws with 9 seconds remaining to prevent West Virginia from taking a three-point lead. That miss — the Mountaineers were only 7-of-17 from the line — proved costly when an unguarded Ramon took Keith Benjamin's giveback pass and hit the game winner.

Sam Young and Keith Benjamin scored 10 each for Pitt, which beat the Mountaineers for the fourth time in a row and the 10th time in 13 games. Darris Nichols scored 16 and Joe Mazzulla had 15 for West Virginia, which lost its third in four games.

Eagles beat Southeast Missouri for 10th straight win

TIMES STAFF REPORT

MOREHEAD — Jamyron Steward scored a career-high 24 points and Morehead State ended the game on a 14-to-two run as the Eagles defeated Southeast Missouri, 75-63, in an Ohio Valley Conference match-up Thursday evening in Johnson Arena.

MSU has won eight of its last nine games and is 12-10 overall, 9-5 in the OVC. The Eagles also got 14 points each from Leon Buchanan and Maze Stallworth. Kenneth Faried added 13 points. Morehead State's 10-0 start at home in 2007-08 is the school's best home court start in 50 years.

Southeast Missouri, now 12-13 overall and 7-8 in the

league, was led by reserves Kenard Moore and Roderick Pearson who scored 17 and 15 points, respectively.

"We didn't play well tonight," said MSU Coach Donnie Tyndall. "and you've got to give SEMO credit for that. I thought we started out flat, and they kept us out of rhythm for much of the first half. But, we showed a little maturity in a 'grind-it-out' kind of game where every possession was important."

"Our two seniors, Nikola Stojakovic and Jamyron Steward, made their free throws late, and we got a couple of huge defensive stops."

MSU scored the last nine points of the first half to turn a five-point deficit into a four-

point lead, 34-30, at halftime.

The Eagles shot 50 percent (23-of-46) from the field to 41.8 percent (23-of-55) for the Redhawks. MSU was eight-of-18 from three-point range. Stallworth hit four-of-eight. SEMO was seven-of-19 from behind the arc with Moore hitting four-of-nine.

At the free throw line, MSU made 21-of-27, while Southeast Missouri connected on 10-of-16. The Redhawks won the rebound battle, 32-to-29. SEMO had 21 turnovers, the Eagles had 19 turnovers.

Stojakovic handed out a game-high nine assists, and Faried had a game-high four steals.

Defense leads EKV to fourth straight win; At Richmond — in Eastern

Kentucky University's second consecutive game televised by ESPNU — the Colonel men's basketball team held visiting Murray State to a season-low 47 points on the way to a 60-47 victory Thursday night in McBryer Arena. Eastern (12-10, 9-5 OVC) completed the season sweep over the Racers (14-9, 10-5) and moved within a half-game of second place in the conference standings.

Junior Mike Rose led all players in points (15) and rebounds (six), to go along with a career-high six steals. Senior Darnell Dials added 14 points while freshman Justin Stommes tallied 13 points on 66.7 percent (4-of-6) shooting from the field. Dials and Stommes combined for 10 rebounds as well.

For Murray State, Bruce Carter and Kevin Thomas each finished with 10 points. The Racers shot 55.6 percent (10-of-18) in the second half, but also totaled 13 turnovers in that span.

After the Racers took an early 10-6 lead, the Colonels responded with three consecutive three-pointers to go ahead, 15-10. Eastern Kentucky would not trail the rest of the way as the home squad began the game 8-of-11 (72.7 percent) from behind the arc.

The Colonel defense held Murray State without a point the final 10:34 of the first half, but EKV also went cold from the field with 13 straight misses. Dials ended the drought with a long jumper right before intermission to give Eastern a

29-16 advantage at halftime.

Eastern Kentucky's lead swelled to 21 points, 45-24, midway through the second stanza when Dials netted his second trifecta of the contest. However, the Racers rallied with 11 unanswered points, capped by a Tyler Holloway three-pointer, to slash the deficit to 10 with 4:57 remaining.

Murray State did not get any closer, though, as Rose's fourth three-pointer stretched the EKV cushion back to 15 points, 54-39, with three minutes left.

It was Eastern Kentucky's fourth straight win over Murray State, a feat the Colonels had not accomplished since 1960.

ONLINE: www.ekusports.com



photo by Jamie Howell

PRESTONSBURG COACH JACK PACK talked with his Lady Blackcats during a timeout in a recent Floyd County Conference/58th District game versus Allen Central.



photo courtesy of Dusty Layne Photography/East Kentucky Miners

JOSH PACE has returned at 100-percent for the East Kentucky Miners.

Louisville QB Brian Brohm named BIG EAST Scholar Athlete of the Year

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — University of Louisville quarterback Brian Brohm, who completed his career as the holder of no fewer than 14 BIG EAST records, has been chosen the 2007 BIG EAST/Aéropostale Football Scholar-Athlete of the Year. The selection was made by the Conference's Academic Affairs Committee.

A senior from Louisville, Brohm will receive a \$2,000 scholarship, which may be applied to graduate or professional studies. The Conference also announced the 82 players who were chosen to the BIG EAST All-Academic Team.

Brohm, who was the BIG EAST Offensive Player of the Year in 2005, led the confer-

ence in passing in each of his three seasons in the league, including 2007, when he threw for a conference-record 4,024 yards to go with 30 touchdowns. He passed for at least 300 yards in a league-record seven games in 2007, highlighted by a 555-yard effort against Syracuse Sept. 22, and had 18 300-yard games his career. Brohm threw for a BIG EAST-record 9,956 yards in his three seasons in the conference, surpassing the previous record of 9,565 held by Miami's Ken Dorsey since 2002. His career completion percentage of 65.7 makes him the most accurate passer in BIG EAST history. He helped Louisville to its first BIG EAST championship in the 2006 season and was named MVP of the 2007 FedEx Orange Bowl after leading the

Cardinals to a win against Wake Forest.

Brohm, who earned All-BIG EAST First Team honors in 2005 and second team accolades in 2006 and 2007, was a first team ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America selection in 2006 and 2007. He holds a 3.52 grade-point average as a finance major.

In addition to his academic work, Brohm has volunteered his time with the Louisville Cards Care program in a number of community service endeavors, including visits to Kosair Children's Hospital and the St. Francis School in Louisville. He also has served Thanksgiving dinner to area children at the Louisville Boys and Girls Club.

The BIG EAST/Aéropostale Scholar-Athlete Awards were

established to recognize student-athletes who have achieved success in the classroom and on the field. Aéropostale sponsors all of the conference's academic awards for graduate or professional school studies and has provided apparel items to all participants at men's and women's BIG EAST Championship events. In addition, the BIG EAST Administrative Fellowship Program provides a qualified former student-athlete the opportunity to work at the BIG EAST Conference office to learn the essential elements of athletics administration. Aéropostale and the BIG EAST have been partners since 1999.

ONLINE: www.uoflports.com

Lady Patriots too much for Letcher Central

TIMES STAFF REPORT

WHITESBURG — Senior point guard Megan Mosley scored a game-high 23 points and teammate Natasha Slone added 14 Thursday night as Knott County Central upended host Letcher County Central 51-42 in a 53rd District matchup between two familiar girls' high school basketball programs.

Knott County Central overcame somewhat of a slow start and played its way to the win. Letcher County Central coasted out of the first quarter out in front 13-10. The visiting Lady Patriots, however, man-

aged to outscore Letcher County Central in each of the last three quarters. The Lady Patriots led 21-19 at the half.

Knott County Central was able to keep some distance between itself and the Lady Cougars in the second half.

Sophomore forward Sammy King narrowly missed double figures for Knott County Central, checking out of the contest with nine points. Freshman center Shandra Thomas and sophomore forward Kelly Pratt scored six points apiece for the Lady Patriots.

Brittany Sexton paced Letcher County Central with 17 points. Shannon Bays

joined Sexton in double figures scoring for the Lady Cougars. Shannon Bays pushed in 10 points as Letcher County Central prevailed. Sharaye Kincer collected seven points for the Lady Cougars.

KCC 51, LCC 42
KNOTT CO. CENTRAL (15-7) — Mosley 23, Conley 3, Slone 14, Thomas 6, Pratt 6, King 9.

LETCHER CO. CENTRAL (7-14) — Kincer 7, Bays 10, Sexton 17, Begley 4, Wynn 2.

KCC.....10 11 15 15-51
LCC.....13 6 13 10-42

BOOK FOR SALE
A book by Donald Crisp "Growing up on Bucks Branch". In Floyd county, on sale now!!!! \$12.50 plus shipping and handling. Contact Donald at 285-3385.

For sale: 19 hill-side acres located 1 mile from Rt 80 on Rt 122 Martin. Also 75' x 100' lot. Selling to settle Parley / Grace Flanery estate. Contact Emma Pigman at 606-785-5660. Hindman

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.

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

One bedroom unfurnished apt for rent near college suitable for one person. No pets. Deposit required. Call 874-9976 after 5 p.m

Efficiency Apt for rent. \$375 mth. \$375 deposit. Must be paid before moving in. Call 285-9003.

2 br, 1 bath Apt for rent, conveniently located at Allen. \$575 month utilities included. Call 522-4126 or 477-2783

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.

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

House for rent. Located at Banner. Call 874-2887.

3 Br Duplex for rent. 1,800 sq ft, with fireplace. Large backyard. In town. All utilities and cable included. NO PETS. \$1,150 mth plus deposit. Also available 2 br, with fireplace, utilities included. Large yard on river bank. 1,050 mth plus deposit. Call 2265846

For rent: Two bedroom house at Banner. Central heat & air, utility room, nice kitchen w/stove & refrigerator. Call 285-3252 days, 874-6030 evenings. No pets, no HUD.

2007- 28x64 3br, 2 bath loaded w/ options plus free 32" flat screen tv & over \$ 3,000 in furniture. Lot model only!! \$62,250. The Home Show - Louisa. 606-638-4663.

2008- 28x44 3br, 2ba. 8' flat ceilings, 2x4 walls. Delivered & set. As low as \$ 38,990. The home show- Louisa. 606-638-4663.

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

791-4471. \$450 per month.

LOTS FOR RENT
Dwale Mobile home Park. off US 23 near Prestonsburg. Nice quiet community. Restrictions apply. 606-377-2357

Special FHA Finance Program. \$0 down if you own your own land or use family land. We own the Bank and your approved. Call 606-474-6380.

2 br Mobile home for rent. Located on Buffalo. Call 886-0200.

Mobile Home for rent. Located at Baptist Bottom, Garrett. 1 Br, large living room, fully furnished, microwave, tv and private lot. Call 606-226-8788 or 358-4200.

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For rent: Nice 2 br, 2 bath mobile home. Garden tub, new carpet throughout. Located in Prestonsburg. \$475 mth plus deposit & references required. Call 606-353-6609.

2 Br Mobile home

for rent. HUD approved in Garrett area. Call 432-9110 or 794-0944.

500 reward: For more information about windows being broken at the home of T.J Hoover. Located at Stone Coal. On January 24. Possibly happened between 6 am to 5:30 pm. Contact T.J Hoover at his home.

Liability Company, 190 Left Fork of Island Creek Road, Pikeville, Kentucky 41501.

The operation is located approximately 1.00 mile east of Betsy Layne and is situated in both Floyd and Pike County. The operation is approximately 0.70 miles due east of Pike/Floyd Hollow County Road= junction with US 23 and/or US 460 and is located in Pike/Floyd Hollow and Coldwater Branch. The operation is located on the Broadbottom USGS 7 1/2 minute quadrangle map at latitude 37E33'11" and longitude 82E37'03.

The 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 or objections must be filed with the Director, Division of Mine Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. All comments or objections must be received within fifteen (15) days of today's date.

Legals
NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE PURSUANT TO APPLICATION NUMBER 836-5396 OPERATOR CHANGE

In accordance with the provisions of 405 KAR 8:010, notice is hereby given that McCoy Elkhorn Coal Corporation, 1148 Long Fork Road, Kimper, Kentucky 41539 intends to revise Permit No. 836-5396 to change the operator. The operator presently approved in the permit is McCoy Elkhorn Coal Corporation, 1148 Long Fork Road, Kimper, Kentucky 41539. The new operator will be STARUS, Limited

Animals

Pit bull puppies for sale. \$100 for males and \$150 for females. Call 377-2060.

Beautiful full bred Spitz puppies. \$50.00 each. Call 285-1980 or 478-7255.

Appliances

Murrell's Appliance Used refrigerators, ranges, washers, dryers, & more with 90 day free warranty. Delivery available. Stone Coal Rd Garrett, Ky. 606-358-9410

Furniture

Sofa & /Chair for sale. Newly apolstered. \$450 Must see to believe. Beautiful!! Call 1-859-6283 or 1-422-5597.

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For sale: 2006 exmark walk behind 0 turn mower with velke. Call today for more information. 226-1198.

For sale: 2006 Yamaha R-6 series 600, black. Slight front end damage. Excellent opportunity to purchase beautiful street bike way below cost. Good buy for some one with repair skills. Buy cheap, repair and resell for profit or keep for self. Will sell for payoff- app. \$3,300. Call 789-8133 (evening) or 886- 8506 (day). Ask for Kathy.

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

REAL ESTATE

Houses

3 Story house for sale in Martin. 4 br, 1 bath, 1/2 acre land. No land contracts. \$60,000. Call 285-9340.

Real Estate Auction. 1203 Mare Creek RD, Stanville. 4 br, 2ba. Opening bid : \$10,000 . Property sells : 8 am Thu. Feb. 21 on site. Home is open Sat or Sun before sale day, visit williamsauction.com for details or call 800-801-8003. Other properties selling on-line only. Ky Dean C. Williams broker, RE#46447, Kevin Wendt AUC RP07297.

Double Wide for sale. 28 x 72, 3 br 2 large baths. Fire place 2 car carport. With 1/2 acre lot. Excellent condition. Very good neighborhood. Located left penhook / eagle trace. Harold. Call 606- 478- 7274.

3 Bd house for sale. 1 1/2 bath new kitchen & app. Commercial bldg also located on property. Located on Middle Creek. Call 8886-2699.

2 houses for sale in upscale neighborhood. Located just off four lane. Call 437-1950 or 424-1150.

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Apartment building for sale by owner. Located near HRMC. Call 889-9717. for more information

3,600 sq feet of office space for rent. 200 sq ft of storage. Located at 3243 South Lake Dr. Call Paul @ 794-0249.

Prestonsburg business for lease. Great location on

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

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.

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EQUIPMENT SALES
Wilson Equipment Company has an immediate opening for an experienced and qualified salesperson for our Prestonsburg location. Candidate will be responsible for the sales of Case, Link-Belt, Kobelco, Bomag, Terex, Takeuchi and Kawasaki construction and forestry equipment. Pre-employment drug screen is required. Please mail resume to: Wilson Equipment Co., PO Box 11520, Lexington, KY, 40576 or email to: jobs@wilsonequipment.com.
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Odds & Ends

■ GEORGETOWN — A public defender who was punched in court by a disgruntled client said Thursday he doesn't blame the man who gave him with two black eyes.

The disorder in the court, captured on video, happened Monday at Scott County Circuit Court after the judge refused defendant Peter Hafer's request for a new attorney.

Hafer, 30, of Cynthiana, told the judge he didn't trust his court-appointed lawyer, Doug Crickmer. As Judge Rob Johnson began to tell Hafer he couldn't choose his public defender, Hafer landed the first punch.

"I just couldn't take it anymore and I just snapped," Hafer said later at the Scott County jail.

Hafer hit the attorney several times in the face and stomach. Hafer was restrained on the ground. Crickmer was admitted to Georgetown Community Hospital and released later that day. He said he will not file assault charges.

"I certainly don't fault him or blame him or wish him any ill will," Crickmer said Thursday on NBC's "Today" show. "I think Mr. Hafer was just frustrated. Like I said, he had been in jail for some time. ... I think he just got frustrated, fed up, and he just snapped and I was the nearest target."

Hafer was arrested in August on charges of burglarizing a K-Mart store in June.

As for his request for a new attorney, Hafer apparently will get his way. Authorities said a new one will be appointed.

■ PHILADELPHIA — A traffic judge apologized to a man who was hounded for 17 years by officials trying to get his similarly named twin brother to resolve \$1,800 in unpaid tickets and fines.

The problems all started for 40-year-old Edward Stanley Harris between October 1990 and May 1991. During that period, his twin brother, Edwin Shelby Harris, received eight tickets for moving violations.

Edwin Harris pleaded guilty in traffic court in September 1991 and was ordered to pay \$1,501. But Edwin Harris never paid. He hit hard times, drifted south and lost touch with his brother.

In the fall of 1992, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation gave Edward Harris a painful reminder of his twin: The agency, confusing him with his brother, told him his license would be suspended for nonpayment of tickets.

Eventually, PennDOT got things cleared up and withdrew the suspension threat. But Edwin Harris' fight against bureaucracy was only just beginning.

Every year or so, between November 1992 and June 2007, PennDOT would rediscover Edwin Harris' unpaid tickets and threaten to suspend his twin's license. Each time, Edward Harris would return to traffic court, and the suspension threat would get lifted.

The cycle dragged on until November, when Judge Willie Adams refused to look at the paperwork that showed Edward Harris was innocent, then told him to start paying the tickets or go to jail. That led him to take his story to the Philadelphia Daily News.

After a column Monday, a different traffic judge, Bernice DeAngelis, caught wind of the story. She apologized and said the court would give Edward Harris a refund.

"I'd like the chance to look him in the eye and apologize, from the bottom of my heart," DeAngelis told the newspaper for a story Thursday. "I see what we do in this court as a sacred trust. That might sound corny, but I truly believe it. I'm sorry for everything he had to go through."

■ SUTHERLIN, Ore. — They say problem gamblers never quit while they're ahead, and one properly insured Oregon man apparently didn't, either.

Authorities recovered a stolen antique slot machine worth \$4,000 and arrested the 30-year-old, who they said asked his wife to help file an insurance claim to cover damage done to his van during the heist.

The slot machine was reported stolen in a burglary Monday night at a home in Sutherlin, 170 miles south of Portland, Douglas County sheriff's deputies said. Investigators learned that the victim's housekeeper filed a police report a day earlier claiming someone had thrown a piece of sheet metal through the window of her parked van.

The sheet metal turned out to be from the back of the stolen slot machine, with the serial number attached.

Deputies said the housekeeper's husband stole the machine, which tipped over as he drove away, breaking the van window. He told his wife the van had been vandalized and asked her to report the damage so insurance would cover it, deputies said.

The husband and a 25-year-old man were charged with burglary and theft, but the wife wasn't charged.

The case was still being investigated.

■ MINNEAPOLIS — A man who robbed a woman of her keys and cell phone, then licked her toes, was sentenced Wednesday to five years' probation.

Carlton Jermaine Davis, 26, faces 21 months in prison if he fails to complete probation for the robbery charge in Ramsey County District Court.

According to a criminal complaint, Davis approached the woman around 1 a.m. on Sept. 9 as she was leaving work and forced her to put her phone and purse inside a bag. Then he told her, "Now I'm going to suck your feet."

Police arrested Davis a few minutes later about four blocks away.

■ WICHITA, Kan. — Two Komodo dragons have hatched at the Sedgwick County Zoo, apparently without the fertilization of a male.

The dragons, both males, are believed to be the first in North America known to have hatched by parthenogenesis, which occurs naturally in some species, including invertebrates and lower plants. It happens more rarely in some vertebrates.

Two other known cases in which Komodo dragons hatched by parthenogenesis were at the London and Chester zoos in England in 2006.

The zoo in Wichita is having DNA testing done to document the mother's and the babies' genetic structure because of the remote chance that a male's sperm was stored on the female's body.

Komodo dragons are one of the few species capable of storing sperm, said Don Boyer, curator of reptiles and amphibians at the San Diego Zoo and species survival plan coordinator for Komodo dragons.

The Sedgwick County Zoo has had this female and one other since 1993, when they were less than a year old. They have been laying eggs since 2000.

"We never had a male dragon at the zoo. There were no tramps that came wandering through," said Nate Nelson, the zoo's curator of amphibians, reptiles and fishes.

One of the Kansas zoo's females, Gaia, laid at least 17 eggs on the nights of May 19 and 20, 2007. The females can lay as many as 30 eggs at a time.

Because the English zoos had documented parthenogenesis, the Sedgwick County Zoo checked to see whether the eggs were fertile. Only two of the 17 eggs were hatched — one on Jan. 31 and the other Feb. 1 — because the zoo doesn't have room for more dragons, Nelson said.

One is 16 inches long; the other is 17 inches. Komodo dragons can live 20 to 40 years. Males can reach 10 feet long and weigh as much as 200 pounds; females grow to between 5 and 7 feet and weigh as much as 125 pounds.

Komodo dragons are endangered, with between 3,000 and 5,000 in the wild. Eighty live in 30 zoos in North America. Only six zoos in the nation breed the dragons.

■ WEST DES MOINES, Iowa — Officials at a junior high school spiked an edition of the student newspaper because it contained a recipe for hot chocolate that included peppermint schnapps.

The January edition of Stillwell Junior High School's quarterly Tiger Tracks was pulled off the racks when the boozy recipe was discovered, Principal Tim Miller said. A student at the West Des

Moines school submitted the recipe, which slipped through the editing process, Miller said.

Miller described the mistake as an honest one, saying the student who submitted the recipe thought schnapps was a type of candy.

■ PASCO, Wash. — The discovery of an apparent piece of human scalp has puzzled police knocking on doors to try to determine the source.

"At this point it appears to be human," police Capt. James Raymond said Tuesday. "We're taking a leap that the person it belongs to probably is not alive."

Eriberta Salinas said her 4-month-old puppy Clifford brought home the apparent piece of scalp with reddish hair on Sunday from a back yard in the neighborhood.

Police went door to door in the neighborhood in this central Washington town for about five hours Monday to ask neighbors if they had seen any red-haired strangers in the area lately.

Investigators initially thought the scalp might have

been taken in the recent car prow and theft of a kit containing body parts for training cadaver dogs in nearby Kennewick, but that was later ruled out, police said.

The apparent piece of scalp has been sent to a crime laboratory for analysis.

"Someone out there is probably not living and so that's really what the priority is: Where is this person?" Raymond said.

■ NEW YORK — Not only has the pride of New England been created by the New York Giants in Super Bowl XLII, so has the region's namesake chowder — at least at one city restaurant.

The Grand Central Oyster Bar is changing the name of its New England Clam Chowder to "Giants Clam Chowder" for the week.

The restaurant's owner, Mike Garvey, called it an "appropriate tribute."

The Giants beat the previously undefeated New England Patriots 17-14 on Sunday night to win their third Super Bowl title.

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