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In brief

Pike man hurt in plane crash

The Associated Press

PINEVILLE — A pilot has been injured in a small plane crash near the Tennessee state line.

Kentucky State Police and witnesses say a single-engine Cessna clipped power lines in a rural area near Pineville, then crashed. The pilot, Emory C. Hurley, 65, of Pikeville, was taken to the University of Tennessee Medical Center in Knoxville for treatment of numerous injuries.

Hurley told state police he could not remember what caused the crash. Witnesses say Hurley was flying over an old strip mine near Shilalah apparently didn't see the power lines across the mine until it was too late, according to Paul Wilson, emergency management director for the county.

The plane went down a round 3 p.m. EDT. Trooper say the pilot was the only person on board.

The Federal Aviation Administration is investigating.

COAL RALLY



photo by John Whitlock/Kentucky Press Association News Bureau

Hundreds of miners and supporters wave signs and chant on the steps of the Kentucky Capitol Thursday to drum up support for coal-related legislation and to make their concerns over the future of energy in the commonwealth heard by lawmakers.



Members of the Kentucky State Senate Mountain Caucus attended a coal rally Thursday in front of the Kentucky State Capitol in Frankfort. Pictured left to right are Senator Brandon Smith, R-Hazard; Senator Johnny Ray Turner, D-Drift, and Senator Walter Blevins, D-Sandy Hook.

photo courtesy LRC Public Information

Governor warns House budget could cause layoffs

The Associated Press

FRANKFORT — Gov. Steve Beshear warned that a nearly \$19 billion, two-year state budget approved by the House this week would likely force spending cuts and perhaps layoffs.

Beshear also said he's still pushing his plan to bolster the state's 30-cent-per-pack cigarette tax by 70 cents. He wants to use part of that revenue to borrow money to help the state through the next two years.

The approximately \$18.7

billion budget passed by the House includes a 25-cent-per-pack increase in the cigarette tax. The spending plan will next be taken up by the Senate.

Beshear said Thursday that the House version assumes unrealistic savings and pushes excessive debt payments into the future. Asked if layoffs were a possibility, he said, "Certainly possible. We want to try to avoid that if we possibly can."

He said the House version also could paralyze some state services because it would pre-

vent the administration from filling 3,300 state jobs. Beshear said he doesn't know yet which services might be hit hardest, but warned that larger agencies, such as the Health and Family Services Cabinet, would probably be affected most.

"I think there are going to be people all across the board" whose open jobs won't be filled, Beshear said. "It could be social workers. It could be managers. Obviously, in the end, we'll deal with it in terms

(See LAYOFFS, page three)

Beshear says he's turning attention to gambling

by ROGER ALFORD ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — After a temporary hiatus, Gov. Steve Beshear is again calling on lawmakers to approve a constitutional amendment to legalize casinos in Kentucky.

The first-term Democrat made the issue a centerpiece of his campaign last year, winning a lopsided victory over a Republican incumbent who

opposed casinos. Even so, Beshear has been unable to get enough support from lawmakers to get the proposal through the House.

"It is a very controversial subject obviously, and it has been in Kentucky for some years," Beshear told The Associated Press in an interview on Thursday. "It is an issue that some people look at from a morality standpoint, and others look at from simply an

economic standpoint or a social standpoint."

Beshear put his push for casinos on hold while House lawmakers were developing the two-year, \$18.7 billion state budget. After the spending plan cleared the House on Wednesday, the governor said he went back to work on the proposal.

At least 60 House lawmakers

(See CASINOS, page three)

State budget includes over \$1 million for Floyd County

by JACK LATTA STAFF WRITER

FRANKFORT — The budget which passed the Kentucky House of Representatives last Wednesday contains a significant amount of money for Floyd County in coal severance tax projects, as well as Transportation funds for the Route 680 connector project.

"I am extremely pleased with the House budget as it relates to our county," said Rep. Greg Stumbo. "I did not arrive in Frankfort to begin my service as state representative until Feb. 11, but Sen. Johnny Ray Turner had been meeting with House leaders, laying the groundwork for these projects, which I greatly appreciate."

Stumbo also announced the Mud Creek Road project, known as the Route 680 connector, has renewed life.

"The House Transportation budget calls for the completion of the road, which the previous administration stopped without explanation, from Harold to Tackett Fork, and it appropriates new money to construct the Minnie to Little Mud section. Again, Sen. Turner had been working on this with House leadership to pave the way, and I'm very grateful for his efforts," said Stumbo.

Stumbo said the Route 680 connector was part of the six-year road plan until

it was removed by the Fletcher administration as a retaliatory tactic. "We're back on track now."

Stumbo hopes to secure funding for the fourth and final stage of the road, from Tackett Branch to Little Mud, in the coming years.

The budget, which is still subject to change as it moves into the Senate this week, appropriates a little over \$1.1 million to Floyd County in coal severance dollars for the 2008-09 fiscal year — an amount which closely mirrors the 2007-08 appropriations.

According to the budget approved by the House, but Sen. Johnny Ray Turner had been meeting with House leaders, laying the groundwork for these projects, which I greatly appreciate."

The following is a list of the projects, and the estimated amount of coal severance tax dollars appropriated for the project is listed below with the 2008-09 amount listed first and the 2009-10 amount listed second:

City of Prestonsburg	
Little League Improvements and Operations:	\$10,000/\$10,000
Mountain Arts Center:	

(See BUDGET, page three)



photograph courtesy of Bud Kraft, Legislative Research Commission Rep. Greg Stumbo, (D-Prestonsburg), on the House floor last week, discussing House Bill 654, legislation concerning independent contractors. House Bill 654, sponsored by Rep. Stumbo, passed the House with a vote of 89-7 and now goes to the Senate for consideration.

2 DAY FORECAST Today Partly cloudy High: 49 • Low: 29 Tomorrow Mostly cloudy High: 59 • Low: 43 Get up-to-the-minute weather forecasts at floydcountytimes.com

inside Regional Obituaries.....A2 Opinion.....A4 Lifestyles.....A5 Sports.....B1 Classifieds.....B4



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Regional Obituaries

FLOYD COUNTY

■ Brenda Kay Craft, 45, of Prestonsburg, died Saturday, March 8, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 11, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Juanita Mae Gibson, 88, of Prestonsburg, a Pike County native, died Saturday, March 8, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 11, under the direction of Thacker Funeral Home.

■ Woodrow L. Horne, 91, of Lackey, died Sunday, March 9, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, Prestonsburg. He is survived by his wife, Clarice M. Meadore Horne. Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 12, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Eddie (Reverend) Jones, 44, of Hueysville, died Thursday, February 28, at KSR Nursing Care at LaGrange. Funeral services were held Monday, March 3, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

PIKE COUNTY

■ Warren G. Adkins, 86, of Warren, Mich., formerly of Rockhouse, died Saturday, March 8, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Celia Fay Lester Adkins. Funeral services were held Friday, March 14, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ Ernestine Scalf Blackburn, 87, of Canada, died Saturday, March 8, at Trinity Healthcare, Williamson, W.Va. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 11, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Frank Caudill, 72, of Penny Road, died Friday, March 7, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 11, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

■ Maudie Church, 82, of Feds Creek, died Sunday, March 9, at Mountain View Health Care Center, Elkhorn City. She is survived by her husband, Charlie Church. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 11, under direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ Eric Thornsbury Fields, 79, of McCarr, died Wednesday, March 5, at

Williamson Memorial Hospital. Funeral services were held Saturday, March 8, under the direction of Hatfield Funeral Chapel.

■ Freddie Jay Fields, 66, of Phelps, died Tuesday, March 11, at the Appalachian Regional Hospital, Hazard. Funeral services were held Friday, March 14, under direction of Chambers Funeral Services Inc. of Matewan, W.Va.

■ Juanita Mae Gibson, 88, of Prestonsburg, a Pike County native, died Saturday, March 8, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 11, under the direction of Thacker Funeral Home.

■ Michael Dean "Marcel" Kiser, 45 of Caney Creek, died Saturday, February 23, at his home. Funeral services were held Monday, February 25, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

■ Grace Matthews, 75, of Phelps, died Tuesday, March 4, at the South Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital. Funeral services were held Saturday, March 8, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

■ Thelma Louise Mercer McCown, 76, of Pikeville, died Tuesday, March 11, at her home. Funeral services were held Friday, March 14, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ Glenda Collier Smallwood, 46, of Dorton, died Monday, March 10, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Thursday, March 13, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

■ Chad Edward Spears, 37, of Murfreesboro, Tenn., formerly of Pike County, died Sunday, March 9. Funeral arrangements, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

■ Margaret Ann Stiltner, 74, of Hatfield, a Pike County native, died Saturday, March 8, at King's Daughters Hospital, Ashland. Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 12, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Jean West Thacker, 70, of Canada, died Wednesday, March 5. She is survived by her husband, Edgar Thacker. Funeral services were held Saturday, March 8, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Langley Weddington Jr., 83, of Pikeville, died Tuesday, March 11, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Neva Jo Burnette Weddington. Funeral services were held Friday, March 14, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

■ Ruby Wolford, 64, of Phelps, died Friday, March 7, at her home. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 11, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

■ Vernal Wright, 82, of Myra, died Wednesday, March 5, at Mountain View Health Care Center, Elkhorn City. He is survived by his wife, Billie Sue Wright. Funeral services were held Sunday, March 9, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

KNOTT COUNTY

■ Nella Marie Jacobs Boddy, 60, of Sterling Heights, Michigan, formerly of Knott County, died Thursday, February 21, at Henry Ford Macomb Hospital. Funeral services were held Sunday, February 24, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Hindman.

■ Henry Roosevelt Halcomb, 60, of Hindman, died February 28, at the Whitesburg ARH. He is survived by his wife, Pam Mullins Halcomb. Funeral services were held Sunday, March 2, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Homer Hall, 88, of Greenville, South Carolina, formerly of Knott County, died February 27, at his home. Funeral services were held Friday, February 28, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Richard Huff, 86, of Topmost, died March 2, at the

Hazard ARH. Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 5, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Hindman.

■ Raymond Eugene Reynolds, 82, of Litt Carr, died Tuesday, February 26, at the Whitesburg ARH. Funeral services were held Friday, February 29, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Home.

LAWRENCE COUNTY

■ Jack Kenneth Blackburn, 76, of Woodstock, Ohio, a Louisa native, died Saturday, March 8, at Milcrest Nursing Home, Marysville. He is survived by his wife, Madeline Moore Blackburn. Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 12, under the direction of Freshwater, McDonald & Vernon Funeral Home of North Lewisburg, Ohio.

MARTIN COUNTY

■ Daniel (Dan) Howard Copley, 73, of Warfield, died Monday, March 3, in Tavares, Florida. He is survived by his wife, Caroline McCoy Copley. Graveside services were conducted Saturday, March 8, at Greenlawn Cemetery, Louisa.

■ Ruth G. Endicott, 82, of Inez, died Monday, March 3, at King's Daughters Medical Center, in Ashland. Funeral services were held Friday, March 7, under the direction of Richmond-Calliham Funeral Home.

■ Mary D. York, 95, of Kermit, died Sunday, March 9, at Trinity Healthcare Facility, in Williamson, WV. Graveside services were held Wednesday, March 12, at the Warfield Cemetery, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

JOHNSON COUNTY

■ Faye Castle, of Urbana, a Paintsville native, died Tuesday, March 11, in the Ohio State University Medical Center, in Columbus, Ohio. She is survived by her husband, Gary Castle. Funeral services were held Saturday, March 15, under the direction of the Vernon Funeral Home of Urbana.

■ Richard Lee Caudill, 49, of Lexington, formerly of Sitka, died Wednesday, March 12, at UK Medical Center, in Lexington. Funeral services were held Saturday, March 15, under the direction of the Paintsville Funeral Home.

■ Roger Willis Conley, 59, of Clearfield, a Johnson County native, died Tuesday, March 11, at the UK Medical Center, in Lexington. Funeral services were held Saturday, March 15, under the direction of the Northcutt & Son Homes for Funerals of Morehead.

■ Mark Anthony King, 45, of Flat Gap, died Tuesday, March 11, at Delbarton, W.Va. Funeral services were held Thursday, March 13, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

■ Lifes Vanhoose, 30, of Nippa, died Sunday, March 9, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 11, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

Obituaries



Elizabeth Lafferty Burkett

Elizabeth Lafferty Burkett, 94, of Prestonsburg, died Wednesday, March 12, 2008, at the Pikeville Medical Center.

Born May 18, 1913, in Prestonsburg, she was the daughter of the late James H. and Malinda Lafferty. She was a former nurse, homemaker, helped with youth at Cow Creek Freewill Baptist and Martin Branch Freewill Baptist Church for 30 years, and was a member of Highland Avenue Freewill Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jeff Burkett.

Survivors include a sister, Alta Mae Wallen of Prestonsburg; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by an infant son; three brothers and four sisters: Jerry Albert Lafferty, Bill Lafferty, Seymour Lafferty, Pearlle Stapleton, Florence Lafferty, Annic Gray, and Dixie Whitaker.

Funeral services were held Saturday, March 15, at 2 p.m., at Highland Avenue Freewill Baptist Church, in Prestonsburg, with George David Garrett and Clifford Austin officiating.

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

Visitation was Thursday after 5 p.m., at the funeral home, and after 1 p.m., Saturday, at the church.

Active pallbearers: Larry L. Lafferty, Billy Ray Burkett, Charles Jerney Porter, Jerry Burkett, Mike Starnes, and David Burkett.

Honorary: Forrest Elijah Porter, Forrest Porter, Charles Gray, Herman Gray, William Adams, Roland Gray, Roland Gray Jr., Gordon Hunter, Joe Drew, Print Ball, Tommy Lafferty, Tommy Lafferty Jr., and Joe Hammonds.

(Paid obituary)

□□□

'Oliver Pinion

Oliver Pinion, 89, of Clyde, Ohio, formerly of Tram, died Tuesday, March 11, 2008, in Bellevue, Ohio.

Born August 20, 1918, in German, he was the son of the late Birdie Thompson; his stepfather, was the late Burl Thompson.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Elsie Music Pinion.

Survivors include two sons and daughters-in-law: Ray and Mary Pinion of Tram; and Teddy Joe and Phoebe Pinion of Green Springs, Ohio; daughters and sons-in-law: Lillie Mae and Larry Stapleton of Lincoln Park, Michigan; Emma Lee and Donald Stanley, and Sue and Joe West, all of Clyde, Ohio; Peggy Ann and Ric Pierson of Fairfield, Ohio; Debbie Lynn and Dana Bryant of Betsy Layne; and Brandy Lynn and Chris Roberts of Banner; 15 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Saturday, March 15, at 11 a.m., at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Nathan Lafferty officiating.

Military services were conducted by Betsy Layne DAV Chapter 169.

Burial was in the Davidson Memorial Gardens, in Ivel.

Visitation was at the funeral home.

(Paid obituary)

Lawmakers call for quicker medical evacs after mine accidents

The Associated Press

FRANKFORT — A severely burned Ora Murphy lay on a gurney at a coal mining operation in the remote mountains of eastern Kentucky waiting for a medical helicopter to transport him to a hospital nearly 100 miles away.

Problem was, no one had the GPS coordinates needed to guide the pilot to Long Fork Coal Co.

Murphy's situation last year has sparked legislation in Kentucky that would require coal companies to post their GPS coordinates for employees and to provide them to

emergency dispatching centers. The measure has already been approved by a Senate committee and is on a fast-track for vote in the full Senate, possibly as early as next week.

The legislation is Senate Bill 213.



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2008 Great Easter Egg Hunt

CLUE #9
Not the boots, not the key, close to both is where you'll find me

FCT ONLINE POLL

RESULTS FOR THE WEEKS OF MARCH 2 - MARCH 15, 2008

Do you think the University of Kentucky Wildcats have a shot of making the basketball playoffs this year?

Yes, they've really improved	(156 Votes, 40%)
Maybe, but they still need to win more games	(90 Votes, 23%)
Only if they win the SEC tournament	(61 Votes, 16%)
Not a chance	(82 Votes, 21%)

Go online today and answer this week's question!
What is Floyd County's most pressing need?

- More "good" jobs
- Better roads
- Better schools
- More tourist attractions
- Stronger ethics in government
- Water and sewer lines

FCT ONLINE POLL

Casinos

ers would have to vote for the proposal to send it to the Senate for consideration. Beshear said more than 50 have committed to vote for it.

House Speaker Jody Richards, D-Bowling Green, said there's still hope for the proposal.

"I'm going to go back and try to work on it some more and we'll see where we are by the first of next week," he said Thursday.

John-Mark Hack, head of the anti-casino group Say No To Casinos, said he doesn't understand why Beshear keeps pushing the issue.

"It's clear that the votes are not there and that the people of the commonwealth consider this to be bad public policy," Hack said. "House Democrats would be wise not to get on a train that's going off the cliff."

In the AP interview, Beshear said legalizing casinos could generate much-needed revenue for the cash-strapped state. Approving his plan to open and tax casinos, Beshear said, could generate up to \$600 million a year in additional revenue.

Kentucky economists project that the state faces a \$900 million revenue shortfall over the next two years — the result of an economic downturn. That was in addition to a \$434 million shortfall this year.

"The one thing I didn't expect was to come in and find Kentucky in as deep a financial crisis as it is," Beshear said. "I had a general feeling that, because of the downturn in the nation's economy, that we would probably have some difficult times ahead, but I had

no idea that we would be facing the deep deficit that we inherited."

Beshear had promised during his election campaign to expand medical coverage to children and senior citizens and to increase funding for early childhood education.

"Unfortunately, we had to hit the pause button on many of those issues because of the severe financial crisis we're in," he said.

Revenue generated by casinos, Beshear said, could generate money to get his education and health care proposals back on track.

Although Kentucky has a long tradition of wagering at horse tracks, the constitution specifically forbids casinos.

If Beshear is able to convince lawmakers to approve a constitutional amendment, Kentucky voters would get to ratify or reject the proposal in a ballot referendum.

Discord among lawmakers over how many casinos should be opened and where, Beshear said, has hampered efforts to get the amendment through the legislature. Beshear had proposed that seven casinos open at horse tracks and five in communities along the state's borders. A House committee revised the proposal to allow nine casinos, none of which were guaranteed to go to horse tracks.

With both proposals languishing, state Rep. Greg Stumbo, D-Prestonsburg, proposed an amendment that would allow slot machines to be placed at horse tracks.

"I'm open to any and all of those ideas," Beshear said. "I

would like for us to take any of those ideas that have the most support and move it down to the Senate, because, obviously, it will continue to be debated and continue to be changed."

With prospects of passing the casino measure waning, Beshear said he looked for other ways to increase revenue, despite pledging during the campaign not to raise taxes. He settled on a proposal to increase the state's cigarette tax by 70 cents a pack and use the revenue to leverage bonds and generate about \$800 million over the next two years.

"We're faced with either raising more revenue or making some very severe cuts in K-12 education, higher education, health care and social services to the point that it could damage us," Beshear said in the interview.

The House rejected his proposal, opting instead for a cigarette tax increase of 25 cents a pack. Beshear said he still intends to push for 70 cents, which would raise the cigarette tax to \$1 a pack.

"If we're going to raise the cigarette tax, let's do it substantially enough that we will both raise significant revenues and incur the health benefits that a substantial increase would give to the people of this state," he said. "Every study I've seen indicates that a substantial increase will greatly decrease the number of children that will begin smoking and also have a big effect on adults that smoke. That in turn will reduce the cost of health care in this commonwealth significantly."



The picture above ran on the front page of our Friday edition with the incorrect caption. The caption should have read as follows: "Prestonsburg Police Detective Steve Little was part of a joint law enforcement raid Thursday that netted four people suspected of drug crimes. Ronald Hamilton, above, was charged with four counts of trafficking in a controlled substance within 1,000 yards of a school, and four counts of second-degree trafficking in a controlled substance." The Floyd County Times apologizes for the error.

Layoffs

of running the government, but it just needs to be clear what the effect of this is going to be."

Beshear made the comments in interviews with The Courier-Journal of Louisville and the Lexington Herald-Leader.

House budget chairman Harry Moberly, a Richmond Democrat, said the budget bill includes a provision giving Beshear "unprecedented flexibility" to remake state government's structure to move key positions where they're needed

most. "I believe if they're good managers and they restructure state government to do away with the waste and get more efficiency, then I don't think it should affect services," Moberly said.

The House version assumes \$85 million in revenue each of the next two years because of what Moberly projects will be vacant state government positions created by retirements at the end of this year before an enhanced retirement benefit

expires. It also would restructure all outstanding state General Fund debt at a savings of \$150 million in each of the next two years.

Beshear said his budget proposal — which made deep cuts in higher education and social services — accounted for significant retirements later this year. He said the House is counting an additional \$85 million in annual savings that could not be attained without the likelihood of painful cuts next year.

Program to provide farmers drought relief

by JACK LATTA
STAFF WRITER

A multi million dollar program designed to assist Kentucky farmers who faced difficulties during last years drought was announced Thursday.

Governor Steve Beshear with Agriculture Commissioner Richie Farmer said that the Kentucky Agricultural Relief Effort (KARE) will be appropriated \$8.15 million in moneys generated through the master tobacco settlement and will be administered through the Governors Office of Agricultural Policy (GOAP).

"Farming is a challenging way to make a living and some years its more stressful than others, but because of the \$8.15 million investment in the KARE program, we will be able to reach out to farmers

whose crops were devastated," said Gov. Beshear. "Farmers need help developing alternative water sources that will head off the impacts of future droughts; assistance with renovating and reestablishing pastures and hay fields; along with equipment and facilities that will help improve forage quality."

According to officials, KARE is a program which will help pay for improvements and investments to on-farm production to negate the impact of the drought.

"I am optimistic about the future of Kentucky agriculture," Commissioner Farmer said. "Better days are ahead of us. Today's announcement will help insure that all of Kentucky agriculture can get there together."

An estimated \$6.15 million is allocated to one KARE fund, with a reported \$4.1 mil-

lion of that money come from county tobacco settlement funds and \$2.05 million from state tobacco settlement funds.

A separate pool of \$2 million exists for Counties to apply for with funds be distributed based on the agricultural impact of the drought to that county.

In 2007, due to a late freeze in April as well as the summer drought, corn, soybeans, tobacco, and hay reportedly experienced a substantial decrease from 2006.

Farmers will be able to use the funds for water projects, forage projects, and other projects such as crop insurance.

Producers apply for the funding by Aug. 1.

Farmers can apply for reimbursement of eligible expense retroactive to Dec. 1, 2007. Guidelines for the project can be found on the GOAP web site, <http://agpolicy.ky.gov>.

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Budget

\$75,000/\$75,000	\$2,600/\$2,600	Toler Creek Fire Department
Floyd County Board of Education	Left Beaver Fire Department	Equipment/Operations: \$2,600/\$2,600
Betsy Layne High School - Academic and Athletic Program/Athletic Teams: \$25,000/\$25,000	Little League Improvements - Operations: \$30,000/\$30,000	Wayland Area Fire Department - Equipment/Operations: \$2,600/\$2,600
Prestonsburg High School - Academic and Athletic Program/Athletic Teams: \$25,000/\$25,000	Martin Fire Department - Equipment/Operations: \$2,600/\$2,600	Wayland Sports Hall: \$100,000/\$0
South Floyd High School - Academic and Athletic Program/Athletic Teams: \$25,000/\$25,000	Maytown Fire Department - Equipment/Operations: \$2,600/\$2,600	Wheelwright Fire Department - Equipment/Operations: \$2,600/\$2,600
Allen Central High School - Academic and Athletic Program/Athletic Teams: \$25,000/\$25,000	Middle Creek Fire Department - Equipment/Operations: \$2,600/\$2,600	Wheelwright Swimming Pool - Renovations/Repairs: \$40,000/\$25,000
Floyd County Fiscal Court	Mountain Comprehensive Care - Layne House - : \$40,000/\$50,000	World War II and Korean Memorial: \$30,000/\$0
Allen Fire Department - Equipment - Operations: \$2,600/\$2,600	Mountain Top Recreational - Repair/Upkeep: \$200,000/\$200,000	
Allen Golf Course - General Operating - Row Acquisition: \$25,000/\$25,000	Mud Creek Fire Department - Equipment/Operations: \$2,600/\$2,600	
Allen Golf Course - Repairs - Maintenance: \$25,000/\$25,000	Prestonsburg Fire Department - Equipment/Operations: \$2,600/\$2,600	
American Legion Post 283 of Martin: \$2,500/\$2,500	Purchase Bookmobile: \$75,000/\$0	
American Veterans: \$2,500/\$2,500	Right Beaver Area - Park Maintenance/Upkeep: \$40,000/\$40,000	
Auxier Fire Department - Equipment/Operations: \$2,600/\$2,600	Senior Citizens - Operating: \$70,000/\$70,000	
Betsy Layne Fire Department - Equipment/Operations: \$2,600/\$2,600	Sheriff's Department - One Vehicle: \$0/\$25,000	
Branch Library at Minnie: \$25,000/\$25,000	Southeast Floyd Fire Department - Equipment/Operations: \$2,600/\$2,600	
Cow Creek Fire Department - Equipment/Operations: \$2,600/\$2,600		
David Area Fire Department - Equipment/Operations: \$2,600/\$2,600		
Develop New Mud Creek Park: \$75,000/\$75,000		
Develop Veteran's Cemetery: \$50,000/\$50,000		
Disabled American Veterans Post 128 - Equipment/Improvements: \$5,000/\$5,000		
Disabled American Veterans Post 169 - Equipment/Improvements: \$5,000/\$5,000		
Disabled American Veterans Post 18 - Equipment/Improvements: \$5,000/\$5,000		
Drift Park - Improvements: \$25,000/\$25,000		
Drug Court Initiative: \$50,000/\$50,000		
Feasibility Study Trail Rides: \$10,000/\$10,000		
Garrett Fire Department - Equipment/Operations:		

AARP
Jenny Wiley Chapter AARP to conduct March meeting at East Ky. Science Center
Jenny Wiley Chapter No. 3528, AARP, will, in its first meeting of the year, meet Tuesday, March 18, at 6 p.m., at the Eastern Kentucky Science Center for a brief meeting. Following the meeting they will attend a planetarium show. All members and friends are encouraged to attend. There is no charge for the show.

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

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GARY MARKSTEIN

Guest view

Moral low ground

Be wary of those who plant their flags on the moral high ground to open the door for doing what is patently immoral.

It is what President Bush did last weekend when he vetoed legislation that would limit the CIA to interrogation techniques contained in the Army field manual. It's about protecting us, the president said in his Saturday radio address. And he cited terrorist acts thwarted because the administration gave its interrogators some flexibility. The problem with the president's claims is that, among others, Sen. Jay Rockefeller, D-W.Va., chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, says they can't discern evidence that they are true. On Tuesday, the House, requiring a two-thirds vote, failed to override the veto, 225-188.

Many of the votes against this bill allegedly were about the pork hidden in the measure. Yes, unvetted earmarks are objectionable. But don't buy the moralizing here, either. We'd bet a good number of consistent trough feeders were among those voting against the override.

This bill and the president's veto are about torture. The president avers that it's about allowing what is legal, but his definition of "legal" has been suspect. And the CIA chief says the handbook does not represent the universe of effective interrogation techniques. Fine, ban torture - in statute. Any takers in this crowd?

The United States' top general in Iraq, David Petraeus, whose troops are certainly faced with the day-to-day necessity to get information fast, has some words of note on the topic.

In a letter last year to the troops, the general said, "Our values and the laws governing warfare teach us to respect human dignity, maintain our integrity and do what is right. Adherence to our values distinguishes us from our enemy. This fight depends on securing the population, which must understand that we - not our enemies - occupy the moral high ground."

He added, "Some may argue that we would be more effective if we sanctioned torture or other expedient methods to obtain information from the enemy. They would be wrong. Beyond the basic fact that such actions are illegal, history shows that they also are frequently neither useful nor necessary."

Well put. Enough said.

— The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel



Rich Lowry Column

Re-liberators

BAGHDAD, IRAQ—"Greeted as liberators" has become one of the most scoffed-at phrases of the Iraq War. But a top U.S. general here plays on the phrase in describing security gains during the past year. "In some ways," he says, "our soldiers have come to be seen as re-liberators."

The neologism seems apt in the crisp, cool dusk of a Saturday evening in a Sunni neighborhood here in the Dora section of this city.

American soldiers, who a few months ago couldn't venture here without being shot at, are mobbed by clamoring children as soon as they leave their vehicles. Stores are open on a street that was deserted just months ago. An American captain — "the mayor" of the neighborhood — is greeted by name by an Iraqi boy who runs up to shake his hand, and two women approach him to ask about being hired by the Iraqi government as teachers.

The neighborhood is a showcase of a counterinsurgency campaign that has emphasized securing the population and getting to know local players. "We live in the neighborhood," explains Col. Ricky Gibbs. "How did we get there? We moved to the sound of the guns." It took months of combat for his troops to rout al-Qaida and establish outposts in his section of the city. Once it became clear that

the Americans weren't going anywhere, "the people came out in droves."

The Army has contracted with an influential (and very brave) local doctor-turned-businessman in the neighborhood for road repairs, trash pickup and electricity generation. All of which means local jobs.

The question now is whether the enhanced security will harden into — in a phrase the U.S. military uses often now — "irreversible momentum" that will make the second liberation more enduring than the first, even as the U.S. begins to draw down the additional brigades of the surge.

It should be the Shia-dominated Iraqi central government contracting with people like the doctor. It can't (out of incompetence) or won't (out of sectarian motives). "We've had an American awakening and a Sunni awakening," he says, referring to the surge and the Sunni turn away from the insurgency. "Now we need a government awakening."

The central government hasn't attempted to consolidate change bubbling from below. There are 80,000 mostly Sunni security volunteers

seeking integration into official security forces or transition into civilian jobs. There are volunteer teachers — like those petitioning the American captain — who await government salaries. Yet the government has left billions of dollars in revenue unspent.

In the meantime, we fill the gap, in keeping with the military's axiom that "money is ammunition." Commanders use discretionary funds at their disposal to contract for services and provide seed money for businesses.

"I can't spend it fast enough," Col. Gibbs says. This so-called CERP funding will run out in the summer, and Gen. Petraeus is asking for \$480 million more of it. Congress would be scandalously foolish to reject him.

Everyone acknowledges that Iraq's progress is fragile. The country is still violent, al-Qaida hasn't been totally vanquished, and the Shia south has its own alarming problems. But we have to try to capitalize on the opportunities created by the surge. There's not going to be a third liberation.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

The Rich Lowry column



beyond the beltway

Bill Buckley: Able man, faulty goals

by DONALD KAUL
MINUTEMAN MEDIA

Let me be clear about one thing: I come here not to bash William Buckley. I am willing to stipulate that he was a boon companion, a good husband, a terrific father and able to brush after every meal. He was also good on television.

And even if I were a Buckley-basher, this is hardly the time. The poor man is hardly in his grave. He died last week at the age of 82.

But all of this post-mortem talk of him being a towering intellectual and a great thinker ... Give me a break.

Yes, he was the Godfather of the modern conservative movement and, yes, his magazine, The National Review, became an influential journal of the Right and, yes, he inspired many young people to become conservatives.

People say that as though those were good things. Not really. The fact is that he and his magazine and the conservative movement they spawned have been wrong about nearly everything, right from the beginning.

He founded the magazine, in part, to provide opposition to the "modern Republicanism" of Dwight Eisenhower. (You remember that Republicanism, don't you? The one that made some sense?)

In due course he defended the anti-Communist witch-hunt of Sen. Joe McCarthy, lionized the Spanish dictator Francisco Franco, opposed the civil rights movement, flirted

with White supremacy and did his best to undermine the social safety net erected by Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal.

For this President Ronald Reagan awarded him the Medal of Freedom. That's like naming Britney Spears Mother of the Year.

The fact that he became so influential is yet another black mark on our educational system. He wasn't even that good a writer. He used big words to show he was better than the rest of us but as he became increasingly occupied with outside projects his columns became slapdash to the point of incoherence.

I'll give him this: The man had style. The Catholic son of a nouveau riche oilman, he lived life with the upper-class panache of a wealthy WASP aristocrat — limousines, yachts, "Tennis anyone?" — the whole nine yards. But he also worked hard. He published 50 books, more than 5,000 newspaper columns and his magazine, at its zenith, reached 150,000 subscribers. One weeps to think of the trees that gave up their lives for that man.

He did make some good calls. He rejected the support of the anti-Semitic John Birch Society, he called for President Richard Nixon's resignation after Watergate blew up and he came to oppose the war in Iraq. On his PBS television show, "Firing Line," he engaged some of the most prominent figures of his time and made the resulting conversations vastly entertaining.

He also, rather curiously, endorsed the legalization of marijuana, although I suppose he was led there

by his libertarian streak.

But an intellectual giant? I don't think so. We'd be better off if he'd gone into the oil business with his old man.

May he rest in peace.

As Mr. Buckley left the scene, another old face reappeared. Ralph Nader.

Yes, he's running for President again. What was that you said? "Oh no, not again. He's already given us Bush and Cheney. What's he selling this time, Asian Bird Flu?" I used to feel that way myself but then I saw the documentary, "An Unreasonable Man," and I changed my mind. The film convinced me that Nader's got every right, constitutionally and morally, to run. If people want to vote for him, they have to accept the consequences. It called democracy.

Besides, he didn't cost Al Gore the election in 2000. Nader was a crucial factor only because it was so close an election. It shouldn't have been.

Gore was a sitting vice president in an administration that had given us eight years of relative peace and prosperity. He was running against a know-nothing, do-nothing Texas governor with virtually no accomplishments to go with his famous name. It should have been a landslide.

Al Gore cost Gore the election.

□ □ □

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

Tracking the national debt
U.S. national debt increase from Feb. 18 through March 11, 2008: **\$149,900,023,356**
The new total is: **\$3,480,227,701,802**

■ The national debt is debt owed by the federal government. It is made up of debt obligations such as Treasury bills, Treasury notes and Treasury bonds.

■ Your share of the federal debt is **\$30,962.24**

SOURCE: U.S. Treasury Department
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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.

Yea, Wheelwright! Haven't seen a basketball game in two years—but I'll be listenin'.

AT LAST...

Fact is, Wheelwright saved my sports season for me. I have had a bad time of it for almost a year now, managing, coaching and quarterbacking with a 23-inch screen for a playing field. First, the Cincinnati Reds let me down, then the Cleveland Indians failed to make it, Arnold Palmer failed to make a two-foot putt, and last Saturday afternoon the roof caved in when Kentucky let an unknown, Jacksonville, do them in...Saturday night, however, ended the losing streak, and I'm ready to follow the old favorites again.

THAT CONFOUNDED CAT...

I have always considered a cat a savage predator, unworthy of my confidence—cunning, treacherous, full of guile, a bird killer, and so on. The kindest words I've had for their kind is "confounded cat." And now I've become attached to a white kitten that would scratch or bite me just for the pleasure of hearing me howl—if it could hear. Somebody remarked that I would become attached to a buzzard, if it was a pet.

□□□

As a defense against such an event, I boldly predict a heavy snow before this gets into print.

"THE BILLFOLD TEST"

If you think tourists don't contribute to the economy, consult your billfold. The way you do it, take all the folding money in your pocketbook out, lay the bills face up, then observe the letter printed within a circle on the left side of each bill. If the letter is a D, chances are the bill comes only through local circulation, since that letter denotes the money was issued from the Federal Reserve Bank at Cleveland, Ohio, which serves eastern Kentucky. But the bills bearing other letters tell a story.

The Federal Reserve Banks do not send their coded currency outside their respective regions, and so the only way bills with the letters indicating Reserve Banks of other areas could reach this section is for somebody to bring them in. That means tourists.

If you care to try the "billfold" test, here are the letters that appear on bills and the banks which each represents.

- "A" Boston
- "B" New York
- "C" Philadelphia
- "E" Richmond, Va.
- "F" Atlanta
- "G" Chicago
- "H" St. Louis
- "I" Minneapolis
- "J" Kansas City
- "K" Dallas
- "L" San Francisco

Editor's Notice

The Floyd County Times is happy to announce your engagement, new marriage, new baby, birthday or family reunion free of charge. However, space is limited and we can offer no guarantee of the exact day your announcement will run. Readers may opt to purchase ad space if these conditions are not satisfactory. With the purchase of a paid ad, run date, size and placement may be guaranteed.

CAR TALK:

Air bags have you covered, even when car is off

see pg. A6

Thomas J. Whitaker and the Creekers in concert

Big Sandy Community and Technical College's Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society will present a concert by Thomas J. Whitaker and the Creekers Band on Thursday, March 20, beginning at 7 p.m., in the Gearheart Auditorium on the Prestonsburg Campus.

The music of Thomas J. Whitaker and the Creekers—including Julius Ryan Mullins, Adrian Preston, and Jackie Williams—has been described as a mixture of mountain folk and gospel, with a touch of Bob Dylan, John Prine, and Dr. Ralph Stanley. They will be performing songs from their latest CD, Both Sides of the Creek.

Billed as "The World's Greatest Appalachian Artist," Whitaker retired from BSCTC last year after over 30 years of teaching art on the college level. In accepting Phi Theta Kappa's invitation to perform a benefit concert and being asked to define his genre, he said, "Our 'Creeker' band is a combination of dif-

ferent energies from many roots. We project the known as well as the unknown. I do not think we can be labeled."

PTK Faculty Advisor Bill Loftus said, "It's always a pleasure to connect talent and enjoyment with service." He added, "Raising funds is also raising friends and this concert will provide a wider audience for the Creekers."

Several student performers are expected to open the show for Whitaker and the Creekers.

Tickets come at the cost of a \$5 donation. All proceeds will go to PTK and God's Pantry, a non-profit agency that provides food to the hungry. Loftus said, "Assisting our Phi Theta Kappa Chapter's travels to Philadelphia in April along with making a contribution to God's Pantry is a great way to kick-off a much larger service initiative."

For more information about the concert, contact Bill Loftus, PTK Faculty Advisor, at (606) 886-3863, ext. 64770.



Well known for his talent at the easel, Tom Whitaker will showcase another side of his creative talent when he and his band, The Creekers, take the stage at Gearheart Auditorium on March 20.

MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

'Syngenor'

by TOM DOTY
TIMES COLUMNIST

A mad business executive tries to cover up a corporate scandal by unleashing a hoard of alien-esque monsters in this low-budget sci-fi horror effort.

This one opens with your traditional aerial view of Los Angeles before settling down at an office complex for Cyberdine Systems (hey, wasn't that from "Terminator 2"?) for the majority of the running time.

The first characters we meet are two oily ad executives who are smuggling a pair of hoochie girls into their work place. They spirit the women down to the research floor (located in the basement) where one man (whom we later come to hate under his surname of Brewster) unlocks a door before making good his escape. Out of the door comes an impressive rubber suited monster, which promptly gobbles up the ad man with a double floozy chaser.

Next we are treated to an older gentleman working at home, but his labor is interrupted by the same monster, which thrashes him like he outed the creature for taking performance enhancing drugs. It turns out that he did, as this guy (Valentine) created the beasts and they aren't exactly grateful.

Next up we meet Valentine's niece, Susan, who is more than a little surprised to find her uncle all torn up and gasping his last breath. She runs to a phone (this was 1990 and people didn't carry them around) but is interrupted by the monster. It breaks through several doors and lumbers after her, with all the dexterity of a pregnant yak, but loses interest when she pitches a vase, holding some day old flowers, at it.

Susan makes good her escape via a MacGyver moment when she converts a can of hairspray into a flame thrower. She runs straight to the cops, but even her uncle's best friend, a sergeant, can't help her as the police have been bought off by Cyberdine.

Meanwhile, an ethically challenged reporter, Nick, is nosing around Cyberdine and finds out that Valentine quit the organization so he decides to interview him. He hooks up with Susan and she relates the attack she suffered and the pair team up to bring down the company.

This development shifts the focus back to Cyberdine where they make widgets, weapons of mass destruction and synthesized genetic organisms, or "Syngenos." The last product is what has been causing the ruckus. It's a supersoldier bred for desert combat which doesn't need water to live as it feeds on the spinal fluids of its victims. It's also a killer without conscience which can do something no other soldier can — reproduce asexually every 24 hours.

Now we finally meet Cyberdine

(See LAGOON, page six)

HCTC success stories: Shauna and Joseph Gilbert



Joseph and Shauna Gilbert

Shauna Gilbert and husband Joseph have a passion for the Information Technology (IT) field which prompted them to get degrees from Hazard Community & Technical College. With education in hand, the couple has already started a very successful career which started in Cincinnati and is now in Virginia.

Gilbert graduated from HCTC in August 2006 with an associate in science degree, emphasis in Networking Administration (Cisco track.) Shauna and Joseph praise HCTC's faculty, especially Jeremiah Bryant, for the instruction they provided. "We both felt the quality of the education we received was very distinguished. We learned the most from the hands-on experience in the lab. Joe was actually doing work study for Jeremiah, so every chance we had we would go to the lab to configure routers and learn as much as we

could," noted Shauna. "We love constantly being challenged with new technologies. The IT field is very intriguing; no two problems are ever the same. Concepts are concrete, and that's important to us. We learned early on the best troubleshooting skills and I'd have to say that's almost the best quality to have in IT. We both have fixed numerous issues in the field that we never knew anything about. To be good in this field you have to know how to control your environment, change variables, and interpret those results to aid in finding a solution," Shauna said.

Shauna works for Booz Allen Hamilton as a Senior Consultant in Herndon, VA. Currently, she is on the USMCmax project working with the United States Marine Corps' centralized Maximo application server and Oracle database server. Joseph works in the data center for Ask.com as a Data Center

Technician in Ashburn, VA. He is responsible for installation, configuration, and maintenance of all hardware at that facility.

In May 2006, Joe and Shauna moved to the Northern Kentucky/Cincinnati area to start their careers as Information Technology Professionals. They initially registered with Robert Half Technology recruiting services and had opportunities to work a variety of IT/computer jobs in the area. Within a few months, Shauna accepted a permanent position as a help desk analyst for a software hosting company in Cincinnati. Her duties were to provide customer support for the end users of Enterprise Asset Management software by IBM, called Maximo. Recognizing Shauna's talent and potential, she was challenged with the hardware and software setup and configuration of a Maximo training environment. Impressed with her work ethics and accomplishments, she was asked to assist the Chief Information Officer on the network infrastructure and maintenance of the Windows 2000 hosting servers. Within two months, Shauna was promoted to Network Administrator. Joe accepted a position with Pomeroy as a Helpdesk Analyst and provided user support for the Fifth Thirds Bank network nationwide.

In October of 2007, Shauna's Chief Information Officer left the company and she was asked to absorb the duties and responsibilities of the CIO as well as retain her Network Administrator responsibilities. Shauna became a valuable company employee and directly

(See SUCCESS, page six)

A child's gift

by PAMELA STROME-MEREWETHER

"CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE SOUL: CELEBRATING PEOPLE WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE"

About a year ago, I was volunteering at a home for elderly women. On this particular day as I prepared to leave for the home, the telephone rang. For a fleeting moment I toyed with the idea of not answering it, but I ran back to the kitchen anyway.

It was my husband. "Sorry, honey, but I have to work overtime. Guess you'll just have to pick up Taylor

after school. I'll be home as soon as I can."

Each week I set aside several hours to bring a little joy into the lives of elderly women. Today I was bringing freshly cut red and yellow snapdragons and mammoth zinnias. As I gathered the bouquets to carry them to the car, I decided that rather than find a babysitter, I would take Taylor with me to visit the residents.

With my unexpected companion, we started our rounds. After Taylor and I had visited the third or fourth woman, I noticed that just as we were ready to leave each room, my son

would hug each woman and whisper something in her ear. Because I wanted to make sure that we had enough time to visit all of the residents, I didn't stop to ask him what he was whispering; but he elicited a huge smile from every lady.

Later that evening, during dinner, my husband asked how my volunteer job worked out with our son in tow.

"It was actually lots of fun," I said. "We were quite a pair. Whatever Taylor said to the ladies, it definitely

made them happy." As I stood up to clear the dishes, I stopped and glanced across the table at our son. "What was it that you whispered?"

Looking up at both his dad and me, with his big brown eyes and angelic face, he responded: "I whispered, 'I love you Grandma. And I just wanted you to know that you look sooooo beautiful today.'"

I asked Taylor why he did that. He responded, "I just knew it would make them feel good."



Air bags have you covered, even if the car is off

by TOM and RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:

Will an air bag deploy if the vehicle is running but not moving? For instance, you are waiting at a red light minding your own business, and a vehicle plows into your grill. Will the air bag deploy? What if the car is turned off? Let's say you're sitting at the side of the road, out of gas, and you get hit. Will the air bag work even if the ignition is off? Thanks for knowing the answer. — Patrick

TOM: The answer to your first question is yes, Patrick. The air bag is designed to work even when you're not driving.

RAY: If you're at a traffic light with the engine running, the air bag is absolutely powered and ready to deploy if necessary. It's ready anytime the engine is on or your ignition key is on (even if the engine is not running).

TOM: In a situation where the engine is turned off — even if the key is removed — the air bag will still have enough stored battery power to deploy for at least a few minutes. That covers you if you park the car and get hit while you're collecting your

Sleepy LaBeef CDs and getting ready to go into your girlfriend's house.

RAY: In fact, when we do work on a steering wheel or steering column at the shop, we're always advised to disconnect the battery and let the car sit for at least half an hour to be sure that the stored power is completely depleted before we start monkeying around in the vicinity of the air bag.

TOM: The number of minutes of reserve power varies from car to car, so there's no way for us to tell you exactly how many minutes YOUR car's air bag will remain ready after you turn it off. But it's probably closer to five or 10 minutes than to 60 or 90 minutes.

RAY: But just to be safe, even after we leave the battery disconnected for half an hour, we still send my brother in first. Why should those of us who still have passable faces take that kind of risk?

Diverse locations, same great advice

Dear Tom and Ray:

I'm a big fan of your show and column, and sure can use your advice. I've applied to nursing schools in both Portland, Maine, and Hilo, Hawaii. I

currently live in Seattle and have been carless since 2000. I am required to own a car in nursing school and am a little nervous about purchasing the wrong car and ending up with a lemon (I will be on a VERY tight budget, and my mechanical expertise ends at changing the oil). I'm hoping you can help provide some car-related pros and cons for both locations, and help me decide where to go to school. Any general car-buying advice for both locations would be greatly appreciated too (e.g., wait to get there before purchasing the car, don't buy a convertible, etc.). Thanks very much! — Natalia

RAY: This is an easy one, Natalia. If you buy a used car in Portland, Maine, it's probably going to be beat up and rusted from having suffered through a lifetime of winters and road salt. And if it breaks down, you may have to walk miles in the snow, sleet or ice to get help. So, make sure you pay attention during frostbite class!

TOM: Whereas if you buy an old car in Hawaii, it will have been perfectly preserved by the Pacific sunshine, and might even come with a surfboard rack.

RAY: And if your car breaks down

in Hawaii, what do you care? It'll inevitably be a nice day for a walk. You might meet some interesting people, get invited to a luau and learn to dance the hula.

TOM: But regardless of where you go to nursing school (go to Hawaii, Natalia), wait until you get there to buy a car. Maybe some nursing student who's graduating will have a car he or she wants to unload. Or maybe someone connected to the school will know someone with a good used car to sell.

RAY: You also can use our database of mechanics who have been personally recommended by our readers and listeners. It's called the Mechanics Files, and it's on our Web site, www.cartalk.com.

TOM: You put in your new ZIP code (96720 is Hilo, by the way), and you'll get a list of mechanics who our listeners and readers say they trust. Call one or two of them, tell them

you're moving there, and ask them to keep an eye out for an older Honda Civic or Toyota Corolla in good condition for you.



CLICK & CLACK
Talk Cars

RAY: Even if the mechanic doesn't find you a car, you'll still want to know a mechanic when you get there so you can have any car that interests you checked out before you buy it.

TOM: Well, I hope I've made my opinion on this matter perfectly clear, Natalia.

RAY: I'd think twice about specializing in geriatric nursing if I were you, Natalia, because it sounds like my brother's getting ready to move to Hilo and join you!

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.

Lagoon

head honcho Carter Brown. This guy is not playing with a full deck and has succumbed to paranoia which is fueling his already shaky decision making skills. It doesn't help that two of his board members, the scheming Paula and her toady Brewster, are actually out to get him. This pair of "Apprentice" rejects mean to wrest control of the company away from Brown after leaking to the press that Brown is responsible for the Syngeners invading L.A.

Brown, however, has other ideas on how to solve his public relations nightmare which involve firing his management team (literally, with a super-gun) and injecting himself with Syngenor sauce till he sports a neck pustule so big he

ought to name it Frank.

Into this ripe boardroom dynamic comes Nick and Susan, who find out firsthand what the company's been up to. The problem becomes getting out alive, as Brown suffers a major breakdown while the Syngeners bust out of the basement and decide to take up their grievances with the boss.

It all leads to a spectacular boardroom showdown with Syngeners, the heroes and Brown all struggling for dominance. There will be blood on the floor for this finale, but it's a shame that this scenario is fictional as the big wigs at Enron would have deserved the fate that awaits the board of directors here.

Three factors make this one

a winner and they include a sharp screenplay, great monster suits and a ferocious performance by David Gale (last seen as the evil killer head in "Re-Animator").

The script paints a bleak picture of corporations and takes some great jabs at commercialism. One bit that you'll love is peeks at promotional videos meant to sell investors on Syngeners. You get peeks at the scaly critters sitting in jeeps, saluting and waving the flag.

The plot also proves prophetic by claiming that the next great war will be in the Middle East. The dark tone is obviously inspired by "Robocop" and is well illustrated, albeit on a tight budget.

The syngeners look great in

their rubber monster suits, though it is obvious that they can't move quickly. One shot of a critter riding the hood of a car, ala T.J. Hooker, shows how bulky they are and your heart goes out to the poor stunt man sealed within the costume.

The late David Gale offers an all-systems-go performance as Brown and makes for a Donald Trump-like villain with a much better haircut. He builds the role evenly and goes from a few twitches to an eye bulging, screaming madman by film's end. It's a sharp performance that marked him as a worthy successor to horror stars like Vincent Price and

Christopher Lee. Too bad he never got the chance to play enough of these roles to make it into that exalted club.

Lovers of camp will also enjoy this one as there are a few gaffs. One of my favorites is a shot of Brown jumping up and down with glee after shooting one of his security guards. The camera stays on him even when he veers off the set to reveal a glimpse of the sound stage they are shooting on. Another case finds an actor mispronouncing hologram while a shot of a Syngenor dummy plummeting off of a car roof is so obvious it's downright comical.

A special shout out goes to

Riva Spier in the role of Paula Gorski. She deserves kudos for uttering lines like, "I am not in any mood to have my head ripped off," without batting an eye.

All in all, this one is fun and it's actually a sequel to 1981's "Scared to Death" (due to hit DVD this month) in which one "Syngenor" makes L.A. a hell on earth when it emerges from the sewers to embark on a low budget reign of terror.

Best line: "In the past, wars were fought by men — men susceptible to fear and bullets."

1990, rated R.

Continued from p5



Swathi Gutti, center, an eighth-grader from Mountain Christian Academy, was all smiles as she was named winner of the county's spelling bee Wednesday. Patricia Watson, right, presented the winning speller with her award, as runner-up Andrea Akers, an eighth-grader from Betsy Layne Elementary, looks on.

MCA student finishes spelling bee V-I-C-T-O-R-I-O-U-S

by KATHY J. PRATER
FEATURES EDITOR

Editor's Note: Portions of the following story were inadvertently deleted when it originally ran March 7. It is reprinted in its entirety here.

PRESTONSBURG — She'll most likely never bake an angel food cake without thinking about it; for the word that finally stumped eighth-grader Andrea Akers, after going 76 rounds in the Floyd County Spelling Bee, was "separate."

Swathi Gutti, an eighth-grader from Mountain Christian Academy, however, spelled the confounding word correctly, followed by the next, "September," to win the first-place slot in the district contest.

It was well after 1 p.m., following a full morning of

spelling rounds, when the contest finally came to an end this past Wednesday morning in the Gearheart Auditorium of Big Sandy Community and Technical College's Prestonsburg campus.

"All the contestants did a wonderful job. This is not an easy thing," said Beverly Crisman, community education liaison with the Floyd County Board of Education.

Having been canceled due to inclement weather earlier this year, the district's spelling bee got underway this past Wednesday with several of the county's very best spellers vying for the winning title.

Those competing and representing their respective schools Wednesday morning were Summer Ousley, Adams Middle School; Holly Donohoe, Allen Elementary School (third-place winner); Braxton Burke, Allen Central

Middle School; Andrea Akers, Betsy Layne Elementary School (second-place winner); Kaylee Stumbo, Duff Elementary School; Jordan Pack, May Valley Elementary School; Coleman Giese, McDowell Elementary School; Swathi Gutti (first-place winner), Mountain Christian Academy; Audrey Caudill, Osborne Elementary School; Tate Greene, Prestonsburg Elementary School; Josh Akers, South Floyd Middle School; and Liz Farley, John M. Stumbo Elementary School.

The competition, held for grades 4 thru 8, was held for the first time on the BSCTC campus. The winner will now advance to state level competition.

A student of Ms. Cindy Hall, at MCA, Gutti is the daughter of Drs. Sai and Sujata Gutti, of Pikeville.

impacted the success of the company. She effectively and efficiently loaded and configured new Windows 2003 servers in the hosted environment with IBM Websphere, Maximo 6.2, SQL server 2005, and Actuate 9.0 iServer. This accomplishment was mission critical for the future and growth of the company.

In November 2007, the couple had a lead that Booz Allen Hamilton in Herndon, VA was seeking IT Professionals who had experience with the IBM Maximo software. On Dec. 22 Shauna

was offered a job as a level 2 Senior Consultant and placed on the USMCmax project.

Joe & Shauna relocated to Leesburg, VA on Jan. 4, 2008 to begin new employment opportunities. Since then, Shauna has continued to learn more. She recently passed an exam qualifying her as a Microsoft Certified Systems Administrator.

Besides both graduating from HCTC, both are graduates of Jackson City High School.

Shauna is the daughter of Kenneth and Yolanda

Campbell. Her mother passed away in 2002, her first semester in college. Her father remarried to Lavonna Robinson Campbell and they reside in Jackson. She has one brother, Shane Campbell and a very dear grandmother, Lois Gross. Joseph is the son of Robert and Sandra Gilbert of Jackson. He has two brothers, Brent and Tyler Gilbert.

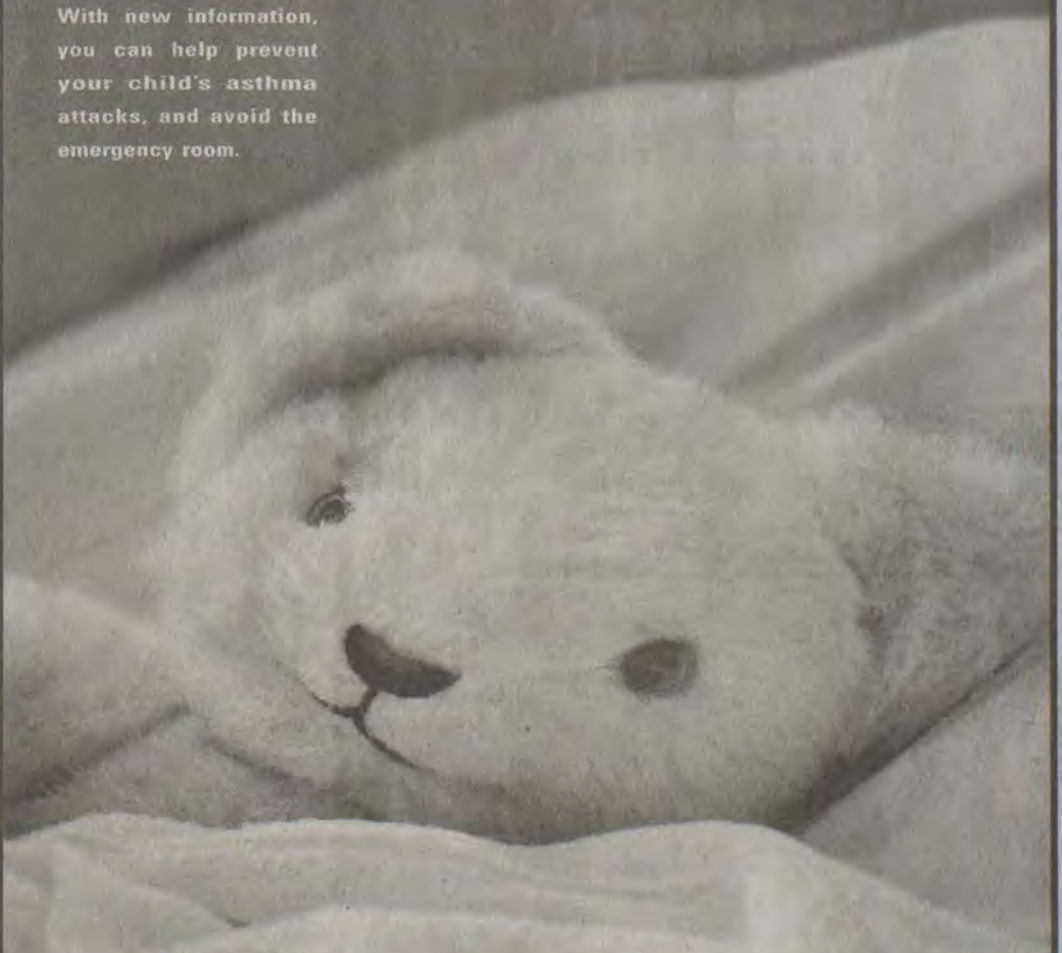
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Continued from p5

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FLOYD COUNTY Sports

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Archers headed to state tournament

TIMES STAFF REPORT

FRANKFORT — Both boys and girls will compete for top honors during a different kind of school tournament March 18 in Louisville.

Kentucky's National Archery in the Schools tournament will feature more than 1,800 high school, middle school and elementary-school students from 100 schools throughout the state. The day-long tournament begins at 9:15 a.m. at the Louisville International Convention Center on Fourth Street.

"The kids are really excit-

ed," said Jennie Richardson, archery program coordinator for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. "The winning teams get to take back tournament championship banners — and all the kids want a banner for their school."

All students complete with Mathews Genesis bows, a uniquely designed bow that can be used by the biggest and strongest or the smallest and weakest archer. Several handicapped students, including two vision-impaired students using a special aiming aid, will complete alongside their

able-bodied peers.

Archers from Adams Middle School are scheduled to compete in the state tournament.

Kentucky began the National Archery in the Schools Program in 2002. The first tournament attracted 651 participants. Since then, the program has spread to schools across the United States and several foreign countries. Still, Kentucky hosts the largest state tournament in America, Richardson said.

Kentucky's tournament has grown so large that students now must qualify in regional

tournaments to reach the state. More than 6,000 students participated in nine regional tournaments held around the state this winter for the right to shoot in Louisville.

The tournament is open to the public. The cost is \$5 for adults and \$2 for students. Kids under five are admitted free.

The tournament is divided into three flights, beginning at 9:30 a.m., 11:45 a.m. and 2 p.m. Eastern time. The top shooters also compete for college scholarships prior to the 6 p.m. awards ceremony.



photo by Jamie Howell

BRANDI BROWN (15) helped to lead Allen Central to the 15th Region Tournament.

Girls' title game featured region's top coaches

by RICK BENTLEY
TIMES COLUMNIST

For one brief, fleeting moment in the fourth quarter of Monday night's 15th Region championship game, Pike Central had a chance. One final chance.

Trailing 44-35 after a layup by Bri Hatmaker, the Lady Hawks came up with a steal. A bucket cuts it to seven; a trey, a more manageable six. But thanks to the frenetic pace forced by Johnson Central's defense, Pike Central did one of the three things that cost them the championship: It turned it over.

It was one of 24 Lady Hawk turnovers Monday night, a total that led directly to Phillip Wireman returning to the mountaintop, leading Johnson Central to a 60-45 win at the East Kentucky Expo Center.

It marks Wireman's record fifth 15th Region championship, surpassing the husband-wife combination of Mary & John Haney, who led Sheldon Clark to the first four regional crowns after girls' basketball was reinstated in 1975.

The turnovers, however, were just part of the story on Monday. Pike Central, a team with boatloads of experience, managed to sink only 12-of-23 from the free throw line on the region's brightest stage.

Combine those two things with Johnson Central's surprising domination on the glass, 31-21, and you get a recipe for disaster for last year's state semifinalist.

So as it stands, Pike Central's reign, for now, is over. The Lady Hawks have won two regional crowns in the last five years, a surprising total in my estimation. Five championship nights ago, I wrote that, for the foreseeable future, the regional title would go through Pike Central.

I sat in the Hawks' Nest the night I wrote that. And since then, I've been right: The three regional championships won by someone other than Pike Central in the last five years have come at their expense on championship night: By Betsy Layne in 2005, Magoffin County in '06 and, last night, by Johnson Central.

It says a lot about the Lady Hawk program that they could play in five straight regional championship games, but on that night back in 2004, I'd have never believed they'd be under .500 in that stretch.

(See REGION, page two)



photos by Greg Moore and Kody Little

PAINTSVILLE has worked its way back to the top of the 15th Region. The Tigers defeated defending champion Shelby Valley in double overtime in the regional tournament semifinals. In the championship game, Paintsville defeated crosstown rival Johnson Central.

15TH REGION BOYS' BASKETBALL

Team	Record
Paintsville	29-3
Shelby Valley	24-5
Allen Central	21-9
Phelps	20-7
East Ridge	17-13
Pikeville	16-12
Belfry	15-15
Johnson Central	14-19
Pike County Central	13-16
Sheldon Clark	10-16
Prestonsburg	9-19
Magoffin County	9-20
Betsy Layne	8-18
Lawrence County	8-20
South Floyd	2-26
Piarist School	1-24

15TH REGION GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Team	Record
Pike County Central	25-6
Johnson Central	25-7
Shelby Valley	19-12
Betsy Layne	18-10
Pikeville	18-10
Sheldon Clark	17-8
Paintsville	15-11
Belfry	15-14
Phelps	13-11
East Ridge	11-16
Magoffin County	10-20
Allen Central	8-18
Lawrence County	7-20
South Floyd	6-19
Prestonsburg	5-22
Piarist School	0-23



LANDON SLONE



ALL FIVE JOHNSON CENTRAL STARTERS earned a spot on the All-15th Region Tournament Team.

E-Town 51, Johnson Central 31

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOWLING GREEN — Jenna Goblirsch scored 22 points to lead Region 5 champion Elizabethtown to a convincing 51-31 victory over Region 15 representative Johnson Central Thursday in the Girls Sweet 16 State Basketball Tournament.

Elizabethtown (27-7) controlled the game from the outset, leading 12-6 at the end of the first quarter and 27-15 at halftime. Elizabethtown continued to stretch its lead into the fourth quarter, leading by as many as 24 points late in the game.

The Lady Panthers' defense was strong, forc-

ing 29 turnovers by the Lady Eagles (25-7).

Johnson Central not only struggled holding on to the ball, but had shooting problems as well, shooting just 30 percent from the floor in the game.

Alex Jones added 10 points and grabbed nine rebounds for Elizabethtown, which moved on to face Region 2 winner Henderson County in the quarterfinals on Friday.

Celena Conley led Johnson Central with 10 points. The Lady Eagles defeated defending 15th Region champion Pike County Central to earn the state tournament bid.

Reflecting on a Tiger region title run

by RICK BENTLEY
TIMES COLUMNIST

Notes I scribbled on the Expo Center floor over the last couple of weeks:

— If Bill Mike Runyon sticks to his guns and calls it a career after next week's run to the Sweet 16, it truly will be the end of an era at Paintsville High School.

For the majority of the time I've spent writing about sports in the 15th Region, there were three big dogs in the coaching profession, and all were in Tiger Country: Walter Brugh, Charlie Adkins and Bill Mike Runyon.

Brugh coached football at Paintsville for 39 years, rolling up 280 wins to go with 136 losses and five ties. He left as the all-time winningest coach in Kentucky high school history.

Adkins' win total is one of those that sounds as if it's made up. He won 785 times in 33 seasons at Paintsville and Johnson Central, losing only 316 in nearly 1100 games as a head coach. To this day, his total is fifth on the all-time list, and of course, he too brought a state title home to the mountains in 1990.

After this year, all three will be retired. It's a sign of the times, I know, but it's no less sad for all of us, even those of us who have taken our beatings at the hands of the three legends.

— The other interesting thing is that while Runyon has been the basketball coach, he was on the football staff with Brugh and the baseball staff with Adkins. And, for what I'm sure was one long, long year, Runyon served as the head coach of all three sports.

— For the record, my semifinal predictions for the SEC tournament were Tennessee v. Vandy and Kentucky v. Mississippi State.

— To wrap up the Mid-South Conference tournament, held here last weekend, half the field made the national tournament. Three men's teams — Georgetown, Cumberland and Campbellsville — and three women's teams — Georgetown, Lindsey Wilson and Cumberland — are in the 32-team national-tournament fields.

— Talk about kicking off the Sweet 16 with a bang, Wednesday's first state-tournament game will feature Lexington Catholic against Randy McCoy and the Blazers of University Heights. McCoy has guided Scotty Hopson and crew to a 30-4 record after their 90-86 win over Christian County in the Region Two finals Wednesday night. The Blazers have now won 17 straight games, including the 2008 All "A" Classic state title.

Tipoff, for those attending, will be at high noon.

— The most accurate line I heard this week was about Syracuse Coach Jim Boeheim. The guest was asked who would be on the outside looking in after Sunday's selection show to announce the 65-team field for the NCAA tournament. The scribe in question first noted Boeheim would be whining before adding, "He'll be whining one way or the other."

— If I'm right and Kentucky makes it to the semifinals of the SEC tournament, expect them to be seeded in the top half of the draw. Of course, it doesn't really matter; if they're seventh they'd be facing the two seed in their bracket in the second round, the eight would mean No. 1. But if they could somehow get to the six seed ...

Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame Class of 2008 set to be inducted

Wayland coach "Copper" John among inductees

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LXINGTON — Twelve former high school coaches, athletes, officials administrators and/or contributors make up the 21st class to be inducted into the Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame. The class was first recognized at the annual Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame golf outing scheduled for Tuesday, June 19, 2007, at the Marriott Griffin Gate Resort in Lexington. The class of 2008 will be inducted in ceremonies scheduled for Saturday, April 12 at the Lexington Convention Center. The induction of the 12 will bring the total number of individuals honored to 355.

The 2008 class is as follows:

"Copper" John Campbell — "Copper" played basketball for Hindman Settlement where he was a three year starter. In 1939, he helped Hindman to the State Tournament and was selected All-State Tournament for his efforts. Later, he coached the Wayland Wasps for 11 years, winning four district titles, three regional titles, including his 1959

squad that set many State Tournament records.

Joe Carr, Jr. — Carr was an All-American wrestler for Woodford County where he amassed 242 high school career wins. He was a four-time state champion including his eighth grade year in 1993. He received First Team All-America honors in 1997 by Wrestling Magazine and was a two-time National High School Finalist. In addition, he qualified for the NCAA Tournament four times while on the mat for West Virginia University and his 101 career wins rank seventh all-time at WVU.

Gloria Compton — Compton started the gymnastics program at Bryan Station High School in Lexington in 1962 and the Track program in 1964 where she coached those teams until 1974. It is in the area of Spirit and Cheerleading that Compton has made her mark. She coached varsity cheer from 1962 until 1990. Under her guidance, the Defenders captured the Sweet 16 Cheer competition championship in 1972 and again in 1974. She was one of the primary leaders in KAPO (Kentucky Association of Pep Organization Sponsors) and continues to serve the organization to date as a member of the advisory board. In addition, Compton was a co-founder of the Kentucky Girls

Sports Association.

Nancy Crutcher Martin — Crutcher Martin was a three sport athlete at Oldham County where she earned five individual state championships and was a member of four team state championships. She captured the Class 3A Cross Country State Championship twice as an individual and was a member of the State Championship team three times. She also captured individual championships in the 1600 Meter and 3200 Meter State Track and Field Meet. Crutcher Martin was a member of the 1986 Girls' Sweet 16 State Championship basketball team and was named "MVP" of the tournament.

Charles "Doodle" Floyd — "Doodle" Floyd was a star and leader in basketball for the legendary Cuba Cubs. He was a member of the 1951 State Runner-up team and the 1952 State Championship team. He led the team in both scoring and rebounding in both trips to the State Tournament and was named to the All-Tournament team both years.

Gene Hilen — Hilen was a great contributor to high school athletics in the sport of golf. He was a golf teacher to those from the Frankfort area and instrumental in many high school players improving their game and going on to receive college golf scholarships. Hilen was a three-time "Teacher of

the Year" honoree and was inducted into the Kentucky Golf Hall of Fame in 1992.

E.G. Plummer — Plummer was a track standout for Danville from 1953-65. He captured seven state championships while setting a state record in the mile run. He went on to run for the University of Kentucky and finished as Southeastern Conference runner-up in the Mile Run in 1958 and was a member of UK's undefeated SEC Championship Cross Country team in 1958. In addition, Plummer captured the SEC Championship in the 880 yard dash while tying the SEC record in the event. Plummer went on to enjoy a successful career as track and field coach for Danville. His teams captured five girls' cross country, two boys' cross country, seven girls' track and three boys' track State Championships. Plummer has also served as a track official for many years.

William Burton Rankin — Rankin was a star runner for Somerset in the sports of track and cross country. He was cross country state runner-up in 1965 and state champion in the two-mile run in 1966 — the first state champion in any sport for the Briarjumpers. He was one of the first three minority athletes to receive an athletic scholarship to the University of Kentucky.

Ervin Stepp — Stepp was an all-star basketball player for

Phelps High School. During his prep career, he tallied 3,228 points en route to an incredible career scoring average of over 40 points-per-game. He was named All-State his junior and senior seasons. His career accolades include a senior year scoring average of 53.7 points-per-game highlighted by receiving the honor of Mr. Basketball in 1980.

Grant Talbott — Talbott was girls' basketball coach for Owensboro. Taking the reigns of a second year program in 1975, Talbott built the Lady Devils into a power. Over the course of the next six years his teams captured six district titles, five regional titles and one regional runner-up finish. His coaching mark during that time was an impressive 152-21. Following his coaching career, "GG" continued as an ambassador for the third region by helping those from the area advance to the college level. Talbott also is a former Board of Control member of the KHSAA.

Brad Wilkerson — Wilkerson was a multi-sport standout for the Apollo Eagles. He was a three-time All-State honoree in baseball and soccer and received honorable mention All-State honors in football and basketball. In all, he earned 15 letters in four different sports from 1991-1995. He was finalist for Mr. Soccer in 1994 and was named

Kentucky's Mr. Baseball in 1995. It was on the diamond where he enjoyed his greatest success. He ranks among career state leaders in many categories including 194 runs scored, 198 RBI, 165 walks, 1.58 ERA and 151 strikeouts in a season. After a collegiate career playing for the Florida Gators, he was a first round draft selection by the Montreal Expos in 1998. At the time of his induction he continues his Major League Baseball career as a member of the Texas Rangers.

Rozella Young — Young has served as a contributor to high school athletics for over 60 years. She started her service in 1946 as official scorer while attending Blandville High School in Ballard County. She later moved to Carlisle County and has worked as official scorekeeper for the Comets since 1965. In addition, she has served as the official scorekeeper for several district and regional tournaments. Two other individuals have previously been voted into the Hall of Fame but declined induction at that time. Kelly Coleman (1989) and John Reynolds (1994) have yet to accept the honor. They or their representatives would be added to the induction class in the year the honor is accepted.

Online:
www.khsaa.org

Roush Fenway opts not to appeal penalties levied after Vegas race

TIMES STAFF REPORT

CONCORD, N.C. — Roush Fenway Racing on Wednesday announced that it will not appeal the penalties imposed by NASCAR following post-race inspection of the No. 99 car at Las Vegas.

Inspectors found that the

cover of the oil reservoir encasement mounted behind the driver's seat was off, a circumstance that constitutes an unauthorized aerodynamic modification. NASCAR rules require that the cover be bolted securely to the encasement.

As a result, driver Carl Edwards and car owner Jack Roush were penalized 100

championship driver and 100 championship owner points. In the event the No. 99 team qualifies for the Chase, the team will not receive the 10 bonus points for the UAW-Dodge 400 victory used for determining the seeding order.

Also, crew chief Bob Osborne was fined \$100,000, suspended for six Cup Series

events, suspended from NASCAR until April 30 and placed on probation until Dec. 31.

"We have conducted a thorough internal investigation and have found no evidence whatsoever that anyone intended for the bolt/nut fastener to fail to secure the lid for the entire race," team

owner Jack Roush said.

"We have subsequently added protective measures to insure that the lid will remain fastened even if a failure of this type should again occur."

Roush Fenway Racing president Geoff Smith said, "We realize in the NASCAR system of penalty administration that simple negligence, by

itself, is never sufficient grounds to overturn or reduce a penalty. Consequently, no appeal will be made of the penalties assessed by NASCAR."

Online:
www.nascar.com

Region

Of course, it's not exactly been a smooth ride for Pike Central. A coaching change that would qualify as something less than smooth led to some turmoil, and the loss of last year's 15th Region player of the year in Haley Ratliff — a rock solid point guard — couldn't have helped this year.

I'll say this much though for Steven Butcher: It's my belief that he's done a phenomenal job in taking over the Lady Hawk empire. His run through last March is one I'll never forget. I sat in the press room and listened to him give a speech about mountain pride that I'd only heard elsewhere when it fell from the lips of the incomparable Bobby Keith.

He's a classy young man, one who I hope — and believe — will win several more regional titles in his career. The job he did in calming the rough waters that was the Pike Central program a couple of years ago was nothing short of magical.

There are good guys, really good guys and then guys like Steven Butcher.

Which leads us to the loss of

the region's best post player in years in Kayla Lowe. On Monday night, she poured in 23 points in her final appearance in a Pike Central uniform, a stretch that has included many more ups than downs.

Her college of choice will be a fortunate one. I believe in Kayla Lowe, believe she's been a phenomenal high school player and her college years could still be her best.

I'm sure of one thing: It's been a pleasure to watch her in her time at Pike County Central, a run that takes a backseat to very few in the history of 15th Region basketball.

But Monday was Johnson Central's night. The Lady Eagles followed the lead of their outstanding coach, as good as we've seen in the last two decades, and he led them back to the apex.

Johnson Central won its seventh regional title last night, and won the 16th for the 57th District in the 34 years since its reinstatement.

I'd call that domination, myself.

Now, the Lady Eagles made

Continued from p1

the quick turnaround to the Sweet 16, where on Thursday they played for not only their first state-tournament win ever, but also for the first in the 16 trips a 57th District team has made.

In the end, it was a rough night for the Lady Hawks. Johnson Central built itself an 8-0 lead, and while it evaporated quickly, they stayed on course and used a 10-0 run in the middle of the second quarter to take a lead it would never lose.

I have a feeling, though, that we haven't heard the last of the Lady Hawks and Coach Steven Butcher. The classy coach strolled to the end of his bench as time expired on Monday night, so he could be in position to speak to the officials as they departed.

He didn't have a complaint. Instead, he extended a hand to all three and complimented them on the job they'd done.

Not every coach is willing to do that. Only the classy ones can.

Steven Butcher is one of them. Pike Central is lucky to have him.

Lifetime memories made at conservation camp

by HAYLEY LYNCH
KENTUCKY AFIELD

FRANKFORT — Spring is approaching, and that means it's time to sign kids up for conservation camp. The camps are only one week long, but the memories and skills last a lifetime.

"A lot of the kids that we get at camp are kids who have never caught a fish, shot a gun or driven a boat," said Jay Webb, assistant director of Information and Education for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources.

"That's really a big thrill for them. They remember it for the rest of their lives."

Kids learn skills at conservation camp that other camps don't offer. Outdoor skills like boating safety, gun safety, archery, fishing and wildlife identification are hallmarks of conservation camp.

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife operates three camps. Camp Robert Webb is located on Grayson Lake near Grayson, Camp Earl Wallace is located on Lake Cumberland near Monticello, and Camp John Currie is located near Benton on Kentucky Lake.

"A lot of parents tell me when they send their kids to camp, it helps them grow up," said Camp Webb Director Jack Lee.

"Mainly we teach them about safety," he added. "We teach them how to be safe in

the outdoors."

Lee went to conservation camp in 1970 and remembers wearing the patches he earned there when he returned to school in the fall.

"I wore them around like a badge of honor. I said, 'Look at what I got at camp this summer,'" Lee remembered. He sees the same enthusiasm in kids who attend camp now.

"You can see it in their eyes," he said. "They just light up when they tell you they passed gun safety or archery."

Owsley County native Greg Mays credits conservation camp for helping him save two lives. Forty years ago, just a year after he attended Camp Earl Wallace, he was swimming with his cousin in the South Fork of the Licking River.

"He got caught up in the current and it was taking him down the river," Mays remembered. "They taught me at camp to come up and grab a swimmer from behind, not from the front. I saved his life. I give the credit to Camp Earl Wallace."

Mays used his training again five years ago during a family trip. His niece was having trouble while swimming and Mays went in after her.

Mays saved a second life that day, again crediting the lessons he learned at conservation camp. He says those lessons are just as important today as they were 40 years ago

when he attended camp.

"Kids are so tied up with indoor activities anymore," said Mays. "They need to get out and experience nature. They need to get out in the woods, learn to identify poison ivy, learn to hunt and fish. The outdoors allows you to get away from the world for a while."

Mays, who now lives in Boone County, visited Camp Earl Wallace again last summer. "They showed me all the improvements to the camp," he said. "I remember when the cabins had screens and fans. Now they have windows and air conditioning."

The amenities are only one reason Mays thinks kids should attend conservation camp. He recalls camp as the first time he left home. He made friends and played sports. He earned patches in first aid, gun safety and nature.

"It was wonderful," Mays remembered. "Any kid who doesn't take advantage of it is missing out."

Conservation camps run June through July and are open to boys and girls ages 9-13. The application deadline for camps this year is May 1. The cost is \$215 for mail-in applications and \$200 for online applications. Scholarships are available. Visit fw.ky.gov to apply online, or call the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Information Center at 1-800-858-1549 for more information.

Goodyear not taking AMS tire to Texas

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

FORT WORTH — Texas Motor Speedway officials were informed by Goodyear that the tire manufacturer will utilize the same tire compound that produced dramatic racing in both Sprint Cup Series races last season for the upcoming Samsung 500 on April 6.

Following several driver complaints at Sunday's event at Atlanta Motor Speedway where the new Sprint Cup car competed for the first time, Texas Motor Speedway president Eddie Gossage reached out to Goodyear because that Speedway Motorsports Inc. sister track is nearly identical to TMS. Both are 1.5-mile ovals with 24-degree banking in the corners, among the fastest tracks on the circuit and host to the new car for the first time in competition.

"I called Goodyear and they told us they never planned to use the same tire they used in Atlanta for our upcoming race," Gossage said. "The tire they will use

for the Samsung 500 will be effectively the same tire they used in Texas last year, and those two races resulted in a last-lap pass in April and a side-by-side duel for the lead down to the finish in November. Both the left-side and right-side tires will effectively use the same compound as in 2007, but with a slightly different construction for the new car. The engineers feel quite good about their plans."

The left-side tires are designed to provide grip. While the rubber compound is effectively the same as Goodyear used in Texas in 2007, the 2008 tire will utilize a slightly different mold and construction to better suit the new car. The right-side tires are designed to benefit handling.

Last year showcased arguably some of the best racing and dramatic finishes of the Sprint Cup season. In last year's Samsung 500, Jeff Burton battled Matt Kenseth in the final laps before making a dramatic pass on the

last lap to become the first two-time Cup winner at Texas Motor Speedway. He edged Kenseth by .410 seconds for the third-closest Sprint Cup finish in the history of the speedway. The Dickies 500 in November — chosen by many media as one of the best races of the year — was highlighted by 27 lead changes among 12 drivers and a stunning side-by-side duel between Jimmie Johnson and Kenseth in the closing laps. Johnson finally prevailed, winning by .944 seconds and grabbing the championship lead that he never relinquished.

Once again as Gossage did last week with NASCAR, he will make Texas Motor Speedway available to Goodyear should they be interested in additional testing prior to the Samsung 500. Sprint Cup drivers Juan Montoya and Clint Bowyer participated in a two-day Goodyear test Jan. 15-16 at TMS.



photo courtesy of Dusty Layne
Photography/East Kentucky Miners

STEVE THOMAS (30) AND MIKE DEAN (10) helped to push the East Kentucky Miners into the CBA post-season. East Kentucky fell to Pittsburgh in a play-in game Tuesday night. The Miners ended their inaugural season 26-23.

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Sale or Lease

Level lot for sale: 100x300 with city water. \$15,000 Call 886-8366.

Acres for sale. Located at Rt 80 close to Martin. Possible commercial property. \$85,000. Call 886-8366.

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

Building for rent: approx.2500 square ft. Former John P. Wells garage. Equipped with mechanics lift. Located on South Lake Dr Prestonsburg, Ky. Call 886-9690 for more info.

Beauty Shop For Rent: fully equipped located on South Lake Dr Prestonsburg, Ky. Ready to move in! Call 886-9690 for more info.

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

FARM FOR SALE Floyd county 75 acres more or less,

rt. 1100 off US 23 East Point Upper Little Paint. Lum Derossett Branch. Call 606-325-4430 or 606-325-2809. Level- Sloping and timber. HUNTERS PARADISE!! Could be made into a subdivision.

Rentals

APARTMENT

Unicourt Apts: Large apt for rent. 2 br, 2 ba walkin closet. Located on US 23 at Stanville. 1 Yr lease. No Pets. Call 478-8100.

For rent: 2 br apt near Prestonsburg. Call 205-9510.

Nice 1 br apt for rent. Located on private lot on Rt 1428 between Allen & Prestonsburg. Partially furnished. Utilities paid including cable. Internet ready. No HUD and no PETS. \$475 mth plus \$250 deposit. Call 606-262-4296.

Town house apt for rent. 2 br 1 bath. Stove and refrigerator. City limits at 23 & 80. \$505 mth plus utilities with \$300 deposit. 1yr lease. NO PETS. Call 606-237-4758.

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

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

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 payed before moving in. Call 285-9003.

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.

Houses

For rent: 5 br house located at level. \$550 per month plus one month security deposit. No pets. Call if interested 874-6700.

For rent: 1 1/2 story 3 br 2 full bath cedar house for rent. Lots of storage and closet space. Full under ground basement. Hardwood floors, real wood kitchen cabinets & vanities. Washer/dryer included. Large fridge with ice maker. 16x36 carport. Sitting on 5 acre private land. No indoor pets. Located 2 miles from Mt Arts Center on Spurlock Creek Rd. \$850 per month plus 850 security deposit. Call 785-0770.

MobileHomes

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

For sale: 12x65 mobile home with vinyl siding deck included. Plywood floors and new carpet. Refrigerator and new range. \$6,000 Call 447-2645.

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. Delivered & set. As low as \$ 38,990. The home show- Louisa. 606-638-4663.

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Louisa. 606-638-4663. 02/27 3wks

2007 16x80 3 br, 2ba. Delivered & set. Only \$ 29,850. The Home Show- Louisa. 606-638-4663.

Looking for a preowned home. We have 5 homes to choose from! Starting at \$8,500. The Home Show - Louisa. 606-638-4663.

2 Br, 1 bath mobile home for rent. Located on Spradlin Branch. North of Prestonsburg Rt 321. NO HUD. Call 889-0363.

Special FHA Finance Program. \$0 down if you own land or use family land. We own the BANK your approved. Call 866-597-2083.

2 Br mobile home for rent at Martin, Ky. Couples preferred. No pets. Call 874-2000. 03/12/1wk

For rent: Like new 1997 14x70 Clayton mobile home. 3 Br, 2 ba, central heat & air, metal roof w/ 2 inch installation for reduced electric bill. Located near new food city in Prestonsburg. Garbage, water & sewer included. Rent \$475 month with \$400 deposit. No HUD. Call 606-

874-9852 or 606-874-2162.

Legals

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

Amendment No. 2

In accordance with KRS 350.070, notice is hereby given that Matt/Co., Inc., 439 Meadows Branch, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653, has applied for an amendment to an existing surface coal mining and reclamation operation, located 2.6 miles north of Emma, in Floyd County. The amendment will add 199.80 acres of surface disturbance, and will underlie an additional 328.30 acres, of which 164.15 acres overlie area mining area, making a total area of 618.72 acres, within the amended permit boundary. The proposed operation is approximately 0.70 mile northeast from Sugar-leaf Branch Road's junction with KY 1428, and is located on Dials Branch of Sugarleaf Branch of the Levisa Fork. The proposed amendment is located on the Lancer USGS 7-1/2 minute quadrangle map. The surface area to be disturbed is owned by Joe A. Burchett, E. L. and Bertha Cline, Malcolm Layne, Rebecca Jarrell, The Elk Horn Coal Company, LLC, Wade and Ora Blackburn Heirs, John Dallas and Vina Sue Branham, Clark Pergem and Jesse Rudd, Tom and Melissa Reynolds, Albert and Janet Ratliff, Johnny and Patricia Huffman, Taulbee and Renisa Branham, Michael Hunt, Ransom and Betty Hunt, and Maxine Crider. The amendment will underlie land owned by Joe A. and Barbara Burchett, E. L. and Bertha Cline, Malcolm Layne, Rebecca Jarrell, The Elk Horn Coal Company, LLC, Wade and Ora Blackburn Heirs, John Dallas and Vina Sue Branham, Clark Pergem and Jesse Rudd. The operation will use the contour, auger and highwall methods of surface mining. The amendment application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Natural Resources' Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director of the Division of Mine Permits, No. 2 Hudson Hollow Complex, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. This is the final advertisement of this application; all comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be received within 30 days of this date.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 405 KAR 8:010, Section 16(5), the following is a summary of permitting decisions made by the Department for Natural Resources, Division of Mine Permits, with respect to applications to conduct surface coal mining and reclamation operations in Floyd County: Miller Bros. Coal, LLC 836-0335 02/27/2008 Dema Coal Company, Inc. 836-5253 02/01/2008 Matt Co. Inc. 836-5422 02/08/2008

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2. Each clue will be printed in paper only once. Previous clues can be found at Official Sponsor Locations. Clues are posted at Official Sponsor Locations 24 hours after each publication.
3. Discover the egg. The egg is located on public property in an easily accessible hiding place. No Fear Factor® stunts required!
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Congratulations to Allen May, 8, left, Mackynzie Samons, 9, and Rylee Samons, 4, for finding "Little Junior" and winning \$200!

The Grand Prize Egg worth \$500 is still hidden. A new clue to its whereabouts can be found in today's paper. Past clues can only be obtained by visiting any of the sponsors on this page.

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