

The Times

FLOYD COUNTY

1 school
sketball
— page B1

One Voice for Eastern Kentucky

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Tobacco, alcohol taxes go up April 1

by SHELTON COMPTON
STAFF WRITER

FRANKFORT — A plan that would double the tax on tobacco products and subject alcoholic beverages to the state's 6 percent sales tax passed the state Senate Friday morning and was signed that afternoon by Gov. Steve Beshear.

The tax portion of House Bill 144 passed by a 24-12 vote, while the portion concern-

ing the revenue cuts was approved by a vote of 35-1.

The package aims to cut state spending and increase revenue to address a \$456 million state deficit.

"People on both sides of the issue understand the dire circumstances we're in," said Senate President David Williams. "This is a stopgap measure, and that's okay. We've set

(See TAXES, page three)



Gov. Steve Beshear, left is congratulated by House Speaker Greg Stumbo, D-Prestonsburg, center, and House Majority Whip John Will Stacy, D-West Liberty, after a state budget bill and tax plan were signed into law on Friday, Feb. 13.

Volume
www.floydcountytimes.com
In brief
SBDC
new business
workshop

MOREHEAD — Morehead State University's Small Business Development Center (SBDC) will host a workshop designed to provide attendees considering starting a new business with the information and resources needed to enhance their chances of success.

"Starting a New Business in Difficult Times" will be held Thursday, Feb. 19, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in 310 Combs Building on the MSU campus.

David Barber, director of SBDC in Morehead, will be the workshop instructor. He is experienced in helping numerous people getting their businesses started throughout the service region.

"This is an excellent and affordable opportunity for business owners to gain valuable information about starting a new business," said Barber. "This workshop will help you analyze your business idea and make certain that you have a chance of success before you open the doors."

The free event includes literature and pamphlets concerning starting a small business. Advance registration is strongly suggested.

The SBDC encourages business success through its high quality, in-depth and hands-on consultations to new ventures, and existing businesses that are

(See SBDC, page three)

2 DAY FORECAST

Today
Showers
High: 59 • Low: 36

Tomorrow
Partly cloudy
High: 59 • Low: 37

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BACK TO SQUARE ONE



photo by Sheldon Compton

Floyd County Judge-Executive R.D. "Doc" Marshall, left, and Floyd County Emergency Management Director Jim Caldwell, right, discuss options officials can take in approaching cleanup efforts following two major storms in less than a month. Marshall says the cleanup alone would take "several months" to complete.

Projects sidelined as storms take full attention

by SHELTON COMPTON
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — With storms taking center stage in the past few weeks, other business has had to be sidelined for officials in Floyd County.

Judge-Executive R.D. "Doc" Marshall said Friday that before the ice storm hit in the last week of January, he and other county officials had been concentrating on road and bridge work.

But those plans have now had to be placed aside on two occasions — when an ice storm coated the county beginning on Jan. 26 and this past Wednesday

when rain and winds exceeding 70 miles an hour sheared homes and buildings during a 30-minute burst of severe weather.

And just when the county was readying to approach the road and bridge work put off in the wake of the ice storm, Marshall said it all happened again.

"We've had to put off much of this work twice now," Marshall said. "We had to quit, things just came to a halt."

Some of the projects the county had been lining up to take care of included efforts to reduce the amount of water flowing across roads, placing guardrails

in various spots such as Shop Branch on Left Beaver and the Head of Spurlock, as well as tackling sections of roads that had broken off at the banks by adding baskets.

Also, bridges were a priority before the storms, said Marshall, adding that the severe weather has only worsened both conditions on that front and with roadwork.

"On Shop Branch a two-lane concrete bridge was nearly washed out," Marshall said. "Trees had lodged on one side and almost it took it out."

(See PROJECTS, page three)

Bill would let park sell alcohol

by SHELTON COMPTON
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — The Kentucky House of Representatives approved a bill Wednesday that would allow the sale of alcohol at the state's 17 resort parks, including Jenny Wiley State Resort Park.

The House approved the bill following a study officials presented in committee saying if alcohol was sold it could generate more than \$4.5 million a year.

If the bill makes it through, the sales could not begin until an election was held in each dry precinct affected. Though most state parks are in dry areas, Jenny Wiley is not among them.

"This could really bring in revenue for the park," said Prestonsburg Director of Economic Development Brent Graden.

Some officials have offered that the bill would not only increase revenue through the sales, but also by increasing occupancy at the parks themselves.

State Parks Commissioner Gerry van der Meer says the payoff could be substantial.

"We certainly believe that House Bill 308 will increase our revenues but more importantly it will increase our occupancies," said van der Meer, adding that some corporations and associations that hold meeting receptions would be more likely to meet at state park facilities if alcohol sales were allowed.

The bill was sponsored by House Speaker Pro Tem Larry Clark, who told committee members Wednesday allowing sales was the "responsible next step."

"House Bill 308 takes a responsible next step in furthering development at state parks by authorizing the sale of beer, liquor and wine by the drink in

(See PARK, page three)

Chamber to hold business forum on Wednesday

by JARRID DEATON
FEATURES WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — The state of the economy in Eastern Kentucky will be one of the main topics discussed at a special forum sponsored by the Floyd County Chamber of Commerce and to be held at the Mountain Arts Center on Feb. 18.

The Big Sandy Economic Development Summit is a one-day forum for business owners, entrepre-

neurs and potential new business owners, with the purpose of presenting participants with information on economic development opportunities in Eastern Kentucky, the state of the economy in Eastern Kentucky, and the financial opportunities from lenders about loans and other funds to help plan upcoming business opportunities in the area.

"The Floyd County Chamber's Economic Development Committee put together an agenda that will fea-

ture locally recognized business experts and individuals who will discuss the current economic climate and realities facing the Big Sandy Region, as well as outline the steps necessary for prosperity, wealth creation, and economic vitality in Eastern Kentucky," said Mandy Stumbo, director of the Floyd County Chamber of Commerce.

The keynote speaker for the event will be Larry Hayes, secretary of the Kentucky Cabinet for Economic

Development.

Local tourism venues such as the Mountain Arts Center, Eastern Kentucky Expo Center, Jenny Wiley Theatre, and the Country Music Highway Museum, will be highlighted at the forum. Also, State Adventure Tourism Director Matt Osborne will be presenting information on adventure tourism with local agencies.

Registration for the event will

(See FORUM, page three)

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Regional Obituaries

FLOYD COUNTY

■ Charles David Crum, 66, of Banner, died Thursday, February 5, at the UK Medical Center. Funeral services were held Monday, February 9, at 11 a.m., at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Monnie Brown Dye, 87, of Printer, died Wednesday, February 4, at the McDowell ARH. Funeral services were held Saturday, February 7, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Forest D. "Bubby" Gibson, 59, of Mays Lick, died Wednesday, February 4, at the Good Samaritan Hospital, in Lexington. He is survived by his wife, Sue Seedorf Gibson. Funeral services were held Sunday, February 8, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Ruby Gilliam, 83, of Ligon, died Friday, February 6, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, William Frank Gilliam. Funeral services were held Monday, February 9, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Rickert "Rick" Fred Hale, 59, of Prestonsburg, died Friday, February 6, at King's Daughters Medical Center, Ashland. He is survived by his wife, Ruth Carol Hunt Hale. Funeral services were held Tuesday, February 10, under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

■ Orville Hansford, 88, of Wayland, died Monday, February 9, at the Hazard Appalachian Regional Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Edith Moore Hansford. Funeral services were held Friday, February 13, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Lydia Mae Jacobs, 81, of Dwale, died Saturday, January 18, at Dwale. Funeral services were held Friday, January 23, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Margeline Lambert Mitchell, 76, of McDowell, died Wednesday, February 11, in Highlands Regional Medical Center. Funeral services will be conducted Sunday, February 15, at 1 p.m., in the Little Rose Regular Baptist Church of the Indian Bottom Association, in McDowell, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Dorothy Hamilton Schmidt, 70, of Teaberry, died Friday, January 30, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were held Monday, February 2, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Elsie Mae Stephens, 92, died Saturday, January 31, at the Hospice of the Bluegrass Care Center. Funeral services were held Tuesday, February 3, under the direction of W.R. Milward Mortuary, Southland Drive.

■ Howard Stidham, 80, of Wayland, died Monday, February 9, at Wellmont Holston Valley Medical Center, in Kingsport. Funeral services were held Thursday, February 12, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Frank Sweeney, 70, of Plant City, Florida, passed away Friday, February 6. He is survived by his wife, Janet Sweeney. Funeral services were held Monday, February 9, under the direction of Hopewell Funeral Home.

■ Shannon Lewis Watkins, 38, of Wayland, died Friday, February 6, at his residence. Funeral services were held Monday, February 9, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

JOHNSON COUNTY

■ Kruger Daniel Jr., 50, of Paintsville, died Sunday, February 1, at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center, in Paintsville. Funeral services were held Thursday, February 5, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Billy Hensley, 63, of Paintsville, died Monday, February 9, at his residence. Funeral services were held Thursday, February 12, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

■ Louella Rediford, 82, of Paintsville, died Thursday, February 5, at Clark County

Hospital in Winchester. Funeral services were held Saturday, February 7, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

■ Mona Jo Ingram Schafstall, 49, of Oil Springs, died Thursday, February 5, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, Timothy Allen Schafstall. Memorial services were held Sunday, February 8, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Josephine Whitaker, 80, of East Point, died Friday, February 6, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Sunday, February 8, under the direction of Phelps & Son Funeral Home.

KNOTT COUNTY

■ Hillard Hall, 100, of Pinetop, died Sunday, January 18, at his home. Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 20, at 11 a.m., under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Nancy Loveda "Veda" Ritchie, 65, of Burnside, a Knott County native, died Saturday, January 31, at the Lake Cumberland Hospital, Somerset. Funeral services were held Tuesday, February 3, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Diane Pratt Sexton, 46, of Pinetop, died Sunday, February 1, at the Hazard ARH. Funeral services were

held Wednesday, February 4, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Hindman.

■ John D. Vance, 94, of Pinetop, died Friday, January 30, at the Hazard ARMC. Funeral services were held Sunday, February 1, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

PIKE COUNTY

■ Deloris J. Blankenship, 66, a Pikeville native, died Thursday, Feb. 5, in Taylor, Mich. She is survived by her husband, Gene Blankenship. Memorial services were held Monday, Feb. 9, under the direction of Howe-Peterson Funeral Home.

■ John Paul Charles, 79, of Laughlin, Nevada, a native of Lookout, died Saturday, January 17, the result of injuries suffered in a fall while a patient in a Laughlin Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Darlene Charles. A memorial service will be held in Laughlin at a later date.

■ John Paul "Pete" Smith, 76, died Feb. 9, at his home at Raccoon. He is survived by his wife, Ida Gaye Maynard Smith. Funeral services were held Thursday, Feb. 12, under the direction of Thacker Funeral Home.

Jesse Lee Greene

Jesse Lee Greene, 29, of Wheelwright, died Wednesday, February 11, 2009, at his residence.

Born November 11, 1979, in Xenia, Ohio, he was the son of Steven Lee and Robin Lawson Greene. He was a heavy equipment operator.

He is survived by his wife, Susan Branham Greene.

In addition to his parents and wife, he is survived by a son, Colton Lee Greene of Wheelwright; raised as his own, Hazel Collins (Chris) Greene of Copperas Cove, Texas; his grandparents: Delmer and Mary Greene, and Denver and Leora Davis, all of Flat Gap, Ernie Lawson of Corbin, and Betty Lou Ausher of Jellico, Tennessee; his grandchildren: Christian Alexander Sean and Rebekka Shayli Howell.

Funeral services were held Saturday, February 14, at 1 p.m., at the Wheelwright Freewill Baptist Church, with Louis Ferrari officiating.

Burial was in the Newman Cemetery, in Hi Hat, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Martin.

Visitation was at the church.

(Paid obituary)



Why Some People Think

Duke Ellington

Is a Member of the Royal Family.

KIDS DON'T GET ENOUGH

ART THESE DAYS. So you can see why some of them might accidentally confuse a jazz legend named Duke with royalty named duke. But it's finally time to set the record straight.

Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington didn't rule over a small English estate. Instead he reigned supreme over jazz institutions like

The Cotton Club. He rified

powerfully on the piano, but it was the full orchestra that he considered his most compelling instrument. He introduced improvisation to his compositions — a process unheard of



Royal dukes are squaresville. They have no rhythm. And they wear crowns.

using a 15-piece orchestra. The result was a different approach to jazz that sparked a revolution and an evolution. His music spread across the world

with songs like "Sophisticated Lady," "In a



A piano player. A composer. An orchestra leader. Duke Ellington reigned over a land called Jazz.

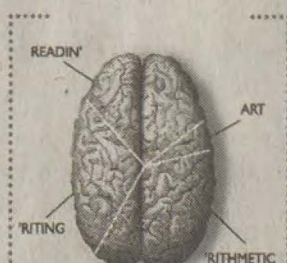
Sentimental Mood," and "Take the 'A' Train." His historical concert in 1953 at the Newport Jazz Festival has entered the lexicon of legendary live performances. There is no doubt about it, Ellington's brand of jazz has contributed significantly to the American songbook and to the lives of anyone who has ever tapped their foot to a beat.

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Art. Ask for More.

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Schools begin using new software system

by JARRID DEATON
FEATURES WRITER

Schools in Floyd County have officially implemented Infinite Campus, a student information system that provides access to grades and other data.

In December 2006, the state awarded a contract to Infinite Campus Inc. to provide and manage the student information system for all 174 local

school districts and schools. School and district personnel in Floyd County have participated in several training sessions in preparation for the new system.

The Infinite Campus System went live in Floyd County Schools on Feb. 9. At some of the schools, the technology directors are currently attending training on the program to help ensure that the transition is as smooth as possible

and that they will be able to utilize the information that they learn to take full advantage of what Infinite Campus offers.

According to information provided by the Floyd County Board of Education, Infinite Campus will provide a range of advantages for school personnel such as a web-based system that will allow authorized users to access grade books, lesson plans from any

work station, provision of data in real time to the school, district and state, and easy management of student transfers and grade promotions.

"We are very excited about the live data capabilities of this system," said Kristina Springer, one of two directors of pupil personnel.

Bonita Compton, the other director of pupil personnel,

touted the web capability of the program.

"The web-based system will provide us with greater flexibility for all users," Compton said.

In August, the school system will start using Parent Portal, a communication tool designed for parents that will give them access to their child's specific information,

including attendance, grades, and more. Parent Portal will also provide a method for tracking student performance and information as parents guide their child's educational activities. All schools in Floyd County will have Parent Portal training sessions, with specific dates to be announced closer to the implementation of the program.

Taxes

the stage for a new day."

Another aspect of the plan would call for state agencies to face 4 percent cuts, with the remainder of the deficit filled with fund transfers.

Under the plan, beginning April 1 cigarettes would be taxed at 60 percent per pack, while snuff would be taxed at 19 cents per tin and other products would see a 15 percent wholesale tax. Alcohol currently faces an 11 percent wholesale rate, but is exempt

from the retail tax.

In debates prior to Friday's vote, more than half of the senators spoke on the subject, with some talking about fairness as an issue.

"My problem is with the equality and fairness," said state Sen. Julian Carroll. "I came here prepared to vote for a tax, but not this tax."

Others, such as Sen. Julie Denton, pointed out that alcohol is not sold everywhere in the state. "It's targeting the big

Continued from p1

counties that happen to be wet," she said. "This is a 120-county problem that we're strapping to the backs of 30 counties."

As for the cuts to state agencies, legislative and judicial branches would see cuts of 4 percent while colleges and universities would see cuts of 2 percent. Medicaid, corrections and P-12 education's SEEK funding would see no cuts at all.

Projects

Once a bridge looked at as perhaps needing work, as of Wednesday, county workers were struggling to save it entirely. This was accomplished over the course of Wednesday night and the following day after well over 50 tons of garbage and debris was dislodged.

Downed trees falling across roads broke off pavement and resulted in further damage that will now have to be included in future efforts, Marshall said. Also, rock slides have clogged ditches and resulted in more water flowing across roadways

than before, another example of how the storm not only set back county plans, but added to the work needing to be completed.

Meeting with Floyd County's Emergency Management Director Jim Caldwell Friday, Marshall reflected only briefly on the past project hopes before Jan. 26 before hearing updates on damages and cleanup efforts.

As of Friday, there were still some 1,300 residents without power in Floyd, Pike and Knott counties. That figure was improved upon from the original number early Thursday

morning when Marshall said 2,450 residents were in the dark.

"They're making progress at about 900 to 1,000 residents a day at this rate," said Marshall.

In the meantime, debris is still taken to the county's industrial site at the base of Abbott Mountain in Prestonsburg.

Marshall said this will later be burned once approval is granted to do so and also that some may be shredded and chipped for mulch. He also said he will be encouraging citizens to come take what they might use for firewood later on.

Continued from p1

Park

dining rooms and golf courses," Clark said. "Over \$100 million has already been invested in many state park and golf course facilities statewide over the past several years."

One of the other points made through the study was that this decision could also help make progress in seeing state parks reach the point where they could be more self-

sufficient.

One concern brought up during Wednesday's presentation, voiced by state Rep. Ron Crimm, of Louisville, was that many state parks employee college-age kids.

In response, van der Meer said the state would guard against allowing underage workers at state facilities to serve alcohol by following

state guidelines. "And," he added, "in many resorts, they have college kids but they don't let them serve alcohol unless they are of a certain age."

The committee giving the bill a green light Wednesday was the House Licensing and Occupations Committee.

The bill now goes to the full House for a vote.

Continued from p1

Forum

begin at 8 a.m. with adjournment scheduled around 4 p.m. The cost is \$10 per attendee for members of the Floyd County Chamber of

Commerce and \$20 per attendee for non-members, with prices including lunch. Paid registration reserves your ticket and tickets may be

purchased by calling the Floyd County Chamber Of Commerce at (606) 886-0364 or by e-mail at floydchamber@setel.com.

Continued from p1

SBDC

available at no cost. Additionally, the center offers affordable business workshops and provides market research and industry trends to help business owners make informed decisions.

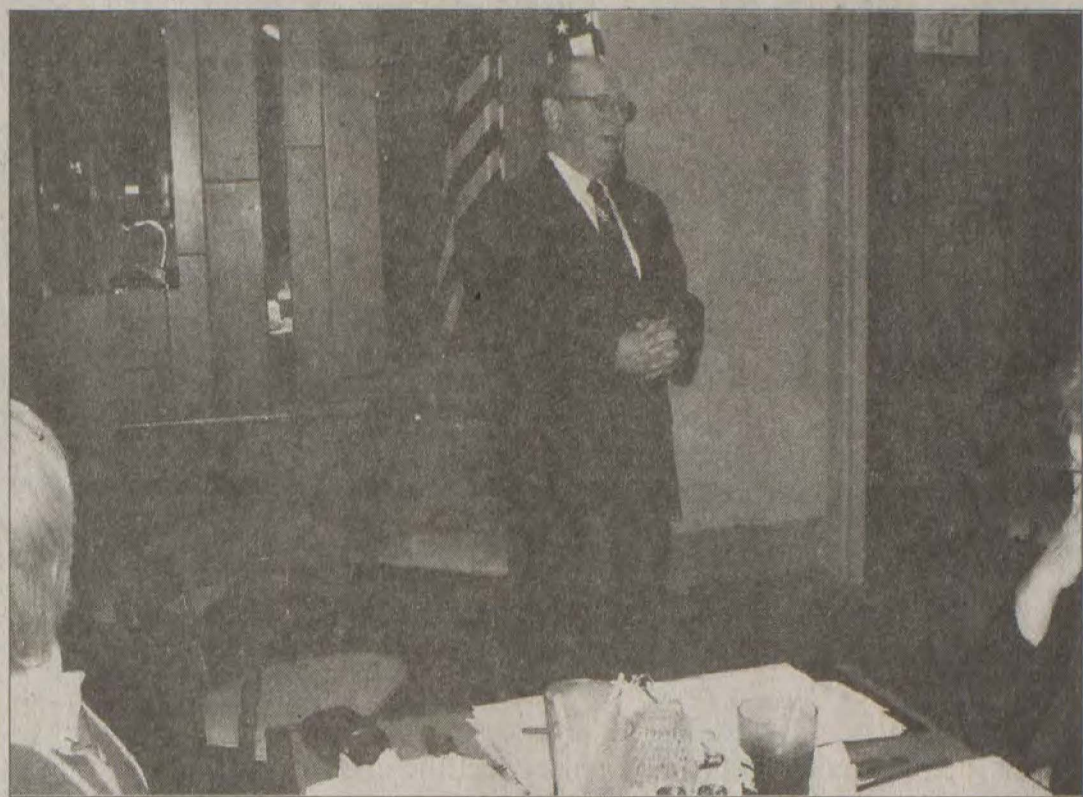
For a list of upcoming events, you may visit the MSU SBDC Web site at www.moreheadstate.edu/sbdc.

Training programs, sponsored or cosponsored by SBDC, are available to all

individuals without regard to race, color, sex, creed or national origin.

Additional information or to register, you may call (606) 783-2895.



Continued from p1



Rep. Hubert Collins, of District 97, which includes portions of Floyd, Johnson, Martin, and Pike counties, was guest speaker at the January meeting of the Floyd County Democratic Women's Club held at May Lodge. Rep. Collins spoke about recent activities in Frankfort including the election of Dist. 95 Representative Greg Stumbo, as Speaker of the House and 10 other committee chair changes. Rep. Collins also spoke about some of the issues being discussed in Frankfort relating to the state's current economic problems. He congratulated and thanked the Democratic Women's Club for their continuing commitment to work not only for the Democratic Party through fundraisers, rallies, and sponsored events during elections, but also for their support of local citizens through their annual scholarship program and donations to other local programs such as D.A.R.E. and Shop With A Cop. A question-and-answer session followed Collins' speech.

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Through it all, newspapers did their jobs, too

We salute newspapers across Kentucky. When power was off for more than 700,000 state residents, the Internet was down, many cell phones didn't work and Kentuckians begged for news about the ice storm and emergency shelters - and just about anything else - overall, Kentucky newspapers didn't miss a beat - or an issue. Keeping their readers informed was their top priority.

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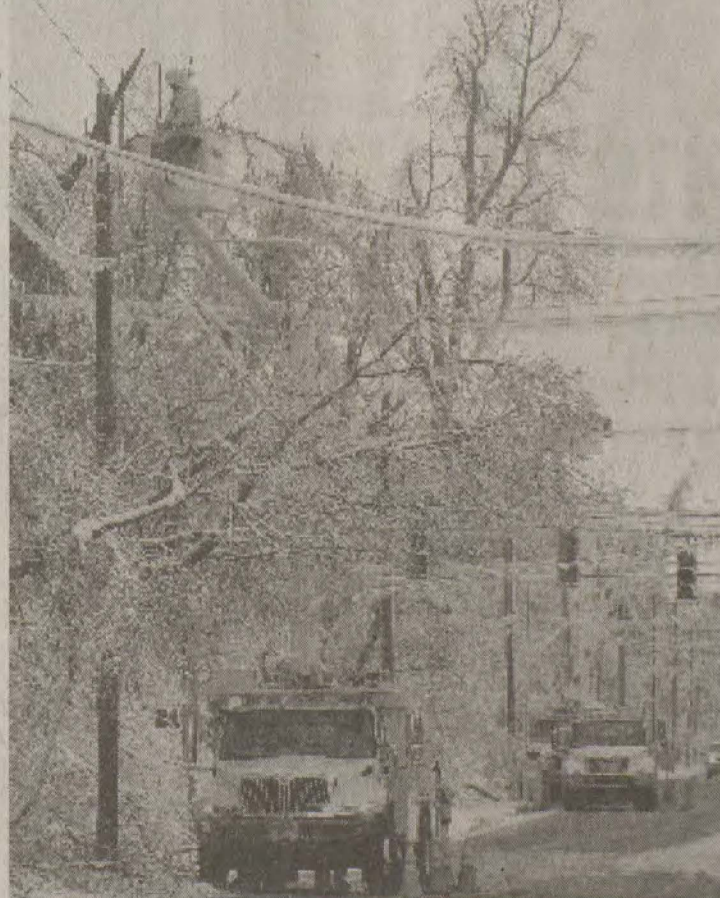


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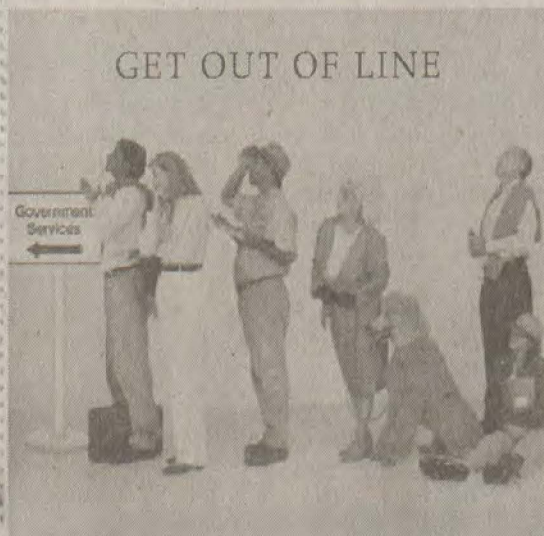
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expression

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

— Felix Frankfurter

Guest view

A persistent question

If this Treasury secretary thing doesn't work out, Timothy Geithner probably should not go into sales. His pitch for a new bank bailout Tuesday was so short on detail that it inspired uncertainty, not confidence. If he was lowering expectations, mission accomplished. The Dow Jones Industrial Average declined 381.99 points, or 4.6 percent to 7888.88 on the news.

But Wall Street's just-in-time analysis and its cable television apologists shouldn't be the gauge. This new plan, though in Cliffs Notes, focuses on the right problem: the need to forgive the nation's biggest banks for their foolhardy decisions. The toxic assets weighing down their balance sheets are hobbling lending and making these vitally important institutions impotent when their lending power is needed to help lead a recovery. This isn't about them. It's about the rest of us.

Geithner proposed an investment fund seeded with government money to lure up to \$1 trillion of private money to buy these bad assets. Geithner claims the vexing problem of how to value the assets would be solved, because hedge funds and other buyers would determine prices. But how? He offered no answer.

The Geithner plan is more transparent than the Bush administration bailout last fall. Banks taking money would have to show how assistance would spur lending and issue monthly reports, available online, on lending activity. But where's the stick? There is no penalty for hoarding money.

An intriguing element of the plan is a government-required "stress test" for banks. The government would require the largest banks to undergo an evaluation of their ability to sustain losses as conditions worsen. Banks then could seek additional capital from the government in exchange for stock.

But what if a major bank flunks the test? Will it be taken over by the government? Failed banks should be seized and recapitalized, then quickly returned to private hands. But it's not clear the Obama administration has the appetite for such bold action. As Geithner put it so bluntly in an interview with CNBC: "Governments are not good at running banks."

While this is undoubtedly true, it's also true that the banks haven't been so good at running banks. Banks allowed to remain zombies will just have to be infused with ever more government cash. There might come a time when government seizure is preferable.

The government should find a way to relieve banks of their troubled assets. Once unburdened, perhaps lending can return to normal. But the inconvenient question - the same one faced by former Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson — remains: How does anyone figure out what these securities are worth?

It's not at all clear that Geithner has any better answer to this question.

— The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

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CREATORS NEWS SERVICE
BEATIE



— Chuck Norris

'The most sweeping ethics reform in history?'

Barack Obama promised during his campaign to "clean up both ends of Pennsylvania Avenue" with "the most sweeping ethics reform in history." He declared that his administration would "have the toughest ethics laws of any administration in history." But shouldn't that moral commitment extend to all of those he appoints, too?

Recently, many people were nominated by Obama for high-ranking positions in his administration. Six of them were involved in tax evasion or other shady deals.

First, there was Bill Richardson for commerce secretary. Second, there was William J. Lynn III, slated for the No. 2 spot at the Defense Department. Third, there was Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner's appointment. Fourth, there was Nancy Killefer's nomination as the government's first chief performance officer. Fifth, there was former Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, who would have led the Department of Health and Human Services. Sixth, there was the nomination of Rep. Hilda Solis for labor secretary.

And now we have lucky No. 7. Obama has nominated David Ogden to be the deputy attorney general, the

second person in command in the Justice Department. According to the American Family Association, as an attorney in private practice, Ogden has filed briefs opposing parental notification before a minor's abortion, the Children's Internet Protection Act and the Child Protection and Obscenity Enforcement Act. He also has litigated many obscenity and pornography cases on behalf of clients such as the American Civil Liberties Union, Playboy, Penthouse and the largest distributor of hard-core pornographic movies.

Am I missing something? Remember when tax evasion was a crime? Remember when porn was bad? Remember when ethics actually mattered in our choices for politicians? Remember when there were expected moral standards for leaders? Remember when politicians were role models? (Now I'm dating myself!)

Call me Pollyannaish, but I believe leadership should be exemplary. I believe leadership should be above reproach. And if Obama can't find ethical criteria for choosing other politicians, then let me pass along some advice from our Founding Fathers.

Ethics (the practice of morality) is the foundation of a healthy character,

family and country. If ethics wane, the people — and eventually the nation — follow. As Founding Father Elias Boudinot once said, "If the moral character of a people once degenerate, their political character must soon follow."

Good morals precede good laws, which is why government isn't much help here. Unless the people and their legislators are grounded in morality, the best of laws will be broken and the worst of laws will be made, legalizing immorality. All the vetting in the world won't vanquish a corrupt human nature. That is why we can't look to government to improve

decency, civility and morality. For that, we need to look to another source.

John Adams put it well when he said: "We have no government armed with power, capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Avarice, ambition, revenge or gallantry would break the strongest cords of our Constitution as a whale goes through a net. Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

Government isn't the answer. And neither is education, at least without

(See NORRIS, page six)



Chuck Norris

— beyond the beltway

Ethics may be too much to ask

by DONALD KAUL
MINUTEMAN MEDIA

Give Barack Obama credit. Barely a month on the job and already he's increased tax revenues by hundreds of thousands of dollars. He nominated Timothy (Tiny Tim) Geithner to be Secretary of the Treasury and Geithner immediately discovered he'd forgotten to pay \$48,000 in back taxes. So he paid them.

Then he chose Tom Daschle as his Secretary of Health and Human Services and Daschle quickly coughed up \$140 K in back taxes. Too late. He had to withdraw his candidacy; just after the president's candidate for chief government performance officer withdrew hers because of tax problems. She paid up too.

I have two words for the Obama administration: H&R Block.

It's not been the happiest of times for ethics in public office, which is rapidly becoming an oxymoron. We have seen the governor of Illinois thrown from office by his legislature after it found him trying to sell the vacant Obama Senate seat on e-Bay. Then there is the revelation that Sen. Christopher Dodd, head of the Senate banking committee and outspoken opponent of tightening certain bank regulations was getting sweetheart loans from a bank that is also one of his biggest political contributors. What a coincidence.

All this, of course, happened not long after Ted Stevens, the longest-serving Republican in the Senate, was deselected by voters after being found guilty of using his office as a home

improvement enterprise. His home.

And who could forget Louisiana Rep. William "the Refrigerator" Jefferson, he of the \$90,000 in (very) cold cash? Did I mention Eliot Spitzer, the former governor of New York? I won't. Let lying dogs sleep, that's my motto.

It almost makes you wish for the good old days when President Dwight Eisenhower had to fire Sherman Adams, his right-hand man, for taking the gift of a vicuña coat from a grateful political patron. (Which inspired the apocryphal story that had Ike saying to Adams: "Vicuña? Vicuña waited until after the election.")

Today Adams wouldn't have to resign. He'd be laughed out of office for thinking small.

How does all of this square with President Obama's pledge to bring a new integrity into the political process? Technically, it doesn't. However, I would argue it's just a matter of commendable idealism clashing with the harsh realities of political life.

We work within a system of capitalism that celebrates greed as a virtue, after all. That being said, it's unfair to say that it's OK for everyone in the private sector to take every dime that isn't nailed down (think Wall Street bonuses) while people seeking government service are expected to have lived the lives of monks who have taken vows of poverty. You have to give people a little slack. If you're taking bribes and

putting the cash in your freezer...that's a definite no-no. If you just chisel a little on your income tax, well, maybe we can let you off with a warning. Or not.

It's a matter of degree. I've always thought that the proper rule of thumb in these matters is this:

Don't expect anyone to take less advantage of their situation than you would if you had their chances.

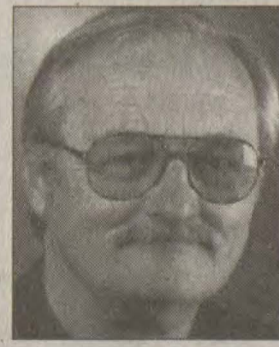
And here's another: Never trust a totally honest man. He has no sympathy for human failings.

I think we could eliminate half the hypocrisy in government by privatizing the U.S. Senate. Instead of electing senators, as we do now, we could put Senate seats up for auction for corporations and special interests to bid on, with the money going into the Treasury.

What about the will of the people, you say? That's why we have the House of Representatives. A key point: No corporation or special interest could own shares in more than four senators (several fewer than they own now). The senators would be required to wear the corporate logos of their sponsors while on the floor of the Senate, sort of like NASCAR drivers.

The plan would slice through the hypocrisy and go a long way toward balancing the budget.

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 dkaul2@earthlink.net.



Donald Kaul

The Times

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263 SOUTH CENTRAL AVENUE
PRESTONSBURG, KENTUCKY 41653

Phone: (606) 886-8506

Fax: (606) 886-3603

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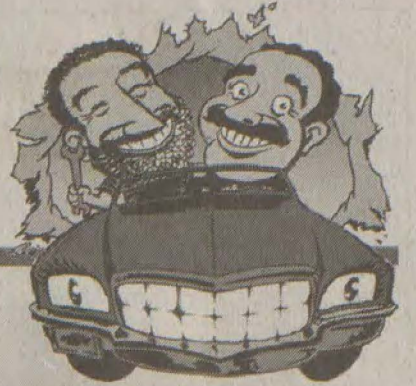
Ralph B. Davis

web@floydcountytimes.com

ADVERTISING MANAGER

Jamie VanHoose

advertising@floydcountytimes.com



INSIDESTUFF

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CAR TALK:

Cosmetics might not be most important question hear

see pg. B6

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This Town, That World

Editor's Note: For years, Floyd County Times founder and former publisher Norman Allen wrote a weekly column that looked at Floyd County through his eyes. His columns are being reprinted due to request.

If you want to see something that will take your thoughts outside yourself, watch the return of those prisoners of war. Television does have its virtues.

EARLY PLANTING

There is, we are told, a strong possibility that Johnny Burke will give up golf, come summer, to enjoy the flowers and listen to bird-song at an unlikely spot. Here's why:

A few days ago, he stored in a plastic trash bag some 50 pounds of sunflower seed for the birds around his home. Next morning, the garbage crew picked up the bag and hauled it away to the landfill on Middle Creek. Prospects for a bumper crop of sunflowers, are bright, and there—tra-la! the birds will gather.

THE "PRAYER" HELPED, ANYHOW

Cleo Akers brings back from the cliff-country of Menifee county the story of a modern-day Jack-the-Giant-Killer and the trouble a reputation can bring.

The scene of his story is a country store where, one day, a little man named Perkins lit, just in time to run into two men of some heft who had inbibed too freely. The two drunks, almost out on their feet, pushed the newcomer a bit too much, and he laid both low with his fists.

Perkins left the store, knowing that I was not by the might of his fists, but by the help of John Barleycom that he had lulled the two big men to sleep. But others ascribed the feat to his Mighty Mite strength, and so it was that the name, Perkins was spoken with some awe in that area. Men stepped aside to let him pass. Women looked upon him with something akin to adoration. Little boys dreamed of growing up to be a man like him.

Perkins basked in all this glory, and often returned to the scene of his triumph to enjoy his fame. But there came the day when a giant stranger hitched his horse to the rack outside the store and entered with a wild sort of gleam in his eye.

"The name," he announced, "is Turner, and I'm from Elliott county. Anybody here named Perkins?"

The storekeeper silently pointed to the undersized man of that name, who was leaning against the counter.

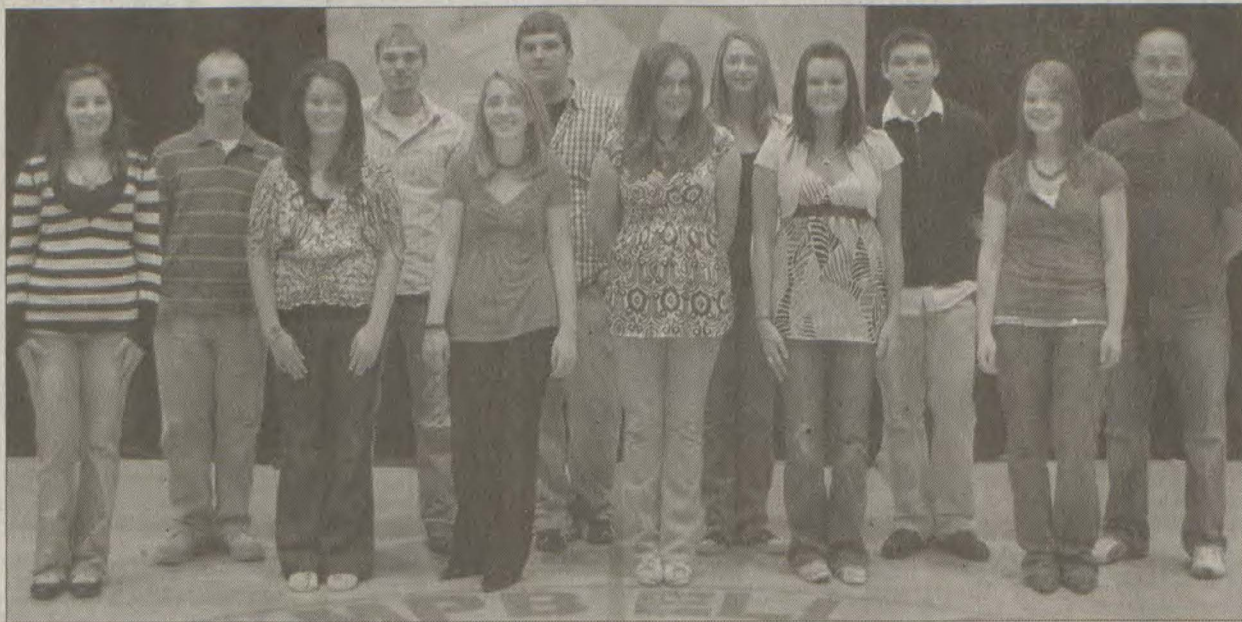
The big visitor ambled over. "Perkins?!" The hero admitted rather ruefully that he was Perkins.

"Jim Perkins?!"

"Yeah, Jim Perkins."

"Well," the newcomer said. "I'm the champion fist-fighter in my parts, and I've heard tell of you. I'm here to fight ye."

(See ALLEN, page six)



Pictured are the Big Sandy Idol student participants from Allen Central. From left to right are Brittany Collins, Tyler Stephens, Big Sandy Idol 2008 Champion Winner Jerica Blair, Ethan Halbert, Keisha Reed, First Place Winner Benji Carroll, Daniel Begley, Katlyn Vanderpool, Second Place Winner Josh Davis, Candra Hicks, and Big Sandy Idol Director Clayton Case.

SUPER SINGERS

ACHS finalists for Big Sandy Idol named

by JARRID DEATON
FEATURES WRITER

A few days after announcing the selection of students from Betsy Layne High School, Big Sandy Community and Technical College has selected the winners of the local-level competition of Big Sandy Idol from Allen Central High School.

The first-place winners from Allen Central were Benji Carroll, Daniel Begley, and Katlyn Vanderpool. The second-place winners were Josh David and Candra Hicks.

Last year, a Big Sandy Idol CD was released featuring a song from the winning student from each of the high schools in the region.

Big Sandy Idol is a vocal talent

and scholarship competition that offers two winners from each high school in Floyd, Pike, Johnson, Martin, and Magoffin Counties a chance to compete for a demo CD recording, a full-album recording, and the top prize of a \$1,200 vocal scholarship to attend BSCTC, along with a spot with the Big Sandy Singers who are directed by Laura Ford Hall. The two winners will advance to compete at the regional-level of competition, held at the Mountain Arts Center on March 13 and 14, 2009 where they will compete for these prizes and ultimately two students will win a scholarship to college. The Idol program is directed by Clayton Case, Hall serving as musical director and Timothy Cooley as technical director.

The competition is organized by the music department of Big Sandy Community and Technical College, in partnership with the Mountain Arts Center, and is sponsored by Jennifer Reynolds' State Farm Insurance in Pikeville.

The regional section of the Big Sandy Idol competition will be held at the Mountain Arts Center on March 13, for the second-place winners, and March 14, for the first-place winners and the championship round.

Tickets for Big Sandy Idol are \$7 for adults and \$5 for students. The tickets will be available for sale at the Mountain Arts Center on Feb. 9.

For more information on purchasing tickets, contact the Mountain Arts Center at 1-888-MAC-ARTS.

State scholarship program helps students become teachers

FRANKFORT — Kentucky students who want to become teachers may qualify for a scholarship from the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA).

Applicants must show financial need and must be enrolled full time in a teacher education program at a participating Kentucky college to receive a KHEAA Teacher Scholarship. Teachers who are already certified are not eligible.

The amount a student may receive depends upon available funding and the student's year in school. A college junior or above may receive up to \$2,500 for each semester. If funds remain, college freshmen and sophomores may receive up to \$625 per

semester.

Recipients must teach one semester at a school certified by the Kentucky Department of Education for each semester a scholarship is received.

Recipients who do not finish their teacher education program or do not teach at a certified Kentucky school must repay the scholarship with 6 percent interest.

Students who wish to apply must fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and a KHEAA Teacher Scholarship application. To complete the application, go to www.kheaa.com and log on through Zip Access. To file the FAFSA, go to www.fafsa.ed.gov. Students may request up to three copies of the paper

FAFSA by calling (800) 4-FED-AID. KHEAA must receive the scholarship application and the FAFSA results by May 1. Recipients will be notified in early July.

To learn how to plan and prepare for higher education and to access the FAFSA, go to Error! Hyperlink reference not valid. For more information about Kentucky scholarships and grants, visit www.kheaa.com; write KHEAA, P.O. Box 798, Frankfort, KY 40602-0798; or call (800) 928-8926, extension 6-7381. For information about low-cost student loans, visit www.studentloanpeople.com; write The Student Loan People, P.O. Box 24328, Louisville, KY 40224-0328; or call (888) 678-4625.

MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

'Hard Times'

Action fans will get more than they bargained for with this street fighting drama that launched director Walter Hill ("The Warriors," "Extreme Prejudice" and "Southern Comfort").

Hill has since become famous for flashy editing and slow-motion violence, but here he lets the story roll at its own pace and trusts that you'll be swept along by the lead performers. He gets a big boost there from two old school action stars, Charles Bronson and James Coburn.

Bronson anchors the film as Chaney. He's a man of mystery who rolls into New Orleans, circa 1933, with a plan to make some money as a street fighter and then return to wherever he came from. That's it for Chaney as far as motivation goes and Bronson's performance hints at there being more to this man than meets the eye, but the film refuses to spell anything out.

Instead we are left to construct our own back story and it works, thanks to Bronson's performance, which leaves the impression that Chaney came from a better life and is only slumming in the fight game to raise a large enough stake to get through this bleak period and return to wherever he came from.

Coburn enters the film as a manager for a doomed street fighter who gets his head handed to him by the reigning champ, a hulking goon named Jim. We are soon hipped to the fact that Coburn, here cast as Speed, is a low-level conman who has settled on the fighting game in an effort to feed his gambling addiction.

He hooks up with Chaney and agrees to help him by setting up fights for a hefty share of the cash, but Speed can't even enjoy the success they share and soon finds himself in the clutches of a loan shark who plays for keeps.

The story follows this pair and their cut man (played by the brilliant Strother Martin) on a string of bouts which take them through the seedier sides of the Big Easy. Along the way you get plenty of great blues music and you're treated to a series of excellently choreographed brawls which avoid the Hollywood version of a fight scene. The effect is mainly accomplished via realistic sound effects which eschew the bone breaking tones of a karate film and replace it with the muffled thumps of hands pounding meat.

It all leads to a tense finale which finds Speed at the mercy of the loan shark, who will only forgive Speed's debt if Chaney shows up to face a professional hitter, brought in from Chicago. It's a long wait for Speed but attentive viewers will know that Chaney would never abandon a friend, though how he will fare against a professional is the money question. Stick around for this ending and you'll be treated to one of the

(See LAGOON, page six)

THE UN-COMFORT ZONE

Defeating the de-motivator

by ROBERT WILSON

The sweet strains of a Puccini aria cut through the Saturday night clatter of the busy Italian restaurant in New York City, but it wasn't coming from the aging voice of the Sicilian baritone who was hired to belt out favorites like Funiculi-Funicula. It was a soprano whose crystal clear voice filled the room. Within moments all the ambient noise came to a halt. Diners stopped eating and

talking, busboys stopped clearing tables, the cooks even came out of the kitchen.

Singing on the tiny stage was the skinny moon-faced waitress from Ohio. The Sicilian heard she studied opera, so he invited her to join him, but what began as a duet ended in solo as he too was mesmerized by the beauty of her voice. When she finished, the place thundered in applause and I saw tears of gratitude glistening in her eyes. She had hit

each note perfectly.

If only she had done that when she auditioned for the Metropolitan Opera. But she choked, flinched, allowed a seed of doubt to creep into her consciousness and thus her voice.

She told me her story over a couple of beers after work. It was the fall of 1984, and I was a fellow waiter at the restaurant, just another struggling artist in the city that never sleeps. She explained that she got nervous during her audition and couldn't hit the high

notes. She would get one more chance to audition, but she would have to wait an entire year.

I never found out if she made it; as a writer my art is portable and a few months later I moved to a city where they still have a bedtime. I suspect she did, because that night she received a proof - a vital beginning step.

Doubt is a silent killer. We transmit feelings of doubt to others through subtleties in our body language, facial expression and tone of voice. It is picked up subconsciously by those with whom we communicate. Worse than that, we communicate it to ourselves, and it seeps into

our performance. Doubt is the De-Motivator and all too often it prevents us from even trying.

We all suffer doubt occasionally, and its cure is always the same: proof. Proof that we are indeed talented enough to do what we set out to do. A proof doesn't need to be big to eliminate doubt. A series of little ones can be just as effective.

I keep a journal - a log - of accomplishments. Both small and large, because they all add up to reasons for believing in my abilities. It is especially important to log the little ones, because they are so easy to forget or

(See ZONE, page six)

SOCIAL SECURITY NEWS

Social Security's home page has people talking

by JENNIFER HOPKINS SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Not long ago, Social Security unveiled a newly redesigned homepage at www.socialsecurity.gov. It's the same location, but a much-improved design. The public agrees that the new page is more welcoming, easier to navigate, and includes improved graphics. All of the same important information is there, but in a more visually appealing way.

Here is what some visitors to the new home page told us:

"Think your new web page is great! Easy to navigate and full of info for us retired folk. Thanks!"

"I just saw your new design and I love it. It is so much easier to find your way around. Thank you."

"Great design and the video tour is also a great

touch." "Outstanding! Clear, precise details make moving around the site for info very easy. The larger font is great for we seniors."

"I really like the new web page. It is finally organized the way it should be, by categories."

Important services many visitors look for are right in the center of the page: applying for retirement; applying for disability; and requesting a Social Security card. Major program topics run along the top of the page, such as retirement, survivors, disability, Supplemental Security Income and Medicare. And more information can be found along the left and right columns, including news, online services, frequently asked questions and information for specific groups and people.

Visit the website and see for yourself what everyone is rav-

ing about! Everything you need from Social Security is front and center at www.socialsecurity.gov.

If you are interested in learning more about the services available through Social Security's website, there are representatives from your local Social Security office who are readily available to answer questions or to conduct presentations for your community organization, agency, or employer.

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

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

Mega Maze

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Norris

religion. As Benjamin Rush, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, wrote, "Without religion I believe that learning does real mischief to the morals and principles of mankind."

Our Founders had a better answer than government or even education. God is the answer. God is the moral compass of America. Or he should be, if we ever want to restore morality in our homes and civility to our land. Our Founders believed that morals flowed from one's accountability to God and that without God, moral anarchy would result.

To the Founders, religion was an essential buttress of free government. That is why Patrick Henry wrote: "The greatest pillars of all government and of social life: I mean virtue, morality, and religion. This is the armor, my friend, and this alone, that renders us invincible."

Charles Carroll, who also signed the Declaration of Independence, wrote, "Without morals a republic cannot subsist any length of time; they therefore who are decrying the Christian religion

whose morality is so sublime and pure O are undermining the solid foundation of morals, the best security for the duration of free governments."

George Washington summarized it best in his farewell address: "Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. O Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on minds of peculiar structure, reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle."

To encourage ethical living in youngsters, I recommend they read and practice "Rules of Civility & Decent Behavior in Company and Conversation," which George Washington wrote at age 14. To everyone else, I recommend Jacob Abbott's "Ethics: An Early American Handbook," a reprint of an 1890 study on ethics. Humbly, chapters 5 and 6 in my new book, "Black Belt Patriotism," also are devoted to how to rebuild a civil and moral society according to our Founders' vision. I lastly recommend

Rushworth Kidder's "Moral Courage." Better still, attend his seminar in Washington, D.C., April 7. And stay attuned to ethical issues in politics by frequenting the Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington's Web site (www.CitizensForEthics.org).

Of course, illegalities, immoralities and other ethics violations have existed in every age, including in our Founders' age, but they weren't as readily accepted and tolerated as they are today. Most led good, moral and decent lives. And most fought to elect those who would do the same, and so should we. Write your representatives today and demand, "Unethical nominees should not be appointed to govern our country!"

Mr. President, I'm doing my best as a patriot and a conservative to support you. But if your present choice of leaders is reflective of "the most sweeping ethics reform in history," then I respectfully would say, sir, you're sweeping in the wrong direction.

To find out more about Chuck Norris and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

Allen

In the midst of his admirers Perkins could not refuse to fight. But he suffered considerable doubt of his ability to survive an encounter with this furly brawler. A ring was drawn outside the store, costs were staked, and Turner look his stance.

"Would you excuse me a minute!" Perkins asked, and went behind the store. Then, moments later his voice could be heard-as-the-store keeper relates, "he really lifted up his voice in prayer."

And this, in effect, is what he said while all the others listened:

"Lord, you know I am a peaceable man, and I don't want to hurt anybody. I pray now, Lord, as I must fight this man here that you will weaken me. You, remember what happened when I slipped those two men here at this very store. So, weaken my arm, Lord, as I fight this man—for I don't want to kill anybody."

The storekeeper, it is recorded, later commented that he doesn't believe the Lord hears such prayers but that he's convinced Mr. Turner did. "Perkins," he said, hadn't got back around the corner of the house till Turner was toppin' that bank yonder, and was encouragin' his horse to go a leetle faster, if possible."

Kentucky—this part of Kentucky, in particular—has such a wealth of similes and colorful comparatives, that their compilation might earn a grant from one of these foundations, which shell out hard money for easy jobs and diverse causes.

A project in itself might lie in the task of tracing the origin of an expression an old aunt of mine used to describe an individual who was unusually onery. Her expression was, "As mean as the Old Gyarbro," and it has intrigued me at times over the years.

But the more common expressions will suffice for this item; for example, those pertaining to a very thin or wealthy specimen.

"As poor as Job's turkey"... "so weak you'd have to prop him up to shoot him down"... "poor as a whipper-will"... "thin as a rail"... "He'd have to stand in two places to make a shadow," and so on.

Then there are those expressions which have to do with those who aren't...well, so lean: "Fat as a hog," and the like. But Watt Hale says he was introduced to a new description of one who was so obese that he had suffered prolapsus of the midriff. This fellow waddled into view, says Watt, and one of those who beheld him, remarked, "Looks like his wife has kept him on a floored pen."

OF DESCRIPTIVE PHRASES

Lagoon

finest fights ever captured on screen.

Walter Hill deserves a collector's set of his best films though he probably won't merit one for a bit. That's a shame because this film deserves better treatment. Currently you can only find

this available in full screen and that format robs it of some great photography.

It would have been nice to have some extras as well, since this was the last time that Bronson and Coburn shared screen time (as well as the first time that they had the lead

Continued from p1

roles in a film they worked on together). Until then, you could do a lot worse than to check out this forgotten classic in any format that's available.

Best line: "Some are born to fail, others have failure thrust upon them." 1975, rated PG.

Zone

overlook, and yet they carry tremendous weight when it comes to giving ourselves confidence.

You say, "I'm just starting out and have no accomplishments." That just means you're not looking in the right places. We all have successes, some of them may be found in different areas of your life. I often read in the Wall Street Journal about women, who after years as stay-at-home Moms, return to the work force in well-paid management positions. They acquire these jobs by citing in their resumes the many skills and achievements they learned through their volunteer work. What talents are you racking up through your hobbies and leisure activities?

Sometimes proof comes to us by comparing ourselves to others. Simply ask yourself, "Out of all the people who have ever lived, how many have attained what I want?"

Continued from p5

have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step."

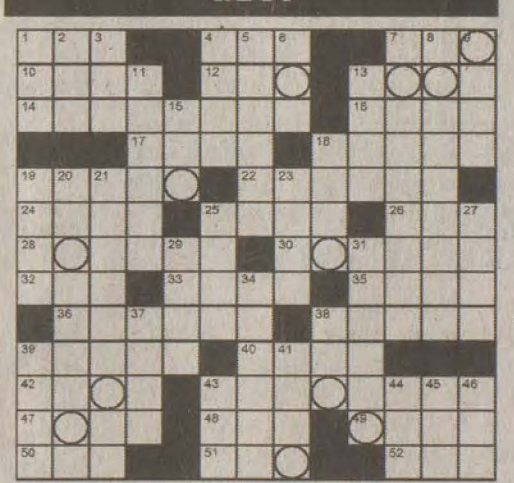
Robert Evans Wilson, Jr. is a motivational speaker and humorist. He works with companies that want to be more competitive and with people who want to think like innovators. For more information on Robert's programs please visit www.jumpstartyourmeeting.com.

ThemeCross by Kelly Ann Buchanan

ACROSS

- 1 * Metalliferous rock
4 * California
7 * Tip to 'ara' (The world's largest desert)
10 * Coral formation
12 * Wetland
13 Comedic actress Martha
14 * Grand Canyon river
16 Unique sort
17 Overhaul
18 * Sierra Mountains
19 Rob of "Melrose Place"
22 * Coastal features of Norway
24 Actresses Sandra and Ruby
25 A long way off
26 Spoon-bender Mr. Geller
28 * The (It's at the top of the world)
30 * Drench upon (Be the partner of wind in erosion)

GEO!



TUMBLE-THEmE-a!

After completing the ThemeCross, untumble the 12 circled letters to spell out THE STUDY OF LAYERED ROCKS.

- 32 Bumped into
33 Kinds of garlands
35 Gospel singer Ms. Winans
36 Observant ones
38 Office stations
39 Actress Ms. Moorehead
40 Secular
42 * Mineral deposit
43 * Pangaea was a hypothetical supercontinent which broke into two supercontinental masses: Gondwanaland to the south and ... to the north
47 List-ending abbrevs.
48 FOX News rival
49 * Small body of water
50 Bro's counterpart
51 Banned insecticide
52 * Hawaiian volcano, Mauna ...
DOWN
1 Mythical creature
2 Music group, with Speed-wagon
3 Moray ...
4 "Actually, that's not ... idea."
5 Doze
6 Gone by the south and ... to the north
8 * Known also as Uluru, this formation in Australia's Northern Territory is orange-red in color
9 Not there
11 * Woodland
13 Laugh heartily
15 Curriculum vitae, for short
18 Tip to 'orium' (Authorized delay)
19 Cheese in a Ball
20 * Tanzania's ... Plain
21 * Plate ... (Study of the folding and faulting of the Earth's crust)
23 Shakes up
25 Tennis serving

Asterisked * clues relate to theme of the puzzle © 2009 King Features Synd., Inc.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

Sudoku grid with numbers 3, 1, 5, 4, 2, 1, 5, 9, 8, 1, 2, 1, 3, 6, 5, 3, 7, 9, 4, 6, 7, 2, 4, 6, 9, 3, 3, 6, 5, 9

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

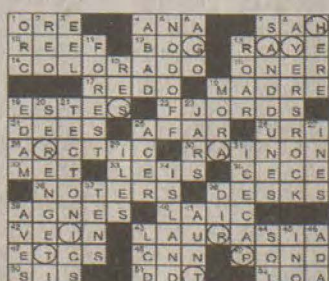
★ Moderate ★★ Challenging ★★★ HOO BOY!

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Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

Sudoku answer grid: 3 1 8 6 2 5 4 9 7, 7 6 2 4 1 9 8 5 3, 4 9 5 8 7 3 2 6 1, 9 2 7 1 4 6 5 3 8, 5 8 4 9 3 2 1 7 6, 1 3 6 5 8 7 9 4 2, 8 7 3 2 9 4 6 1 5, 2 5 9 3 6 1 7 8 4, 6 4 1 7 5 8 3 2 9



TUMBLE-THEmE-a! answer: "STRATIGRAPHY"

Sports

Lady Cats edge Pikeville in overtime

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PIKEVILLE — As a high school player, Devon Reynolds had her share of battles against Class A foe Pikeville. She also played several times against Cindy Stuart-coached Allen Central teams. Earlier in the week, Reynolds guided Betsy Layne against a Stuart-coached Pikeville team. Visiting Betsy Layne persevered Thursday night, eventually pushing past Pikeville for its sixth straight win. The Lady Cats defeated Pikeville 60-58 in overtime.

The two teams ended regula-

tion tied 53-53.

Sophomore guard Taylor Hott connected on a pair of free throws with two seconds remaining for the Lady Cats to force overtime. Junior guard Lindsay Martin knocked down a jumper at the buzzer to push Betsy Layne to the win.

Hott led Betsy Layne offensively, scoring a game-high 23 points. Junior guard/forward Megan Hamilton and senior forward Andie Meade each had 10 points for the Lady Cats.

Lindsay Martin added seven points for visiting Betsy Layne in the victorious effort.

Betsy Layne and Pikeville

battled throughout the regular-season contest. The Lady Cats slipped into halftime ahead 25-22. Pikeville owned a scoring advantage in each of the last two quarters to force the game into an extra session.

Betsy Layne was clinging to a 38-36 lead at the conclusion of the third quarter.

Less than one week ago, Betsy Layne rolled past Prestonsburg for a home district win.

Freshman guard Lindsey Isner paced Pikeville with 17 points. Senior guard/forward Christina Johnson scored 13 points and junior guard Lauren Lawson flipped in 12 for the

Lady Panthers.

In other girls' high school basketball games Thursday night it was Boone County 68, Mason County 35; Elizabethtown 85, Mason County 35; Bates Creek 78, East Jessamine 65; June Buchanan 57, Hazard 53; Leslie County 72, Harlan 54; Letcher County Central 70, Knott County Central 34; Lewis County 62, East Carter 56; Menifee County 60, Buckhorn 58 (OT); Mercy 68, Manual 63; Powell County 83, Model 64; Scott County 57, Henry Clay 50; South Laurel 53, Paul Dunbar 51 (OT); St. Henry 71, Williamstown 60.



file photo
BETSY LAYNE recently wrapped up another Floyd County Conference championship.

Lady Eagles fall short to Asbury in conference game

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PIPPA PASSES — Courtney Albin scored a game-high 23 points Tuesday night, lifting visiting Asbury past Alice Lloyd in a Kentucky Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (KIAC) game. Three different Asbury scorers reached double figures in the conference contest. Ellen Gray scored 16 points and Anna Stephenson added 12 for the Asbury women's team.

Asbury toted a hard-fought 38-34 lead into halftime.

Camille Cook was the leading player offensively for Alice Lloyd. Cook, a Letcher County Central product, scored a team-best 16 points. Kaylan Richardson followed with 15 points for the Lady Eagles. Richardson recently surpassed 1,000 points in her college career.

Breathitt County native Nicole Lutes narrowly missed reaching double figures for Alice Lloyd, finishing with nine points.

Asbury improved to 16-9 overall and 4-4 in the KIAC. Alice Lloyd dropped to 12-14 overall and 3-3 in the conference.

In another KIAC game Tuesday night, host Brea defeated Brescia 72-59.

Berea led in all positive categories. The Lady Mountaineers led in both shooting and rebounding.

Christal Floyd led Brea with a team-high 22 points. Candy Walls, a Powell County native, pushed in 21 points for Brea.

The Lady Mountaineers improved to 14-11 overall and 4-2 in the KIAC after collecting the win.

Brescia dropped to 5-19 overall as a result of the loss.

Richardson reaches career milestone

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PIPPA PASSES — Alice Lloyd College Lady Eagle senior guard Kaylan Richardson joined a special group when she recently surpassed the 1,000 career points mark.

Richardson, a 5-7 senior from Owenton, reached the milestone on January 17 in a regular-season matchup versus Spalding University.

The Owen County native is considered one of the top three-point shooters in the country. She is currently averaging over 13 points per game and connecting on 3.6 three point baskets per contest. This presently ranks her third in the nation for three-point field goals made per game.

Richardson had a career-high from long-range earlier this season on November 22 when she connected on nine three-point baskets in a road win over the University of Cincinnati-Clermont Cougars. She finished the contest with a game-high 29 points.

Richardson has scored 1,059 points thus far in her four-year career. The business major will graduate in May.



58TH DISTRICT BOYS' BASKETBALL: Micah Harlow (55) went up for a shot against an outstretched Tyler Mitchell (5). South Floyd defeated Allen Central in the recent district matchup.

Blackcats scratch Pike County Central

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

BUCKLEYS CREEK — Prestonsburg grabbed an early lead and remained out in front of host Pike County Central Thursday night when the two boys' high school basketball teams met in a 15th Region matchup. The Blackcats outscored Pike County Central in each of the first three quarters en route to a 97-82 win.

Senior guard Jody Tackett led Prestonsburg with 23 points and five assists. Junior guard Michael Burchett turned in a near double-double effort of 20 points and nine assists for the Blackcats. Senior center Steven Patrick joined his Prestonsburg teammates in double figures with 17 points. Patrick also rounded up eight rebounds.

Earlier in the week, Pike County Central had defeated Johnson Central and in the process halted the Golden Eagles' 10-game winning streak.

Prestonsburg led Pike County Central 24-15 at the end of the first quarter. The Blackcats made the most of a successful start. Prestonsburg led Pike County Central 51-40 at the intermission.

The Blackcats were also strong after the half, outscoring Pike County Central 23-18 in the third quarter.

Senior guard Michael Boyd Thompson led the Hawks. Thompson registered his fourth straight double-double, scoring 27 points and pulling down 14 rebounds.

At Johnson Central, Ian Welch and Mike Conley contributed double-doubles as the host Golden Eagles rolled past crosstown rival Paintsville 85-59 in a key 57th District contest. Welch paced Johnson Central with a double-double of 18 points and 10 rebounds. Mike Conley had 11 points and 10 rebounds for the Golden Eagles.

Jo Whitaker was another productive performer for homestanding Johnson Central. Whitaker had 16 points, eight rebounds and six assists for the winning team.

At Robinson Creek, junior guard Elisha Justice scored a game-high 21 points to lead Shelby Valley past Pikeville, 75-44.

In a girls' game at Pippa Passes, host June Buchanan defeated Hazard 57-53. Junior forward Maris Hovee led June Buchanan with 25 points, 29 rebounds and seven assists.



photo by Jamie Howell

PRESTONSBURG LADY BLACKCAT LINSEY FIELDS lofted a free throw attempt during a recent game versus Sheldon Clark.

State basketball tourney tickets remain on sale

TIMES STAFF REPORT

FRANKFORT — State basketball tournament tickets remain on sale. Tickets to the 2009 National City/KHSAA Boys' and Houchens Industries/KHSAA Girls' State Basketball Tournaments are on sale through the KHSAA office and online at khsaa.org. At this time, only full tournament sets of tickets (one ticket to each of the eight sessions) are available. Lower arena seats are priced at \$116 each and upper arena seats are priced at \$66 each. Tickets will be on sale through the KHSAA until Feb. 27. Beginning March 2, tickets will only be available through the Rupp Arena (boys) and Diddle Arena (girls) box offices and/or the venue's respective online ticketing agent.

KIAC Men: Eagles outlast Asbury

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PIPPA PASSES — Host Alice Lloyd battled back from a two-point halftime deficit Tuesday night, defeating Asbury 91-84 in a Kentucky Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (KIAC) regular-season contest. Senior Rodney Mitchell scored 27 points as Alice Lloyd successfully defended its home floor.

Mitchell was one of four Alice Lloyd players to reach double figures in the scoring column. Will Dillard scored 17 points, Corey Hairston had 16 and Betsy Layne High School graduate Preston Simon-Spradlin

added 13 for the Eagles.

Nine different Alice Lloyd players provided scoring.

Former Jackson County standout Nick Brumbach was the leading rebounder for the J.R. Hammonds-coached Alice Lloyd club, pulling down 10 rebounds.

The Eagles turned in a collective clutch effort offensively and defensively in the second half.

Five different Asbury players reached double figures in the scoring column.

Asbury, which led 45-43 at the half, gradually faltered in the second half as Alice Lloyd pulled away for the win.

Two Asbury players com-

bined for 35 points in the conference setback.

Alice Lloyd improved to 11-16 overall and 4-6 in the KIAC. Asbury dropped to 16-9 overall and 4-4 in the KIAC.

In another KIAC game Tuesday night, host Brea defeated Indiana-Southeast 81-73. Brea prevailed after taking a 33-31 lead into halftime.

Mikah Turner paced Brea with a game-high 24 points.

Berea moved to 13-10 overall and 5-4 in the KIAC following the win.

Indiana-Southeast managed to rebound Alice Lloyd 45-39.

The Grenadiers dropped

to 18-7 overall and 7-1 in the KIAC following the loss.

UK games versus UT, LSU sold out

Tickets for the University of Kentucky men's basketball games against the University of Tennessee and LSU have been sold out.

However, a limited number of single game tickets for Kentucky's final home game against Georgia (March 4) remain on sale. Fans can order tickets by calling the UK Ticket Office (1.800.928.2287), the Rupp Arena Box Office (859.233.3535) or online at UKathletics.com or Ticketmaster.com.

Pikeville splits doubleheader with Campbellsville

Samarco scores 19, leads Bears over Tigers

TIMES STAFF REPORT

CAMPBELLSVILLE — Pikeville College outscored Campbellsville University 46-32 in the second half to pull out a 77-69 win in Mid-South Conference action on Thursday night.

The win, combined with Georgetown's 56-53 win at Cumberlands, moves the Bears into a tie with the Patriots for third place in the rugged league standings at 5-3 with four games remaining before the postseason tournament.

Meanwhile in the opener, Ginger Colvin's Lady Tigers ran their win streak to 12 with a 91-67 win over the Lady Bears.

Pikeville will be back in action on Saturday when it visits St. Catharine College for an MSC twin bill. The women tip at 2 p.m. while the men follow at 4.

Men: Pikeville trailed 41-31 after the Tigers scored the first four of the second half, but three-pointers by freshman Kane Belcher and junior Josh Samarco and a layup by senior J.B. Smiley in less than a minute brought the Bears back within two.

Pikeville (17-8, 5-3) had four players in double figures, with Samarco leading the way with 19. The Ypsilanti, Mich., product had 15 after recess. Sophomore Justin Hicks followed with 15. Smiley had all 13 of his points in the second half, and Belcher hit three three-pointers to finish with 11.

Campbellsville (7-16, 0-8) has now lost nine straight games. The Tigers got three players in double figures, with seniors Kristo Petkov (15), Zach Allender (14) and Troy Harris (11) reaching the mark.

Petkov had 13 second-half points while Allender had all of his in the first half thanks to four three-point baskets.

Women: Campbellsville (23-3, 8-0) was 13-of-30 from the arc, remaining perfect in Mid-South Conference play following the win.

Pikeville (17-9, 3-5) turned it over 23 times while the Lady Tigers committed only seven.

Sophomore forward Whitney Compton led the Lady Bears with 17 points and 11 rebounds. Sophomore Natiera Hinton followed with 16 and nine boards. Senior Whitney Hogg was solid for Bill Watson's club, scoring seven points and pulling down eight rebounds as the Lady Bears won the rebounding battle 49-36.

Sophomore Melly Heaton hit five three-point shots to lead all scorers with 21. Sophomore Whitney Ballenger followed with 20 points and eight rebounds, followed by sophomore Courtney Danis with 15. Sophomore Whitney Messer came off the bench with four triples to finish with 14.

T.J. Thomas, another sophomore, only had three points but contributed six assists and four assists.

INSIDE:
More college hoops

Hunters post near-record harvests for deer and fall turkey

TIMES STAFF REPORT

FRANKFORT — Kentucky's 2008-09 deer and fall turkey seasons are now over, with hunters taking the second highest number of fall turkeys and third highest number of deer on record. Hunters checked 5,058 turkeys and 120,571 deer during the fall season. View the telecheck results online.

"There were a couple of factors that went into the near-record turkey harvest," said Steven Dobey, turkey program coordinator for Kentucky Fish and Wildlife. "The outstanding reproduction that we saw

in the summer of 2008 put a lot of turkeys on the ground that were available for harvest this winter. Summer 2008 was the highest turkey reproduction since 2000."

The other factor was hunter participation. Dobey said as the state's turkey flock has grown, hunters have become more interested in fall turkey hunting.

"Turkey numbers are at an all-time high," Dobey said. "Because turkey season in particular overlaps with deer season, we're seeing a lot more interest in fall turkey hunting."

Dobey added that even a

high fall turkey harvest should not impact overall turkey numbers to the point that spring hunters see fewer birds.

"Relatively speaking, few birds are harvested in the fall," he said. "Hunters harvested just over 5,000 birds in the entire fall season, while we'll take up to 30,000 in just the month of April. Fall harvest overall doesn't have a detrimental impact statewide."

David Yancy, a biologist in Kentucky Fish and Wildlife's big game program, believes the near-record deer harvest was due in part to a lower

harvest in 2007. Yancy believes concern over the effects of a severe outbreak of epizootic hemorrhagic disease (EHD) that year may have kept the harvest down.

"Some people either didn't hunt at all, or only harvested antlered deer," Yancy said. "That left more deer on the ground for fawning last summer, so there were more deer out there to be encountered by hunters this year."

Hunters took about 49 percent female deer during the 2008-09 season. Yancy said that's not a bad proportion, since deer numbers need to be reduced in some high-population areas. Still, deer managers would like to see an even higher proportion of does in the harvest to keep deer numbers in balance with habitat.

"We would like to see it be the other way around, with 51 percent female harvest and 49 percent male harvest," said Yancy. "If we could get back to that next year, we'll be doing well."

Near-record seasons indicate large deer and turkey populations. Biologists estimate Kentucky's deer herd at about one million animals, while the turkey flock is estimated at about 200,000 birds.

After decades of population growth, however, both species' numbers are leveling out. Turkeys and deer have now filled the state's best habitat, limiting the potential for population growth.

"The deer population is reaching an equivalent with the turkey population as far as growth," said Yancy. "We're probably starting to reach the limit of what the habitat can support."

While hunters won't post a record harvest every year, this season's high numbers prove that Kentucky's deer and turkey hunting opportunities are in good shape.

Schlieper claims first career win at Volusia Speedway Park

TIMES STAFF REPORT

BARBERVILLE, Fla. — Dan Schlieper worked hard for his long-awaited first career victory at Volusia Speedway Park.

The 37-year-old driver from Sullivan, Wis., came out on top of a frantic late-race duel with Darrell Lanigan of Union, on Wednesday night, holding on to capture the 30-lap UMP DIRTcar Super Late Model A-Main during the 38th annual Alltel DIRTcar Nationals by UNOH.

Schlieper lost the lead to Lanigan on lap 25, but regained command moments later and repelled the challenges of the defending World of Outlaws Late Model Series champion over the remaining distance. The standout racer known as the "Wisconsin Wildman" pocketed \$7,000 after beating Lanigan to the finish line by 0.434 of a second.

"It was definitely a nail-biter," Schlieper said of the intense event, which was slowed by just a single caution

flag on lap 15. "Darrell got inside of me (to take the lead by inches on lap 25) when I started losing big grip off the high side, but then I cut back underneath him (off turn two) and decided to commit to the bottom for the rest of the race."

"Basically, I guess I took his line away."

Schlieper, who started fourth, grabbed the top spot for the first time on lap 15 when he overtook race-long pacesetter Eddie Carrier Jr. of Salt Rock, W.Va. The harder UMP DIRTcar Hoosier tires that he bolted on his Wild Chassis mount helped him stay in front for all but one of the remaining circuits.

"I'm definitely excited to finally get a win here," said Schlieper, who became the third Super Late Model driver eligible for the \$10,000 prize that goes to the winner of the Alltel All-Star contest at www.alltelallstar.com. "I've finished second here. I've had a fast time here. We've been coming here a long time and it finally paid off with a win."

Lanigan, 38, settled for his

second runner-up finish in three UMP DIRTcar Super Late Model events during the 2009 Alltel DIRTcar Nationals by UNOH.

"I got ahead of him, but then I pushed out and he got back under me," said Lanigan, who started ninth in his Fusion Energy Rocket car. "Then he got down and took my groove away. He did what he had to do."

Rick Eckert of York, Pa., finished third after starting in the same position. After his apparent pass of Carrier for second on lap 15 was negated by a caution flag for the stopped car driven by Tommy Kerr of Maryville, Tenn., Eckert snared the spot from Carrier again two laps later but proceeded to lose it to Lanigan on lap 20.

"I didn't need that caution," said Eckert, who improved from his previous Alltel DIRTcar Nationals by UNOH finishes of seventh (Monday) and fifth (Tuesday) behind the wheel of the Raye Vest Racing Bloomquist Chassis mount. "I was a little softer on tire

(choice) and I just didn't seem to be as good after the caution."

Tuesday-night A-Main winner Earl Pearson Jr. of Jacksonville, Fla., advanced from the eighth starting spot to place fourth and Billy Moyer of Batesville, Ark., started and finished fifth.

Carrier slipped to sixth at the finish after leading laps 1-14 from the outside pole position. He was hampered during the race's second half by handling problems resulting from minor front-end damage his car sustained while he battled for position with Eckert.

Finishing in positions 7-10 was 11th-starter Tim Fuller of Watertown, N.Y., polesitter Chub Frank of Bear Lake, Pa., 19th-starter Jimmy Owens of Newport, Tenn., and Scott James of Greendale, Ind.

Josh Richards of Shinnston, W.Va., registered the overall fastest lap of the 69-car group time-trial session for the second consecutive night, rounding the track in 16.141 seconds.

Other group fast-timers included Owens (16.865), Pearson (16.798), Scott Bloomquist of Mooresburg, Tenn. (16.548), Dennis Erb Jr. of Carpentersville, Ill. (16.359) and Fuller (16.320).

Heat winners were Frank, Eckert, Schlieper, Moyer, Mark Pettyjohn of Millsboro, Del., and Carrier. The B-Mains were captured by Owens, Darren Miller of Milledgeville, Ill., and Vic Coffey of Caledonia, N.Y.

WoO LMS Rookie of the Year applicant Brady Smith of Solon Springs, Wis., who finished fourth in Tuesday night's UMP DIRTcar Super Late Model A-Main, scratched from Wednesday night's action after his car's engine exploded in a cloud of smoke during the group time-trial session. He had turned the group's second-fastest lap before being struck

by the mechanical malfunction.

A breakdown of the Late Model event's official results follows.

UMP DIRTcar Super Late Model A-Main Finish (30 laps): 1. Dan Schlieper, 2. Darrell Lanigan, 3. Rick Eckert, 4. Earl Pearson Jr., 5. Billy Moyer, 6. Eddie Carrier Jr., 7. Tim Fuller, 8. Chub Frank, 9. Jimmy Owens, 10. Scott James, 11. Steve Francis, 12. Darren Miller, 13. Dennis Erb Jr., 14. John Anderson, 15. Josh Richards, 16. Billy Decker, 17. Mark Pettyjohn, 18. Vic Coffey, 19. John Blankenship, 20. Frank Heckenast Jr., 21. Justin Rattliff, 22. Austin Hubbard, 23. Tommy Kerr, 24. Scott Bloomquist.

Heat No. 1 (10 laps - Top 3 Transfer): 1. Chub Frank, 2. Justin Rattliff, 3. Steve Francis, 4. Jimmy Owens, 5. Wendell Wallace, 6. Russell King, 7. Jayme Zidar, 8. Jeff Beyers, 9. Michael Walker, 10. Tyler Reddick, 11. Gregg Hill (DNS) Jon Henry.

Heat No. 2 (10 laps - Top 3 Transfer): 1. Rick Eckert, 2. Earl Pearson Jr., 3. Scott James, 4. Austin Hubbard, 5. Chad Mahder, 6. Tyler Ivey, 7. Stacy Boles, 8. Jason McBride, 9. Dustin Hapka, 10. Brad Eitinear, 11. Chuck Hummer, 12. Russ Adams.

Heat No. 3 (10 laps - Top 3 Transfer): 1. Dan Schlieper, 2. Darrell Lanigan, 3. Scott Bloomquist, 4. Tommy Kerr, 5. Darren Miller, 6. Shane Clanton, 7. Rick Briggs, 8. Adam Ferri, 9. Chas Shellenberger, 10. Jill George (DNS) Brady Smith, Chris Shannon.

Heat No. 4 (10 laps - Top 3 Transfer): 1. Billy Moyer, 2. John Anderson, 3. Dennis Erb Jr., 4. Jordan Bland, 5. Jason Fitzgerald, 6. Dan Stone, 7. Dale McDowell, 8. Brandon Kinzer, 9. Greg Johnson, 10. Tim Isenberg (DNS) Eric

Jacobsen.

Heat No. 5 (10 laps - Top 3 Transfer): 1. Mark Pettyjohn, 2. Tim Fuller, 3. Billy Decker, 4. Vic Coffey, 5. Ivedent Lloyd, 6. Shannon Babb, 7. Peter Mantha, 8. Ronnie Rihn, 9. Tommy Weder, 10. David Breazeale, 11. Kelly Boen.

Heat No. 6 (10 laps - Top 3 Transfer): 1. Eddie Carrier Jr., 2. Frank Heckenast Jr., 3. John Blankenship, 4. Josh Richards, 5. Brent Robinson, 6. Mike Collins, 7. A.J. Kirkpatrick, 8. Tim Lance, 9. Mike Hammerle, 10. Clint Smith, 11. Davey Johnson.

B-Main No. 1 (12 laps - Top 2 Transfer): Owens, Hubbard, Mahder, Zidar, King, Ivey, Reddick, Beyers, McBride, Boles, Hummer, Walker, G. Hill, Eitinear, Wallace, Adams, Hapka (DNS) Henry.

B-Main No. 2 (12 laps - Top 2 Transfer): D. Miller, Kerr, Clanton, Bland, McDowell, Stone, Briggs, Kinzer, Ferri, Fitzgerald, Isenberg (DNS) Shellenberger, G. Johnson, George, Shannon, Jacobsen, B. Smith.

B-Main No. 3 (12 laps - Top 2 Transfer): Coffey, Richards, Lloyd, Babb, Robinson, Collins, Weder, C. Smith, Kirkpatrick, Rihn, Lance, Mantha, Hammerle (DNS) Breazeale, Boen, D. Johnson.

Signups underway for dove field lease program

TIMES STAFF REPORT

FRANKFORT — Kentucky farmers can earn some extra cash this year by enrolling in the Cooperative Dove Field Program offered by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. The sign-up period for the program continues through March 15.

The Cooperative Dove Field Program provides Kentuckians more hunting opportunities and generates important new income for the state's farmers.

Fields planted in the spring with sunflowers, millet or other grains for dove hunting can generate as much as \$3,500 for a landowner when leased to Kentucky Fish and Wildlife for public hunting. An idle or fallow field planted to winter wheat might also qualify. Any field previously intended for silage production can easily become a dove-hunting field by working with your local Kentucky Fish and Wildlife private lands biologist or Natural Resources Conservation Service liaison.

"Larger fields up to 20 acres are preferred, however in the past, we have had some excellent smaller fields enrolled in the program," said Rocky Pritchert, migratory bird coordinator for Kentucky Fish and Wildlife. "All fields regardless of size will be evaluated and considered for the program."

Area farmers interested in the Cooperative Dove Field Program should contact their Kentucky Fish and Wildlife private lands biologist or Natural Resources Conservation Service liaison no later than March 15.

The current contact information for either Kentucky Fish and Wildlife private lands biologists or the Natural Resources Conservation Service liaisons may be found here.

For more information concerning the Cooperative Dove Field Program, call the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife at 1-800-858-1549.

packed with driver autograph and interactive sessions, show cars, simulators, souvenir trailers, entertainment and a smorgasbord of free food samples.

"Food City is committed to giving back to the communities we serve. Our NASCAR sponsorship enables us to host our annual Food City Race Night events, which provide fans with an opportunity to meet some of their favorite drivers," said Tom Hembree, Senior Vice President of Marketing for Food City.

A second Food City Family Race Night event is also planned for Knoxville. The event will move to Thursday, March 19 at the Knoxville Expo Center.

Food City is Bristol Motor Speedway's longest running sponsor and the second longest in NASCAR motorsports. In 2007, the company signed a contract extension with the speedway to take their sponsorship through 2010. The Food City 500 gets under way at 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 22, 2009. Qualifying for the event takes place on Friday, March 20th at 3:40 p.m. The Scotts Turf Builder 300 is scheduled to begin at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 21, with qualifying getting underway at 9:40 a.m. Tickets are still available for the Scotts Turf Builder 300 (starting at \$45) and may be purchased at www.bristoltix.com or by calling the BMS ticket office at (423) 989-6900.

Food City Race Night to be held at Bristol Motor Speedway

TIMES STAFF REPORT

BRISTOL, Tenn. — Company officials have announced that their Spring Food City Race Night will be held at Bristol Motor Speedway. The event, which was previously held on Thursday, will move to Friday, March 20.

"The partnership is a natural given our long standing relationship with Bristol Motor Speedway," said Steven C. Smith, Food City President and CEO. "We're always looking for ways to improve Race Night and we are confident the move will provide us with an opportunity to gain additional driver participation. Combined with the vendors and attractions onsite at Bristol Motor Speedway, it should make for a

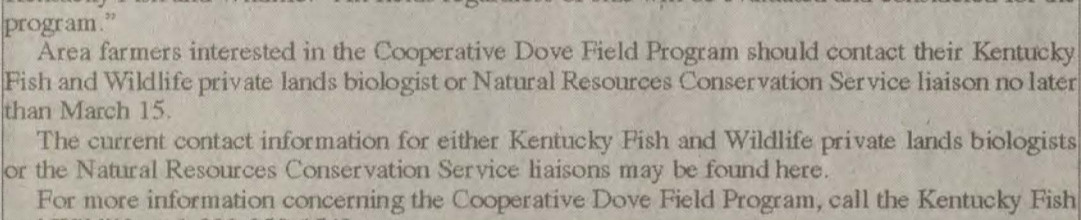
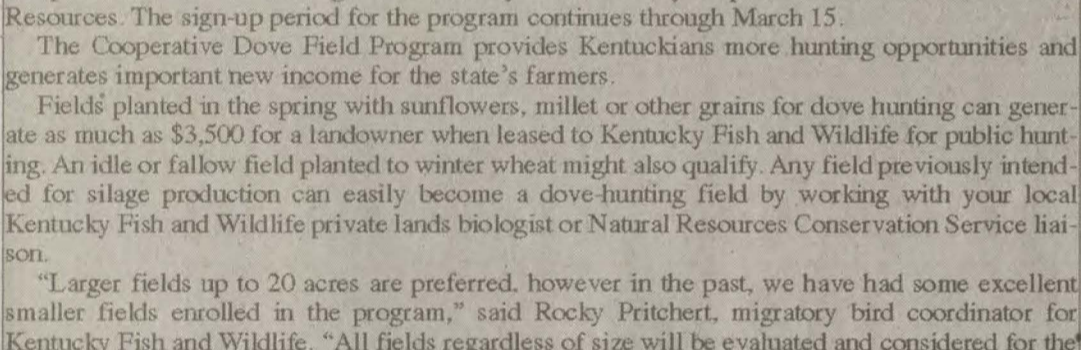
201 SPEEDWAY UPDATE

Check Wednesday's edition of *The Times* for 201 Speedway's 2009 schedule.

BK MOTORSPORTS 2009

photos by Thomas Hendrickson

BRANDON KINZER took to the track for the first time in the 2009 season earlier in the month at Volusia Speedway Park.



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Appalachian Transportation in Martin Ky is hiring full and part time drivers positions. Driving history, back ground check and drug test required. Call 285-3140 or toll free 1-866-366-3140.

Abbott Engineering, Inc. is currently seeking qualified applicants

for the position of surveying crew chief. The applicant should have experience in surface or underground surveying. Please send resume to Abbott Engineering, Inc, 3073 Ky Route 321, Prestonsburg, Ky 41653 or by email to thoward@abbott-engineering.com 01/14 2wks

We currently have an opening for a full time RN and PRN RN at Prestonsburg health care center. For more information please call 606-886-2378.

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606-230-0235 or email me at tonya1@hotmail.com.

Animals

FOUND!! Black, male, Terrier. Found on Mtn Parkway close to Prestonsburg. Call 886-8108.

Snake for sale. Columbian Red Tale Boa. Female that weighs approximately 18 pounds and 8 ft long. Comes with 175 gallon enclosure with accessories included. \$450. Call 226-9300

Misc.

AUCTION Sale by D&G. Sat Feb 21, 10am. Court order liquidation sale! From Prestonsburg, take Rt 114 West, go 5 miles to Mill Branch Rd. Signs will be posted. Sell snap on tools, harley davidson 95th anniversary box, 730 imgersoll ram air compressor, welders and much more tools hand and power. Equipment - Bobcat 443A, John Deer 2030 A, Massy Ferguson sickle bar mover.



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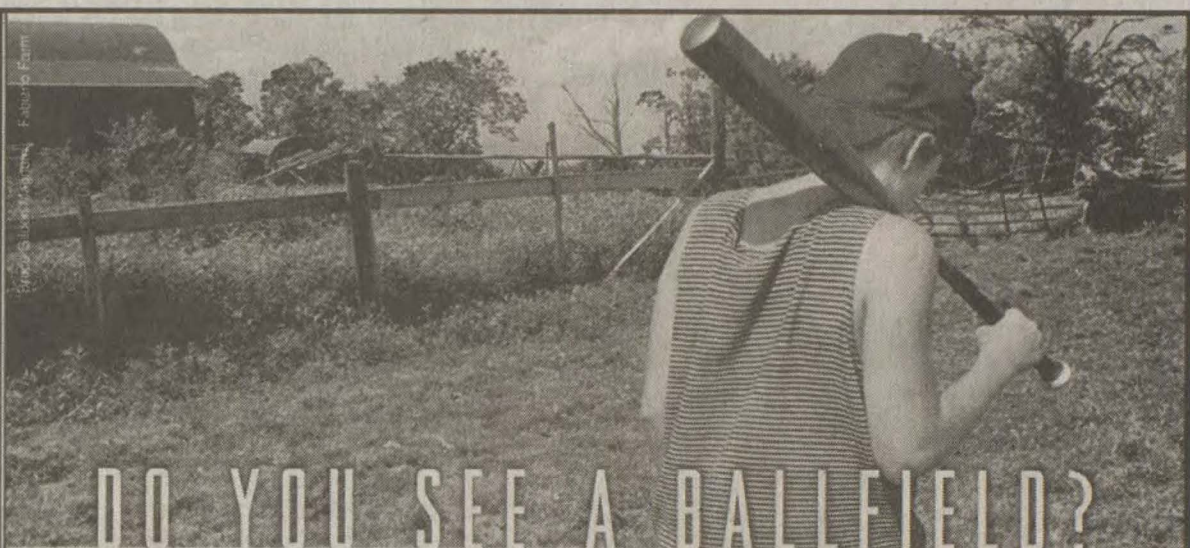
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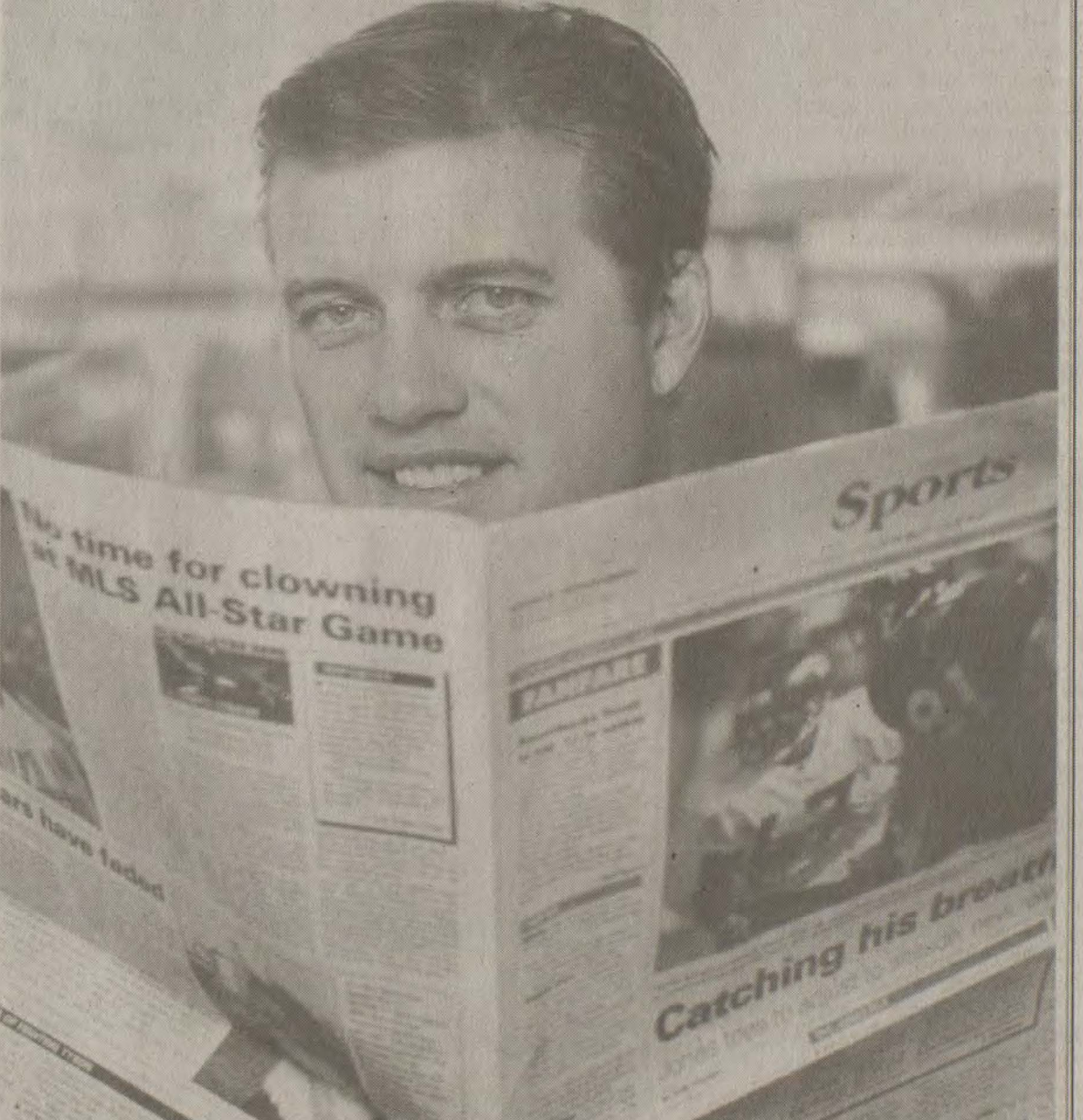
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Cosmetics maybe not most important question here

by TOM and RAY
MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:

Although I am not currently participating in a witness-protection program, I think it best not to divulge my true name or whereabouts — you'll understand. I live in a rural setting near a medium-size U.S. city. That's as specific as I'll get. One recent autumn evening, someone entered our property via a private road and proceeded to pump 12 rounds of high-caliber ammo into the passenger side of my beloved 2000 Toyota Camry that someone (me) had left parked outside our house. The bullet distribution covered the front and back passenger doors, the rear window, and penetrated the interiors and made several nice holes in the leather upholstery, door speakers and center console. This vehicle has 220,000 miles and runs like a top. It has a few exterior bumps and scratches, as it now serves as the family "beater" for my two teenage drivers. I carry only liability coverage on this vehicle in light of the car's age, mileage and my two teen drivers, so there goes the insurance-fraud theory. In case you wondered, the going rate to repair a bullet hole roughly the diameter of a dime in my undisclosed part of the country is \$70 per bullet hole, and, no, there is no volume discount based on the number of holes. Here's my question/dilemma: The car's exterior is white. Rather than drive this bullet-riddled car through our unnamed town on the way to the body shop for an estimate and draw the inevitable stares and/or sirens, I carefully applied 12 small strips of duct tape over each bullet hole, followed by 12 strips of white masking tape over each strip of duct tape. The end result was so impressive that I have convinced myself that the body work is unnecessary, saving myself \$940. As you might expect, my wife and teenage drivers beg to differ, and have concocted the lame theory that the body work and paint job are necessary to maintain the structural integrity and safety of the vehicle, to which I reply, "BOGUS!" What do you think? — John (not my real name)

TOM: I think you should be a lot more concerned about the fact that someone strafed your car with gunfire, John, than about how the masking tape looks.

RAY: But putting aside for a moment our deep concern about the safety of your family, and our curiosity about which neighbor's wife you coveted, it sounds like none of the Camry's "internal organs" was damaged by the bullets.

TOM: In other words, even though the bullets went through the doors, the windows operate normally, the door locks work and the doors open and close like they did before. And the bullets that went into the console have not affected anything either, to your knowledge.

RAY: If that's the case, you don't have to do anything. The damage is cosmetic, and your duct-and-mask-tape solution is fine.

TOM: A slightly better solution is to fill the holes with silicone caulk, the same stuff you use around your bathtub. As long as it's silicone, it'll stick to the metal, and from a couple of hundred feet away, in the dark, you won't even notice the holes.

RAY: If the gunfire had somehow cut through the frame, or damaged some wiring, hydraulic lines or suspension components, then you would have to fix it. But mild damage to the sheet metal in the doors is not structural.

TOM: Of course, over time, the spots around the bullet holes probably will rust faster than other parts of the car. But with 220,000 miles on it, the long-term future of this vehicle is hardly a huge consideration here.

RAY: And neither is your long-term future, John, unless you patch things up with the neighbor's husband. Good luck.

Dipstick might become a thing of the past
Dear Tom and Ray:
I know you don't like old Beetles, but I own one, and I love it! I work for a federal

agency where everyone drives brown and gray vehicles. When I come out to the parking lot, I smile at my little yellow flower amid all the potatoes out there, and greet her: Buttercup! Where was I? Oh yes. My question is: Why the heck don't carmakers offer an oil gauge that works like a gas gauge, and tells you what your oil level is? Would that be a handy thing to have? Thanks! — Vickie

RAY: It would be a handy thing to have, Vickie. Some

cars, in fact, do have it. TOM: ALL modern cars warn you when your oil PRESSURE is dangerously low. But not all of them tell you when your oil LEVEL is getting low.

RAY: We do know of a number of cars that alert the driver when the engine's oil level is low. We've seen it on a lot of GM products over the years, and on a handful of Fords, as far back as the late '80s. All Volkswagens now have it, as do BMW and Mercedes vehicles. In fact,

Mercedes has gone so far as to eliminate the dipstick!

TOM: I think they figure that if you own a Mercedes, it would be unseemly to have you standing out on your frozen driveway in the morning, in your pajama bottoms, pawing around for a greasy dipstick.

RAY: It's not a terribly difficult thing to do, technically. And this type of device almost certainly has saved some engines. So I suspect — and hope — that it will become a

standard feature. TOM: Yeah. As soon as they all can overcome the vehement opposition of the World Association of Dipstick Manufacturers.

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