



Scouting service page A7

The Times

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In brief

Reward offered for stolen truck

Times Staff Report

PRESTONSBURG — Police are looking for a tractor-trailer stolen from a local business last week, and the business is hoping to spur leads by offering a \$5,000 reward.

A white 1996 Freightliner with a red 36-foot trailer valued at \$30,000 was taken from Drains Unlimited sometime early last week.

The truck was last seen Monday evening and was discovered missing Wednesday morning.

The business, owned by James and Henrietta Pennington, is offering a \$5,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the guilty party.

The company has already received one tip from someone who saw a truck matching the description of the stolen vehicle being driver on U.S. 23 around 4:30 a.m. Tuesday. Based on that tip, it is believed that is the approximate time the vehicle was taken.

Anyone with information about the theft is asked to call Drains Unlimited at (606) 889-9008, or Kentucky State Police at (606) 433-7711.

Highway worker charged with drug sales

PRESTONSBURG — A state highway department worker was arrested Friday on charges he sold drugs while on the job.

The arrest followed a five-week undercover investigation by Operation UNITE into reported drug activity at the Minnie Highway Garage in Floyd County.

Emitt Raymond Hall, 50, of Reynolds Branch at Hi Hat, was picked up without incident at the highway garage off Route 680 by UNITE detectives and Kentucky State Police Trooper Shawn Little on Floyd County District Court warrants for second-degree trafficking in a controlled substance

and two counts of trafficking in marijuana less than 8 ounces.

Police found one and one-half hydrocodone tablets on Hall after his arrest, resulting in additional charges of second-degree possession of a controlled substance and prescription controlled substance not in original container.

Hall was lodged in the Floyd County Detention Center.

"The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet contacted UNITE in early May after they had received information of possible drug use and drug sales by employees," said Dan

Smoot, law enforcement director for UNITE. "Detectives were asked to determine whether these allegations had any merit."

"Our investigation resulted in an undercover officer purchasing drugs on two occasions, and drugs were being used by this worker while on the job," Smoot said. "We did not find any sale or drug use to or from any other employee."

On one occasion Hall allegedly sold two potted marijuana plants "of high quality" to



Emitt Raymond Hall

(See ARREST, page three)

PLANNING FOR GROWTH



photo by Kathy J. Prater

Members of the Prestonsburg Renaissance committee met in regular session Wednesday evening to discuss upcoming summer plans and new business development in the downtown area. Pictured are Brent Graden, city economic development director, Eric Thomas, Brent Allen, Linda Ritchie and Doug Adams, a potential new business owner.

New restaurants coming; wifi internet being installed

by KATHY J. PRATER
FEATURES EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG — New businesses, Friday night concerts, wireless access and a community cleanup project were all topics of discussion Thursday evening when the Prestonsburg Renaissance committee met in regular session at City Hall.

"We have some exciting things going on," said Brent Graden, the city's economic

development director. "Among them, we have six new businesses coming in, which should lead to some interesting developments."

Those businesses, all restaurants, include a new McDonald's which will open up adjacent to Wendy's on North Lake Drive; a new Mexican restaurant that will open up near Dairy Cheer, also on North Lake Drive; "Pig in a Poke" barbecue, which will move from its current location

on Route 321, to a brand new location on University Drive; "Dadeo's," featuring "eclectic cuisine" that will open the first week of September on Court Street, across from the Floyd County Justice Center; and two other restaurants featuring barbecue-style cuisine that are scheduled to open within city limits.

"With this many barbecue places going in, you know

(See CITY, page three)

Audit questions nearly \$13.5 million in Knott spending

by SAMIRA JAFARI
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PIKEVILLE — A state audit challenges nearly the entire \$14 million budget of an eastern Kentucky county with a history of mispending funds, according to state officials who said the amount in question was unprecedented.

"It's simply unacceptable that we have this continuing level of mismanagement and possible corruption," Auditor Crit Luallen said.

The audit scrutinizing \$13.5 million in Knott County's spending — the third report since 2004 to raise serious questions about the county's finances — came a day after FBI agents raided county offices. The FBI wouldn't comment on the reason for Tuesday's raid.

"To our knowledge, it is the largest dollar figure in questioned cost in county audits," said Joe Meyer, Luallen's senior policy adviser.

Luallen's office referred the audit to the FBI, the Internal Revenue Service, the U.S. Department of

Labor, the U.S. Attorney's Office and several state agencies.

"It is my hope that this latest audit and the resulting federal investigation will result in something finally being done about this problem."

Judge-Executive Randy Thompson acknowledged several instances of oversight, but said he resented Luallen's allegations.

"I would vehemently disagree that there is corruption here," he said. "We are trying to improve some policies and procedures that were already in place."

The audit's main finding revealed that the fiscal court gave \$8.2 million to Thompson's youth center foundation without a formal agreement.

"We simply forgot to do the agreement," Thompson said. "When we realized the oversight, we drafted the agreement. We never had any intent to do anything other than that."

Other findings include:
■ Some \$780,000 in road-paving expenditures that couldn't be validated;

(See AUDIT, page three)

2 DAY FORECAST

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Scattered storms
High: 90 • Low: 67

Tomorrow
Scattered storms
High: 88 • Low: 68

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State's new economic development director visits Floyd County

by KATHY J. PRATER
FEATURES EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG — Kentucky has a new secretary of economic development and he's interested in "looking at things a little bit differently."

As such, John Hindman, who just assumed his new position last month, is currently busying himself with becoming familiar with Kentucky's many, and diverse, areas of potential economic growth.

Hindman made a mini-tour of Floyd County this past Tuesday, stopping for a brief interlude on the campus of Big Sandy Community and Technical College, where he met with Bobby McCool, chief institutional officer, and other Big Sandy CTC administrative staff.

Hindman said during a media roundtable

held on campus grounds, that in assuming his new position as Cabinet secretary, he wants to "celebrate the victories in the state" while at the same time being cognizant of areas in which improvement can take place "both economically and educationally."

Hindman said he is particularly interested in the role of the coal-producing industry in regard to the state's economic health, as well as the role of tourism dollars.

"Communication is the focus," Hindman said. "The world is getting smaller ... with new technology, job opportunities are more widespread ... whereas before a hands-on approach may have been necessary, today many things can be handled via communication tools such as internet services."

Hindman also said during his visit to the

(See HINDMAN, page three)



photo by Kathy J. Prater

Bobby McCool, left, chief institutional officer, and Kelli Hall, right, of Big Sandy Community and Technical Center, welcomed Sec. John Hindman, Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development, to the BSCTC campus last week.

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Regional Obituaries

FLOYD COUNTY

■ Lindsay "Tiny" Blackburn, 63, of McDowell, died Saturday, July 7, at the Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Bobbie Jo Turner Blackburn. Funeral services were held Tuesday, July 10, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Andrea Lynn Blanton, 61, of Oil Springs, a Floyd County native, died Wednesday, July

11, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, Payne Blanton Jr. Funeral services were held Friday, July 13, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Edna Mac Castle Davis, 80, of David, died Saturday, July 7, in the Highlands Regional Medical Center, Prestonsburg. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, July 10, under the direction of Hall

Funeral Home.

■ Emma Jean Pelphrey, 88, of Prestonsburg, died Thursday, July 5, at St. Mary's Hospital, in Evansville, Indiana. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, July 8, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Elder Harold James Tackett, 72, of Prestonsburg, died Saturday, July 7, in Highland Regional Medical Center, Prestonsburg. He is survived by his wife, Harold G. Tackett. Funeral services were conducted Monday, July 9, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Cecil Kidd, 80, of Grethel, died Wednesday, July 11, at Pikeville Health Care Center. Funeral services were held Saturday, July 14, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Warren A. Lewis, 86, of Williamsport, a native of Floyd County, died Wednesday, July 11, at his home. He is survived

by his wife, Bernetta Gibson Lewis. Funeral services were held Friday, July 13, under the direction of Lucas and Son Funeral Home.

PIKE COUNTY

■ Dovie Castle Fleming, 86, of Helliell, died Tuesday, July 10, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Friday, July 13, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ Shelia Fern Fuller Pinson, 44, of Pikeville, died Thursday, July 5, at the home of her parents. She is survived by her husband, Roy Pinson. Funeral services were held Sunday, July 8, under the direction of Pikeville Funeral Home.

■ Nicholas Scott Jones, 21, of Linwood, N.C., formerly of Rockhouse, a Pike County native, died Sunday July 8. Funeral services were held Friday, July 13, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

MARTIN COUNTY

■ Jack Smith Jr., 60, of Inez, died Wednesday, June 27, at King's Daughters Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Brenda Marie Maynard Smith. Funeral services were held Saturday, June 30, at Big Elk United Baptist Church, under the direction of Richmond-Callaham Funeral Home.

■ Joshua Scott Meddings, one month old infant of Pikeville, died Monday, July 2, at Pikeville. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, July 5, under the direction of Richmond-Callaham Funeral Home.

■ Spencer Stepp "Red", 87, of Merrillville, Indiana, died Tuesday, April 17, in St. Anthony Hospital. Funeral services were held Friday, April 20, under the direction of Richmond-Callaham Funeral Home.

USDA announces more than \$6 million in community facilities guaranteed funding

LEXINGTON— USDA Rural Development State Director Kenneth Slone today announced the availability of \$6,169,000 in community facilities guaranteed loan funds to entities to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. The entities can use the funds to construct, enlarge or improve community facilities for health care, public safety, and community and public services, such as hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, police and fire stations, jails, fire and rescue vehicles, medical and educational telecommunication links, adult and child care centers, courthouses, schools, fairgrounds, community buildings and a host of other eligible types of projects.

Guaranteed loans enable entities to obtain more timely financing of their project, conceivably reducing inflationary increases in construction costs, establish a loan history with a commercial lender, and can be combined with other Federal, State, and local funds.

■ Eligible entities are cities, counties, other public subdivisions, special purpose districts, and non-profit orga-

nizations, all of whom are ineligible for grant assistance.

■ The project must serve either rural areas or cities and towns not exceeding a population of 20,000 for Community Facilities.

(See FUNDING, page three)

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The family of Denver Lafferty wishes to gratefully acknowledge the thoughtfulness and kindness of friends, relatives, and neighbors, in the loss of our loved one. Thanks to all who sent food, flowers, prayers, and spoke words of comfort. A special thanks to Clergyman Jim Smith for his comforting words, the singers, the sheriff's department for their assistance in traffic control, and Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Eula, Dennis, and Carl

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If you have information on the theft of these items that leads to an arrest and conviction, there is a \$5,000 reward.

If you have any information, please call

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Education commissioner withdraws amid scrutiny

The Associated Press

FRANKFORT — The woman selected to be Kentucky's next education commissioner declined to take the position Friday after increasing scrutiny, including questions about her credentials.

Barbara Erwin, who the state

Board of Education selected in May, said she would retire rather than start her new post in Kentucky.

"As you know, my original plan was to retire in August of 2007," Erwin said in a letter. "I believe it is in the best interests of all if I maintain those plans of retirement."

Erwin was set to retire Friday as

superintendent of the Community Unit District 303 school system in Saint Charles, Ill., a western suburb of Chicago. She was supposed to start in Kentucky on Monday.

Even as Erwin met with the state board this week, questions from her old job — including a police investigation into a missing personnel file at

the school district she's leaving — followed her to Kentucky.

Erwin said Wednesday that she was unaware of the investigation because she had been out of the country.

Kentucky Board of Education chairman Keith Travis said he still thought Erwin was the best candidate

for the job.

"I am disappointed that the pressure she encountered has led to this," Travis said.

The board was scheduled to meet in a special session Saturday night to discuss reopening its search for a commissioner.

McConnell targeted in another anti-war ad

FRANKFORT — Sen. Mitch McConnell is the target of another negative ad that is scheduled to air Friday evening on television stations in Lexington and Louisville.

Americans Against Escalation in Iraq is criticizing the Senate minority leader for supporting President Bush on the war in Iraq.

The ad shows repeated images of Bush saying progress is being made in Iraq, followed by numbers of American soldiers killed in action. It ends with a written question: "Senator McConnell, is this

your idea of progress in Iraq?"

McConnell, R-Ky., a steadfast Bush supporter on Iraq policy, has repeatedly said that the war has protected the U.S. from follow up terrorist attacks after Sept. 11, 2001. He repeated that on Friday.

"For me, it's about protecting Americans," McConnell said in a statement. "We went on offense in order to protect the homeland, and that's been 100 percent successful. We're sorry that the effort in Iraq has been as difficult as it has, but giving up and inviting the terrorists to come back to this country is not a great

plan."

McConnell is running for re-election next year and his campaign already has raised more than \$7.6 million.

The McConnell Senate Committee reported \$5.75 million on hand, the most of any Republican candidate in the nation.

McConnell, along with at least three other Republican senators, was also targeted by a television ad paid for by the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee. That ad, which aired earlier this week, also criticized McConnell for his support of Bush's war strategy.

Hindman

Continued from p1

Big Sandy CTC campus that "education is the foundation that brings the workforce in." "We have to continually develop a mindset that recognizes that education is important."

Hindman said that he plans other visits to Eastern Kentucky and is especially interested in "visiting that town that bears my name," Knott County's Hindman.

Arrest

Continued from p1

the undercover officer, and later allegedly sold two more potted marijuana plants and a hydrocodone tablet, Smoot said, adding the plants "were brought to work" for distribution.

Hall worked on a crew that conducted road maintenance along state highways. His main job was as a truck driver and occasionally operated other pieces of equipment.

"We would like to thank UNITE for their assistance," said Deputy Transportation Secretary Crystal Ducker. "We strive to maintain a safe and drug-free work environment and will not tolerate drugs in the workplace."

For more information about Operation UNITE visit their website at www.operationunite.org

Audit

More than \$400,000 spent on a privately owned ATV park;

More than \$7,000 spent on health care on five terminated employees;

Several county employees, including the finance director, were compensated as employees and independent contractors.

While authorities haven't

linked Tuesday's raid to the audit, Thompson said the auditors and the FBI "were looking at the same things — anything to do with paving of roads, building bridges and the like."

"I don't think it's any coincidence those people showed up the day before," he said.

Thompson, a local radio station owner who replaced

Donnie Newsome in October 2005, has been accused of trading road-paving projects for votes. The Republican judge-executive denied those allegations, saying they stemmed from partisan politics in the predominantly Democratic county.

He said he was confident that the federal investigations would find that the county

was "never intentionally mis-using the people's money."

Luallen has been especially aggressive in auditing local governments. During her term, she has referred some 50 cases to law enforcement, Meyer said.

"That's an unprecedented number of corruption referrals," he said.

Continued from p1

City

we'll be having a barbecue cook-off," Graden said.

"The Fridays Alive concert series is also back and we're expecting good turnouts," Graden continued. The popular concert series will kick off Aug. 3 with the Red Rooster Bluegrass Festival, featuring the band Fast Lane; followed by Gypsy Rose on Aug. 10; The Big Sandy Singers on Aug. 17; and SkateCore on Aug. 31.

Pig in a Poke will cater the August 3 Red Rooster event.

Also coming again in late summer will be the Prestonsburg Idol competition. Tryouts for Idol will be held

on Sept. 7, with the final show and selection of winner to be held on Sept. 27.

All Fridays Alive! concerts will be held on the municipal stage and will begin at 6 p.m.

"We're also wireless city-wide now," Graden informed the committee members. Wireless access routers are currently being installed in strategic locations throughout the city, and Graden said that many individuals have already informed him that they are pleased with this new addition to city services.

The summer 2007 "Big Sandy River Cleanup" event, sponsored by a PRIDE com-

munity grant, will also be held again during the warm weather months. "We're looking forward to a good turnout and getting our river cleaned up," Graden said.

Plans to provide park seating throughout the downtown area were also discussed at the meeting, with committee member Linda Ritchie suggesting that seating in the downtown fountain area would be a nice addition.

The committee also voted to approve the adoption of the formation of a new city Farmer's Market that would be open to local farmers and patrons in the downtown area.

Continued from p1

Other downtown revitalization projects were introduced such as awning and painting projects in an effort to beautify and highlight the historic buildings of the downtown area.

The next meeting of the Prestonsburg Renaissance committee will be held on Tuesday, August 14, at 7 p.m., at City Hall.

Funding

Loan guarantees usually do not exceed 80%.

Tax-exempt loans cannot be guaranteed.

Guaranteed loans may be sold on the secondary market. The lender retains interest rate margin for servicing and increases the yield on the amount of the loan retained.

The interest rate charged is negotiated between the lender and the borrower and may be either a fixed or variable rate, the latter of which must be tied to a base rate published in a recognized financial publication. Interest and principal will be due and payable as shown on the debt instrument. The maximum allowable period for repayment will be the useful remaining life of the facility, but not more than 40 years. The terms also depend on the use of funds (real estate, machinery and equipment, etc.).

The lender is responsible for determining the value and adequacy of security to be obtained and maintained. The security should be adequate to ensure reasonable protection to the lender and the Government. In addition, the lender is responsible for ensuring that the appropriate appraisal is made and will determine if the proposed market value is reasonable.

Guaranteed authority is

usually available for all feasible proposals and is an excellent opportunity for lenders to participate in larger public facility projects while limiting their financial exposure.

"This program is designed to help small, rural communities that might not otherwise have the resources to develop facilities - like schools and health clinics - that are critical to their future," said Slone. "USDA is proud to play a role in putting into action the President's commitment to rural America."

USDA Rural Development's mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life in rural communities. As a

venture capital entity, Rural Development has invested over \$72 billion since the beginning of the Bush Administration to provide equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. Over 1.2 million jobs have been created or saved through these investments.

Further information on rural programs is available by contacting the Rural Development office in Morehead, 606/784-6447 ext. 4, or by visiting USDA's web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

Continued from p2



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FLOYD COUNTY RABIES CLINIC

Thursday, July 19, 2007

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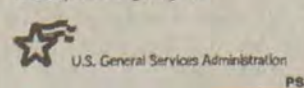
Vanderpool's Store (Hippo)	8:30-9:00
Printer Post Office	9:30-10:00
Minnie Ball Park	10:15-11:30
Hi Hat Post Office	1:00-1:30
Wheelwright Masonic Lodge	2:00-2:30
Weeksbury Community Center	2:45-3:15
W.D. Osborne Elementary (Bevinsville)	3:30-4:15
East KY Tire, Bucks Branch (Martin)	5:00-5:30
Near Reno's (Prestonsburg)	6:00-6:30

Any questions, you may call Country Hills Veterinary Hospital

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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

Let bad drivers pay for roads

It's been more than two centuries since Kentucky was part of Virginia, but there still are a few things we can learn from our distant cousins next door.

Like every other state, Virginia was looking for ways to increase revenues to pay for highway maintenance. Instead of the easy course "hiking gasoline taxes for everyone to pay" the Virginia General Assembly last year decided it would make bad drivers pay the costs of keeping up the state's roads.

So Virginia legislators imposed what are called "civil remedial fees" on top of all other court fines, costs, jail time and licenses restrictions.

And the fees are steep.

As of last Sunday, reckless driving in Virginia includes an added fee of \$1050. Driving under the influence costs \$2,250. Driving on a suspended license involves a fee of \$750. All other traffic misdemeanors carry a \$900 fee, and driving-related felonies cost \$3,000 in fees.

To make the fees somewhat less burdensome, they can be paid in three annual installments. Legislators estimate the bad-driving fees will generate \$62 million a year.

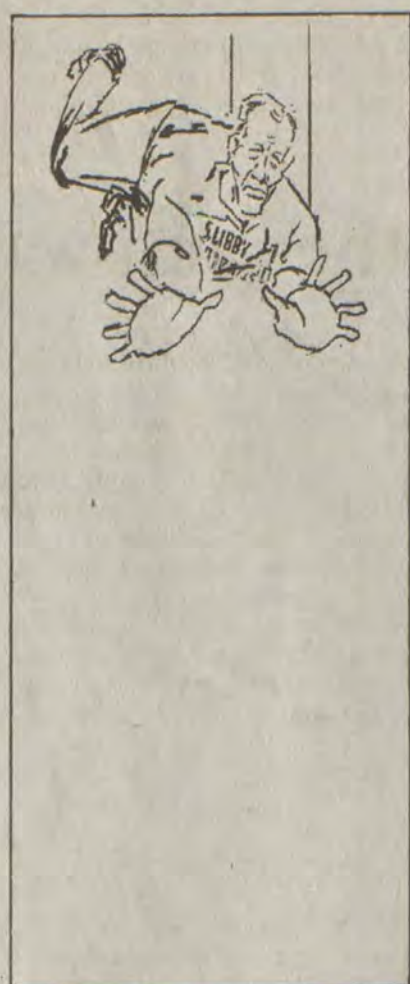
And there is no great public outcry against the steep fees, since most people think of themselves as good drivers not subject to the penalties.

The only real criticism "and apparently it's fairly widespread" is that the bad-driving fees don't apply to non-Virginia drivers. Opposition to that provision, in fact, is leading lawmakers and Gov. Timothy M. Kaine to consider repealing it when the Virginia legislature next meets.

In New Jersey, which has had bad-driving fees for more than 20 years, the fees apply to all drivers, and the state actually has attached property liens and garnished wages of nonresidents to collect them.

When the Kentucky General Assembly meets in regular session next year, it ought to take a look at Virginia's bad-driving fees. They're not taxes, heaven forbid, merely fees bad drivers pay to keep up the highways they drive on badly.

— The State Journal, Frankfort



FALL GUY

— Rich Lowry Column —

The age of cynicism

In five years, we built the Hoover Dam. From 1931 to 1936, the Colorado River was diverted with tunnels blasted into the Black Canyon walls, a town was built to house a small army of workers laboring in the desert, and 3 1/4 million cubic yards of concrete were poured into a dam reaching 726 1/2 feet high — two years ahead of schedule.

It's hard to look back at this monumental effort without a feeling of envy. The dam was completed on the backs of desperate men during the Great Depression, but from this remove, it looks like an apotheosis of the can-do spirit. Who believes we could do something similar today, that political bickering, governmental bungling, Occupational Safety and Health Administration regulations, lawsuits and environmental objections wouldn't make such a project all but impossible?

It might be the fate of President Bush to be remembered as the emblem of an Age of Cynicism, when — despite many encouraging economic and social indicators — we experienced a deep public funk, driven by the feeling that government couldn't be trusted to do anything, at least not well.

This is the spirit that more than

anything else brought down (for now) the Senate's Grand Compromise on immigration. It wasn't Bush's declining clout or raging xenophobia so much as the collective grass-roots reply to the White House's detailed explanations of the enforcement provisions in the bill: "We simply don't believe you."

The administration is paying a price for its serial abuse of the word "must." Bush often has said that a given country "must" relinquish its nuclear program or free a dissident or forswear testing a missile, with little in the way of consequence when his demand is ignored. So when his administration says, under the immigration deal, an immigrant or an employer "must" do something, no one believes it represents anything more than wishfulness.

The backdrop to all this, of course, is the Iraq War. The government of the United States presented to the world intelligence that turned out to be wrong; insisted we were making steady progress in the guerrilla war when, by the end of 2006, we were facing catastrophe; and has still managed only fitful progress against an

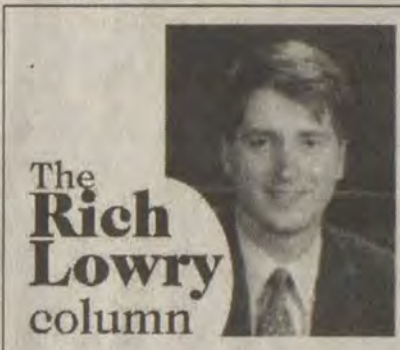
enemy whose main weapon is homemade bombs. This casts a pall over our public life, augmented by Hurricane Katrina's devastation, corruption in Congress, paranoid ranting on the left and incompetence in high places (see Attorney General Alberto Gonzales).

In these conditions, it's a political boon to have a distance from government. The best thing that might have happened to Republicans is their loss of Congress, which means that Democrats have gone from attacking a spectacularly unpopular Congress to running a spectacularly unpopular Congress. Congratulations!

The low regard for the federal government is fueling the candidacy of outsider Rudy Giuliani. It replicates the circumstances of his first election as New York City mayor, when he took over a supposedly ungovernable city. Now, the ungovernable city is 200 miles south, in Washington, D.C.

Whoever is elected in 2008 won't build a majestic dam, but will have to work to dispel the Age of Cynicism.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.



The Rich Lowry column

— beyond the beltway —

Scooter's extended family

by DONALD KAUL
MINUTEMAN MEDIA

The way the deal went down, according to usually reliable informants, if you get my meaning, is this:

When the caper started — the going to the mattresses with the Mustache Pete way out East — Chainsaw Dick calls in the Scooter man, his top earner, and tells him to go out and sell the operation. It's important, he says. The future of the Family depends on it.

So ol' Scooter, he starts selling and does a heckuva job, on account of people trust him so much. Hey, you seen the guy. Would Scooter lie?

He does such a good job that even "The New York Times" is in bed with us, you believe that?

So when the caper begins to go sour (which is because not enough muscle was assigned to the project, in my opinion) the vultures, including "The New York Times," begin jumping all over the Boss. Even Chainsaw Dick starts to get heat. Shoulda done this, Shoulda done that; woulda, coulda, shoulda.

They even got the nerve to accuse the Boss of lying about a few minor details, like he's supposed to know everything about everything.

This makes Chainsaw mad — you know how he is — so he sends his crew out to take care of the bozos who are all the time criticizing,

including one bozo's wife who is a blonde I would not turn away from my door in a snowstorm, if you know what I mean. We ain't talking about sleeping with no fishes here, just a little character assassination, teach 'em a lesson.

Naturally, Scooter being Scooter, he is the point man on this and, like always, he does a heckuva job. When all of a sudden the linguini hits the fan and before you know it Scooter — the Chainsaw's right-hand guy — is in front of a grand jury, looking at criminal charges. For messing with a reputation! What they think this is, bean-bag?

Anyway, this all makes people back at the Ba-Da-Bing on Pennsylvania Avenue a little nervous. There is talk, even, of bringing Crazy Boy Liddy out of retirement to whack the Scooter. The Chainsaw says no. The Scooter is a standup guy, he says, and will not rat us out. In effect, he vouches for him, so what ya gonna do?

But pretty soon, the Scooter man is indicted and his mouthpieces are talking about calling Chainsaw as a witness. In court. I mean can you imagine the Chainsaw up there on the witness stand taking the Fifth? It would be undignified.

So now the Boss's capi are really nervous. Are you sure Scooter is not going to rat us out, they keep asking.

Chainsaw, he just gives them that look, you know the one. "I'll have someone talk to Scooter's lawyers,"

he says. "I will make them an offer they can't refuse." Discussion over.

And pretty soon, what do you know, you don't hear nothing more about the Chainsaw man being called to testify.

So they have their little trial and Scooter, he can't remember anything, and the jury, which it turns out we can't get to, says "guilty" and the judge, who apparently never wants to be on the Supreme Court, drops 30 small on our friend Scooter.

This, we all agree, is a bad situation. It's one thing to be a standup guy when you're out on bail; it's another when you're in the joint (although I have to admit, some of the fed joints aren't so bad. I learned to play checkers in one of 'em.)

However, just as Scooter is about to go inside the Boss steps in and commutes his sentence, which I didn't even know he could do unless he had a good reason.

So Scooter walks, his bills get paid by a person or persons unknown and Halliburton or some outfit like that gets a new executive.

Is that a happy ending or what? Like I always said, it pays to have Family values.

□□□

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

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Keep toilet paper in bathroom, where it belongs

see pg. A6

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This Town, That World

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

If there is an original line in that column, this is it. All the rest has been suggested by my friends who surely have decided I needed some help.

□□□

This was purloined for me by Johnny Burke.

Tolerance is the ability to keep your shirt on where you're hot under the collar.

AMEN!

And I am inebriated, first to Homer Wright and, lastly, to Mrs. Walter Hall for the following prayer which, when I first saw it not long ago, caused me to say, "Wish I had said that."

Lord, Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older, and will some day be old.

Keep me from getting talkative not particularly from the fatal land of thinking that I must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

Release me from craving to try to straighten out everybody's affairs.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details—give me ways to get to the point.

I ask for grace enough to listen to the tales of others' palms. Help me to endure them with patience.

But seal my lips on my own aches and pains—they are increasing and my love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by.

Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally it is possible that I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a saint—some of them are so hard to live with—but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil.

Make me thoughtful, but not moody; helpful, but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pay not to us it all—but thou knowest, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end.

NO FOOD STAMPS YET!

And the following was turned on by Gordon Moore:

A young man lived with his parents in a public housing development, attended public school and participants in the "free lunch" program. He entered military service and, open discharge, retained but National Service Life Insurance.

He attended the State University and worked part-time at the State Capitol to supplement funds provided by his GI education clerk. Upon graduation he married a public health nurse, bought a home with a FHA loan, and obtained a BFC loan to go into business.

Their body was born in the City hospital. Wanting some farm land

(See ALLEN, page six)

GETTING CRAFTY



photo by Kathy J. Prater

Parents and children joined forces this past week at David Appalachian Crafts for summer fun filled with crafts and activities.

Summer fun with arts and crafts David Center helping kids explore artistic sides

by KATHY J. PRATER
FEATURES EDITOR

It's all about creativity at David Appalachian Crafts Center and a summer camp held this past week was highlighted by artistic pursuits indicative to the center's mission to support area artists and craftsmen.

Focusing on children, the crafts center held a week-long camp for youth that encouraged the children to express their artistic sides.

"Everyone seems to have enjoyed it," said Sister Ruth Ann Iwanski, during a break for lunch

on Thursday afternoon.

Among the activities the children were exposed to during the week were: painting, weaving, sewing, basket weaving, and storytelling.

"The kids have painted everything from gourds to wooden items, with one child painting a gourd to look like a giant bell pepper while another child painted one to look like a swan," Iwanski said.

The children also stitched together handsewn turtles, pillowcases, lap blankets and decorated tote bags and denim purses.

On Friday, the children were treated to an introduction to music by Rachel and Will Hayes, a brother and sister duo from the KY Opry Jr. Pros.

"We've had fun, that's for sure," commented one happy mom. "This has been a great week of just coming out and enjoying your children," she said.

David Appalachian Crafts, located at David, is open Monday through Saturday for visitors and shoppers. Call 886-2377 for more information.

First Greenbo Lake Liars Contest to be Sept. 8

GREENUP — Greenbo Lake State Resort Park is looking for a few good storytellers. You can even be a liar.

The First Greenbo Lake Liars Contest will be Sept. 8 at the park near Greenup. If you can tell a pretty good yarn in five minutes in front of an audience, you could be a winner.

Registration for participants is \$10 through Sept. 5 and \$15 after that date. Forms can be obtained at the park and the Greenup County Extension Office at 226 West Main Street in Greenup. There will be a category for adults and another for children (6th through 12th grades).

The prizes for adults will be \$250 for first; \$150 for second and \$75 for third. For children, the winner will receive \$50; second place is \$25 and third is \$15.

The sponsors of the contest are Greenbo Lake State Resort Park, the Eastern Kentucky Storytelling Association and the Greenup County Growing With the Arts Advisory Council.

The contest will start at 1 p.m. at the park amphitheater. Admission will be \$5 for adults and \$2 for children 12 and under.

A panel of judges will evaluate each contestant based on technique, story development, originality and

effectiveness. Detailed rules will be provided to contestants on the day of the event.

For information, call the park at 1-800-325-0083 or email park manager Cary Lyle at caryq.lyle@ky.gov or Cora Hughes at 606-473-9881 or cora.hughes@uky.edu.

Greenbo Lake State Resort Park in Greenup has a lodge, Anglers' Cove Restaurant, campground, gift shop, marina and 23 miles of multi-use trails. For more information, visit www.parks.ky.gov. Greenbo Lake State Resort Park is located just seven miles off of Highway 23, known as "The Country Music Highway."

MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

'The Devil's Sword'

by TOM DOTY
TIMES COLUMNIST

Four villains and one hero embark on a quest for a magical sword in this Indonesian genre effort that blends martial arts, mysticism and more than a little subtext from the story of King Arthur and Camelot.

The story begins with a celestial object rocketing through space and entering the earth's atmosphere. Meanwhile the Guru, an ancient wizard, sits meditating on a stone and barely acknowledges the event, though the meteorite lands about 20 feet away from him. Eventually he wanders over and gets more energized as he decides to fashion the stone from the stars into a sword.



Tom Doty
Times Columnist

Now the film takes off, though it doesn't appear to have a firm idea of where it is headed, and we are treated to a bizarre ritual. A man is chosen by his village to be sacrificed to the Invisible Queen. The man is stripped and greased down before being forced to jump into a lake.

Surprisingly, there are ushers waiting in the deep and they take him to the Queen, who emerges from a crocodile-infested tub and is now referred to as the Crocodile Queen. Turns out she is an insatiable nut no matter what you call her and she promptly mauls the guy while pulling him into her bed which is already filled with five other boys.

Next we are treated to a wedding ceremony that is disrupted by the appearance of several men in crocodile suits who are led by a thug wielding two swords. Turns out that this kingdom hasn't sent its yearly male sacrifice to the Queen so they are taking the groom.

A terrific fight scene ensues when the prospective bride, I think she is called Vida Loca (not kidding), turns out to be a kung-fu expert. She is soon joined by a wandering hero named Mandala and the two scare off the bad guys but are unable to rescue the groom.

Mandala races off after the battle to aid the Guru, who summons him telepathically. When he arrives he is treated to a sad sight as the Guru has been severely beaten. After chopping off the Guru's legs, Mandala nurses him back to health and learns that a quartet of villains whopped on him when he wouldn't reveal the resting place of Satan's Sword (which he created in the opening scene).

Mandala sets out to retrieve the sword and is joined by Loca, who needs his help to get back her husband. Meanwhile the Crocodile Queen climbs out of her bed long enough to gaze at some burning gravel and declare that she wants the sword too. She summons the thug with two swords, Banojaga, and sends

(See LAGOON, page six)

Who is helping whom?

by MARGARET LANG

"CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMAN'S SOUL"

The apartment door unlocked as usual, I let myself in. Viola was not there, at least not where I typically found her, in her wheelchair in the living room. I followed the light through the half-open bedroom door. There she sat on the floor beside her bed—with no way to get back up.

"Are you hurt?" I asked.

"No," she replied with a smile, "just my feelings."

I thought of my first visit as her

physical therapist. She had been propped up in bed with a thick crocheted blanket over her two short stumps of legs. But no one would have noticed anyway, she postured herself with such dignity.

I learned she had been the pastor of a church while she raised two girls and stood by an alcoholic husband. At night while her family slept, she remained on her knees. In the end, they all prospered and called her blessed.

Years later, cut down by diabetes, her stature remained just as tall.

In contrast, I had recently experi-

enced my second divorce, and the weight of it had bent me over. As I trudged along inner-city streets to provide home health care, seldom did I look up to smile at passersby. I felt more worthless than the local drug addicts.

"I'm so embarrassed," said Viola, bringing me back to her present needs. "Somehow, I just slipped off the side of my bed, but I'm fine, really I am," she said, her eyes bright. Despite her words, I knew she had landed with a terrible bump. Her hospital bed stood high off the floor, and she had had no way to break her fall.

I reached in her direction. "Let me help you."

"It might hurt your back to pick me up," she said, "and I don't want to

be a burden to you." She seemed like Jeanne d'Arc in the flames, more concerned about her executioner being burned than herself. "My son-in-law will soon be here to lift me."

Although my eyes gazed downward at her, my heart looked up to her. I realized she was debilitated in body, certainly—but not in spirit.

For many weeks I continued to provide therapy. As I exercised Viola's muscles, strength not only flowed into her body but into mine as

well. Eventually she met all her treatment goals and the sessions ended—but not the friendship.

Like a moth around a Tiffany lamp, I was drawn to her radiant pecan-colored face. She spoke of her life and her family. When she spoke of her Lord, it was not as a preacher would, but as one who had had a personal encounter. I visited her often and even brought my children to absorb her light.

(See SOUP, page six)



Keep toilet paper in the bathroom, where it belongs

by TOM and RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:

While I was attending the University of Oklahoma in 1960, a study was done by the petroleum engineering department. The question was: Is draining oil from a vehicle necessary? They worked with White Trucking Company and tested their theory on long-haul trucks. Using only a "toilet paper" filter and only adding oil, they ran one set of trucks against ones that received oil and filter changes for 100,000 miles. The results showed no significant wear differences between the two. They also concluded that the oil in the no-change vehicle was "stronger," because the weak molecules in the oil broke down and evaporated away. This study was going on at about the time that the Conoco Oil company was working on biofuel and had developed a plant in Bartlesville, Okla. But then both the study and the plant were suddenly gone, and I never heard any more. What is your take on the oil-change theory? — Don

TOM: Ah, yes. I remember that study, Don. It was funded by Charmin.

RAY: Actually, while we don't know anything about that particular

study, I'd take it with a grain of salt.

TOM: First of all, motor oil has improved dramatically in the past 50 years. So whatever was done then probably doesn't apply now.

RAY: Also, long-haul, diesel trucking engines are built to last much longer than automobile engines. So 100,000 miles might not have been enough to show the damage of forgoing oil changes.

TOM: We have heard about the toilet-paper filter, though. It's called a Frantz Filter, and it has had a small cult following throughout the years. As you might expect, you install the housing, and then you simply stick a roll of 1,000-sheet, two-ply, 100-grit toilet paper in the holder, and that does the filtering. When it's dirty, you remove it and insert another roll.

RAY: It's not a surprise to us that it never caught on in big numbers, because it requires men to change a roll of toilet paper.

TOM: Aside from that fatal flaw, we've had good reports about it from our customers during the years. But keep in mind that anyone who would go through the trouble of installing and using one of these things obviously is very interested in car care and maintenance. That kind of person probably tends to take particularly good care of his car in all kinds of

other ways, which could skew the results.

RAY: In any case, Don, our personal experience at the garage suggests that changing the oil and filter regularly is good, and not changing the oil and filter regularly can be very bad — even catastrophic over the long haul.

TOM: And it's relatively cheap insurance. It's \$20 or \$30 a few times a year, for most people. So we still strongly believe in changing the oil in your car, and changing the toilet-paper roll in the bathroom. And not vice versa.

Idling for long periods is wasteful, but not harmful

Dear Tom and Ray:

I heard a caller on your show describe sitting in her car for 20 minutes while it idled so she could run her air conditioner and listen to her stereo. I couldn't have been the only one who cringed at that, could I? She was wasting money and fuel, generating pollution and, from what I've read, damaging her engine. Do you guys agree with this? — John

RAY: We've never condoned excessive idling, John. Except in the case of my brother.

TOM: Right. Sitting on a park bench with a cup of coffee during

working hours is great, and I highly recommend it.

RAY: But as far as cars are concerned, you're right on three of your four points: It does waste money, it wastes fuel and it creates more pollution. But it doesn't really harm the car.

TOM: Right. With modern, fuel-injected engines and with computerized engine management, the fuel is metered precisely enough that excess fuel isn't pouring into the cylinders, like it was in the old days of carburetors.

RAY: Nonetheless, idling is still wasteful and selfish, and bad for the planet. So we recommend that if you're going to be stopped for more than a few minutes, you turn off your engine.

TOM: There's no harm in turning it off and on again. There's no truth to the myth that you "use more gas starting it than by letting it run." And you can listen to your car radio with the key in the accessory position.

RAY: One of the ways hybrid vehicles save fuel is by automatically turning off the engine whenever you come to a complete stop, even at traffic lights. And my guess is that sooner rather than later, all new vehicles will adopt this "automatic stop-start" technology. It's an easy and relatively inexpensive way to cut our national gasoline use by probably 10 percent, and make intersections smell a lot better.

TOM: But you can contribute today, even if you don't have that technology, just by being conscious of

when your car is stopped for a few minutes. When it is, shut off the engine. Future generations — and the poor guy sitting behind you — will thank you.

□□□

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



CLICK & CLACK
Talk Cars

Odds & Ends

■ SEATTLE — Duncan M. McDonald is finally off the voter rolls after the Australian shepherd-terrier mix was sent absentee ballots for three elections.

King County Elections Director Sherril Huff said she canceled the voter registration Tuesday for the dog owned by Jane K. Balogh, 66, who registered her pet to protest a change in the law that she said made it too easy for non-citizens to cast ballots.

Balogh put her phone bill in the dog's name, then used that as identification when she mailed in the registration form in April 2006. In November, she wrote "VOID" across Duncan's ballot and returned it with an image of a paw print on the signature line.

She admitted the ruse when an election official called, but the dog was still sent absentee ballots for school bond elections in February and May.

"Quite frankly, the process did take too long, and it should have been addressed after the November election," said Bobbie Egan, an elections office spokeswoman.

County election procedures are being reviewed to provide speedier action against voting fraud, Egan said.

The removal came three weeks after Balogh was charged in King County Superior Court with making a false or misleading statement to a public servant, a misdemeanor. She pleaded not guilty to the charge in June.

A sheriff's investigator wrote that she admitted registering the dog under false pretenses "to make a point that anyone could vote, even an animal."

A preliminary court hearing was pending.

■ FARMINGVILLE, N.Y. — One man's trash became a town hall's displeasure when a resident fed up with lagging

recycling collection carted about eight pounds of cardboard to the town building's steps.

Tom Mirabelli said trash collectors missed two scheduled cardboard pickups at his Medford home over three weeks. The collections are scheduled every other week, according to town officials.

After a call to the town waste management department and a dispute with a trash collector who refused to take the cardboard, Mirabelli said, he carted it Tuesday to Brookhaven Town Hall, in Farmingville.

That brought citations with charges including littering and obstructing a right of way, which Mirabelli said he tore up in front of town officials.

"In retrospect, I shouldn't have done it," Mirabelli, 61, said Thursday. "I admit I was wrong for putting the garbage on their steps, but I was frustrated."

Mirabelli, a retired computer operations manager who worked for the Nassau County government, has a court date Sept. 6.

Town spokesman Michael Pitcher said the town has to enforce illegal dumping laws, but Mirabelli's beef was "a problem that the town wants to be solved."

Public safety officers ultimately removed the cardboard dropped at the town hall, after cordoning off the steps and entrance.

■ HOUSTON — A Houston woman is suing a former high school classmate who took her name and starred in pornographic movies.

Kristen Syvette Wimberly, 25, is asking that Lara Madden and film distributor Vivid Entertainment Group stop using or publicizing her name, which Madden took as a stage name.

The two met in ninth grade

at Kingwood High School. According to the lawsuit, they "were friends but eventually that friendship ended due to conflict."

Madden, 25, began her adult-film career in 2004 and has appeared in about a dozen adult films using the name Syvette Wimberly.

As a result, the lawsuit claims, Madden and the distributor have inflicted "humiliation, embarrassment, loss of enjoyment of life, emotional distress, mental anguish and anxiety."

Caj Boatright, attorney for Kristen Syvette Wimberly, said her client started being contacted by friends and acquaintances asking about her career in pornography.

"The purpose of the lawsuit is to get her to stop using this name," Boatright said. "We're not out looking for millions of dollars."

Kent Schaffer, Madden's attorney, said his client chose the name simply because she liked the sound of it.

"There is no bad blood between them," Schaffer said. "Lara never meant to harm this other girl."

Madden no longer performs in pornographic films, Schaffer said. Vivid Entertainment had no comment because it hadn't been served with the lawsuit, a spokesman said.

The lawsuit, filed June 26 in Harris County District Court, seeks unspecified damages, but Schaffer said Madden will agree to stop using the name if that's all the plaintiff wants.

"They'll never get a penny from her," he said. "She doesn't have any money, for one thing, but even if she did this suit will never hold up in court. I'm not aware of any court that has upheld such a lawsuit. If I use your name to defraud somebody, that's different."

Lagoon

him off to get it. He asks for her blessing which, of course, turns out to be a romp in the sack.

The villains arrive first and duke it out to see who will enter the mountain of swords and claim the prize. This turns out to be an excellent and brutal battle royale, which is handily won by Banojaga. Deciding that the cave might be trapped, he opes to wait for Mandala to free the sword so he can simply jump him when he comes out with the blade. It's a good plan but he still gets the snot kicked out of him and limps back to the lake with no sword.

To no one's surprise the Queen is not amused and promptly has him incinerated by a crocodile statue that projects laser beams out of its mouth.

Mandala and Loca turn up next and are picked off quickly, with Mandala succumbing to the Crock Queen's charms. A telepathic wake-up call from Guru saves the day and Mandala wails on the Queen like a piñata until she slinks off in her true form, three guesses as to what that is and it ain't no alligator. Bride and groom are reunited and the Crock's lair is engulfed in flames as the Queen's east-offs spring free of their mud cage and torch the palace.

This one has some great fight scenes, goofy imagery and enough weirdness to satisfy genre fans. The violence gets pretty gory with several decapitations on view, with the best one separating a crock man's head from its rubber suited body.

The special effects are

mostly hokey and there is some wirework, though this is before CGI so the wires are plainly visible.

The main fighters are quite accomplished but look closely at the group scenes and you'll spot some bad work by extras who crumble to the ground from blows which miss them by a country mile.

It's all saved by cheesy dialogue and some cheap crock costumes as well as some decent moves by Barry Prima as Mandala. It's as if a fantasy and martial arts movie were put in a blender and directed by Ed Wood. Fun but it quickly fades from memory.

Best line: "It's obvious that the owner isn't a rotten old woman. You smell worse than death itself."

1985, unrated.

Soup

"What did you think about Viola?" I asked them.

"She is a lady without legs — but with love that can't be taken away," said Karin, my daughter, who liked to "sit at her feet" and listen to her talk.

"It wasn't what she said, Mom, it was how she said it," my son, Norm, added.

"Yes, I know," I said quietly. She called Norm "her boy." He brought her gifts, and she served him lunch. Together they chatted like family.

In time the call came —

Viola had passed away. It seemed as if the entire city

sweatpants.

Then the story got even more bizarre.

The man with the gun apologized, the witnesses told the Post.

"I think I may have come to the wrong house," he said. "Can I get a hug?"

Rowan stood up and wrapped her arms around the man and the four other guests followed.

The man walked away a few moments later with the crystal wine glass in hand. No one was hurt, but once he was gone, the group went inside, locked the door and called 911.

Police said Friday that the case was strange but true. Investigators have not located a suspect.

"We've had robbers that apologize and stuff, but nothing where they sit down and drink wine," Cmdr. Diane Grooms said. "The only good thing is they would be able to identify him because they hugged them."

■ BERWYN, Ill. — A kitschy landmark that made a cameo in the movie "Wayne's World" will be dismantled to make way for a pharmacy. Officially named the

turned out for her funeral service.

As they carried her casket past, I remembered the day she lay on the floor — from her operation, only 4 feet in height — but through her strength and conviction she was more than 7 feet tall in spirit. If this fine woman, accustomed to preaching from a lofty pulpit, could maintain her self-respect from a fallen, demeaning position — then surely so could I.

Imagine, I was hired to help assist and strengthen her when it was my soul that needed help and my strength that was

Spindle, the towering sculpture of eight cars impaled by a massive steel pipe became famous for its appearance in the 1992 comedy starring Mike Myers as Wayne and Dana Carvey as his buddy Garth.

Despite years of rust and layers of bird droppings, the Spindle — also known as the "Car Kabob" and the "Eight Car Pileup" — continues to draw movie fans to a shopping center parking lot in this suburb west of Chicago.

"From a marketing standpoint, I like the Spindle," said Berwyn Mayor Michael O'Connor. "It has definitely been a plus for the community."

Still, he said, the quirky sculpture will be removed this summer to make way for a Walgreens pharmacy. It could be moved elsewhere, though the cost of doing so would likely be high.

California artist Dustin Shuler, who built the piece in 1989, calls the dismantling "painful" and "a loss for Chicago."

"Personally, I would have moved the Walgreens and left the Spindle where it is," he said.

Allen

and a home for his parents, he bought a small ranch with the aid of the veteran's land program. For his livestock he obtained emergency feed from the government.

Later he put part of his land in the soil bank and the payments he received soon paid for the ranch. His father and mother lived comfortably on the ranch with the help of their Social Security and old age assistance checks.

REA lines supplied electricity; the government helped him clear his land; the county agent showed him how to terrace it, and the government built a fish pond.

He reads books from the public library, and his banked money was insured by an agency of the government. His

child grew up, entered public school, ate "free lunches," rode in a school bus, played in the municipal park, and twice in a public pool.

The man owned an automobile, so he favored the federal highway program. He signed a petition seeking federal assistance in developing an industrial project to "help the economy" of his area, was the leader in a move to get a new federal building, and went to Washington with a group who asked the government, to build a great power darn costing millions so the area could get cheaper electricity.

Then, one day, after hearing that the per capita income tax bill in 1959 averaged \$251.49 for every man, woman and child in the nation (over 177

million persons), he wrote his congressman.

"I wish to protest these excessive government expenditures and attendant high taxes. I believe in rugged individualism. I think people should stand on their own two feet without expecting hand-outs from the government and, in turn, as a taxpayer, I am opposed to all socialistic trends, and I demand a return to the principles of our constitution."



FLOYD COUNTY Sports

Sunday, July 15, 2007

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BASE Scouting Service to host Baseball Showcase

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PAINTSVILLE – Area high school baseball players and unsigned graduates have another chance to perform in front of college and professional scouts. Later this month, BASE Scouting Service will hold its second annual high school baseball showcase at Charlie Adkins Field in Paintsville. This year's high school baseball showcase is set for Saturday, July 28. Any high school baseball player who will be in grades 9-12 during the 2007-08 school year, in addition to unsigned recent graduates, are eligible to participate in the showcase. College coaches and professional scouts will be

present to evaluate players. In addition, player evaluations will be sent to other colleges. Registration will get underway at 9 a.m. Cost of the showcase is \$50 per player.

The showcase will be under the direction of BASE Scouting Service Director Robert Lyons, an assistant coach with the Paintsville High School baseball program.

PC BASEBALL CAMP: Area youth baseball players will have a chance to sharpen their skills and learn in early-August during a baseball camp in Pikeville. The Pikeville College baseball program will host a camp Aug. 1-3. Age groups for the camp are Ages 8-11 (Aug. 1); Ages 12-15 (Aug. 2) and Ages

16-18 (Aug. 3). The camp will run from 9 a.m. through 1 p.m. each day. Cost of the camp is \$50 per participant. The camp is limited to the first 30 campers. Each participant will receive a T-shirt. For more information, call Pikeville College Coach Don Ashby at either of the following numbers – 606/218-5370 or 606/437-9619.

Ashby took over the Pikeville College baseball program two seasons ago. He replaced Johnnie LeMaster at the top of the program after serving as an assistant coach. The Pikeville College baseball program competes in the Mid-South Conference. The MSC ranks as one of the NAIA's most competitive NAIA conferences.



file photo
STATE TOURNEY TEAM: The Prestonsburg 11-12-year-old girls' softball team is in Russell Springs competing in the State Tournament.

Former Pikeville College student-athlete made lasting impression

by RICK BENTLEY
TIMES COLUMNIST

One of the best things about working at a college is getting to know the students. With around 1,000 on campus at any given time, it's difficult to know everybody; probably if you could know 40 percent by name you'd really be doing well.

Every now and then a student



Rick Bentley

comes along, and before you know it you have a relationship with them. You've created a bond with them that's beyond

what you share with nearly all of their classmates. You become friends.

Some of the students become comfortable enough with you to join you for a while during lunch in the cafeteria, for a conversation on the bridge or in the hallways of the Administration Building or in your office for chat and some good-natured kidding.

There aren't many bad things about being around these young people. They get inside you, get to know you and you them and they make you feel younger, even if for just a little while.

About the only bad thing about being around these young people is that sometimes, on rare occasions, you lose one.

I'm not talking about grades, or graduation, or a loss of athletics eligibility. Sometimes tragedy strikes. Sometimes you get that phone call out of the blue from a friend wanting to know if you've heard anything bad or if you've been tipped off or, as is always their ultimate hope, that you can straighten them out and tell them it's not true.

That phone call came Saturday morning at 11:15 for me, from one of my childhood friends. It was my high school baseball teammate, the guy who coached a team against which I played while in Babe Ruth, the guy I coached with for six sum-

(See PIKEVILLE, page eight)



Members of the East Kentucky Miners organization visiting Prestonsburg Thursday were (pictured from left to right) Kevin Keathley, Jay Fiedler, Jennifer Lopez, Rob Blackwell and Demetrius Ford. The Miners plan to stay quite active in communities throughout Eastern Kentucky.

Miners front office, coach visit youth basketball camp

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE – Members of the East Kentucky Miners professional basketball organization visited a youth basketball camp being held at Adams Middle School in Prestonsburg, Thursday afternoon. NFL veteran Jay Fiedler and South Florida entrepreneur Demetrius Ford, co-founders of Trinity Sports and Entertainment Group, Inc., owners of the East Kentucky Miners, made an appearance at the camp. Miners Coach Kevin Keathley, President and General Manager Rob Blackwell and Jennifer Lopez, VP of Community Relations, joined the team's owners during the appearance.

Fiedler and Keathley each spoke to the campers in attendance.

"This is one of the reasons that I wanted to come back and coach the Miners," said Keathley. "Being able to go out in the community and give children a positive message is personally rewarding."

Fiedler and Keathley both stressed hard work and the importance of setting goals during the visit.

"Going out to events like this and speaking does promote Miners basketball, but that's really just icing on the cake," Keathley commented. "I don't go out to these events for that purpose. Instead, I go out and speak to kids because I want to make a difference in Eastern Kentucky."

The young basketball players in attendance at the camp soaked up what Fiedler and Keathley were saying.

"The kids at the camp couldn't have been more respectful to both Jay and myself," Keathley confided. "All of them have a bright future ahead of them. To be able to surprise the campers with Jay Fiedler was an added bonus. Anytime you can get a person like Jay Fiedler to speak about what it took for him to be successful can only give the youth a little more inspiration to work

(See MINERS, page eight)



Jay Fiedler (left) and Kevin Keathley (right) each signed autographs for the youth basketball campers.

Kentucky Afield Outdoors: Choosing the right fishing rod

by LEE McCLELLAN
KENTUCKY AFIELD

FRANKFORT – You have a friend who caught his first large-mouth bass last month. He hasn't quit talking about it since – and he's bugged you to death until you agreed to take him fishing. Although you offer to let him borrow one of your good bass sticks, he insists on bringing his own rod and reel.

He shows up with a cheap discount store combo. It has a tiny, plastic ultra-light reel mounted on a rod that resembles a willow switch with guides on it. The rod and reel would struggle to land the minnows you planned to use for bait.

His fishing experience would have been much better had he known what to look for in a rod and reel before buying an outfit.

Beginning (and sometimes experienced) anglers often don't know how to select a rod appropriate for the type of fishing they plan to do. A rod designed for panfish won't work for hauling in big bass.

Before deciding which rod is best, anglers should know the power and action of a rod. These two components often get intertwined and confused, even by experienced anglers.

The action refers to how much a rod bends when you're casting or have a fish at the end of the line. An extra fast action rod bends just at the tip. A fast action bends in the last quarter of the rod. A moderate-fast action rod bends over the last third. A moderate action rod bends over the last half. A slow action rod bends all the way into the handle. Fast action rods put more force into your throw and give you longer casts. Softer action rods are more forgiving and have less tendency to throw live bait from your hook.

The lure weights and line sizes that a rod can handle determine its power. Ultra-light rods are designed for 2-6 pound line and lures weighing from 1/32-ounce to 1/4-ounce. Rods can handle progressively heavier lures and line as their power increases from light to heavy.

A great choice for all-around fishing in Kentucky is a medium-light power, fast action rod for use with a spinning reel. These reels have an open spool in the

(See FISHING, page eight)

James claims Spring 50 victory

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

UNION – Indiana native Scott James held off some of the world's top dirt track Late Model drivers Wednesday night at Florence Speedway. James, an O'Reilly NARA Battle of the Bluegrass DirtCar Series veteran, claimed the feature win in the Spring 50.

The feature race, a BoB-sanctioned event, consisted of a 25-car field.

Allen driver Brandon Kinzer was the lone area driver in the \$5,000-to-win feature race. Kinzer, who had finished sixth or better in each of his previous five races, ended the Spring 50 25th. Next week, Kinzer will begin racing in the Southern Nationals at various tracks.

Complete results from the Spring 50 feature race follow

Spring 50 at Florence Speedway, Wednesday, July 11 (Feature Results): 1. 83-Scott James; 2. 11F-Steve Francis; 3.

29-Darrell Lanigan; 4. 33-Jesse Lay; 5. 14-John Gill; 6. 19-Steve Casebolt; 7. 33L-Matt Miller; 8. 11R-Jerry Rice; 9. 9C-Rick Corbin; 10. 9-Mike Jewell; 11. 1-Wayne Chinn; 12. 0-Jason Keltner; 13. 10-Brian Barber; 14. 4-Victor Lee; 15. 26C-Rick Combs; 16. 14T-Tyrel Todd; 17. 13w-David Webb; 18. 16-Justin Rattliff; 19. 1B-Audie McWilliams; 20. 18T-Tim Tungate; 21. 11X-Jerry Bowersock; 22. 10P-Larry Pickleheimer, Jr.; 23. 41-Brad Neat; 24. 5e-Michael England; 25. 18-Brandon Kinzer.

INSIDE: Brandon Kinzer is poised for a run at the 2007 O'Reilly Southern National Series championship. More on Kinzer and the series appears inside today's edition.



photo by Rick Schwalle
CHALLENGING FOR A SERIES TITLE: Floyd County driver Brandon Kinzer (18) is gearing up for a run at the 2007 O'Reilly Southern Nationals Series championship.

Oklahoma to appeal NCAA decision

by MURRAY EVANS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

OKLAHOMA CITY — The University of Oklahoma plans to appeal the NCAA's ruling that the school was guilty of a "failure to monitor" the employment of players and must erase eight football victories from the 2005 season.

The NCAA also said Wednesday that the Sooners must cut two scholarships for the 2008-09 and 2009-10 school years in the case involving two players kicked off the team last August for being paid for work they didn't perform at a Norman car dealership.

Oklahoma president David Boren said the university will appeal the NCAA's "failure to monitor" finding and the ruling that Oklahoma must erase the 2005 wins. As of Thursday, Oklahoma had 14 days to notify the NCAA in writing of any such appeal.

"We do not believe that erasing the 2005 season from the record books is fair to the over 100 student athletes and coaches who played by the rules and worked their hearts out for a successful season that year," Boren said.

The Sooners went 8-4 and

beat Oregon in the Holiday Bowl to end the 2005 season. Records from that season involving quarterback Rhett Bomar and offensive lineman J.D. Quinn must be erased, the NCAA said, and coach Bob Stoops' career record will be amended, dropping it from 86-19 in eight seasons to 78-19.

Oklahoma also will have two years of probation added to an earlier penalty, extending the Sooners' probation to May 23, 2010.

Those sanctions are in addition to those already self-imposed by Oklahoma, which has banned athletes from working at the car dealership until at least the 2008-09 academic year and moved to prevent the athletes' supervisor at the dealership, Brad McRae, from being involved with the program until at least August 2011.

Oklahoma also will reduce the number of football coaches who are allowed to recruit off campus this fall. The Sooners also dismissed Bomar, Quinn and walk-on Jermaine Hardison from the team.

Paul Dee, the athletic director at Miami and the interim chairman of the NCAA Division I Committee on Infractions, said Oklahoma

will be allowed to keep the money it received for playing in the 2005 Holiday Bowl, because the NCAA does not regulate bowl games.

"Although this case centered on a few violations involving three student-athletes, the committee finds this case to be significant and serious for several reasons," the NCAA report said, noting the length of time of the violations and the fact that Oklahoma had appeared before the committee in April 2006 regarding violations in its men's basketball program.

On Aug. 3 — the day before the Sooners began preseason practice — Stoops dismissed Bomar and Quinn from the team after the university determined they had been paid for work they didn't perform at Big Red Sports and Imports.

That led to an NCAA investigation, which found that Bomar, Quinn and Hardison had been paid for time they didn't work at the dealership and that Hardison had received payment for time he spent participating in a scrimmage and spring game.

The players and McRae engaged "in a deliberate scheme to deceive both the employer's payroll system and

the university's employment monitoring system in an attempt to violate NCAA rules of which they were real aware," the report stated.

The committee found that Oklahoma "demonstrated a failure to monitor" the employment of several athletes, including some football players who worked during the academic year. The NCAA said that failure led to the university not detecting NCAA rules violations.

During the investigation, the university disputed that allegation, arguing that the NCAA should applaud, not penalize, its efforts to root out violations and noted that NCAA president Myles Brand told one news outlet that the university "acted with integrity in taking swift and decisive action."

Dee said Wednesday that Oklahoma should be praised for quickly dismissing the players from the team, calling that action "very influential on the committee."

Still, the committee said Oklahoma should have undertaken more extensive efforts to monitor the players' employment, because the dealership apparently was the largest employer of Oklahoma ath-

letes.

Boren disagreed, saying in a statement that "any mistakes made by the athletic department compliance staff while monitoring would not have prevented the intentional wrongdoing by the student athletes and the employer involved."

Stoops said he "strongly supported" Boren's decision to appeal.

"Our current team is focused on the upcoming season," Stoops said. "The university is dealing with a matter that relates to the 2005 season. This group of players and those that will join our program later have no reason to be concerned about our goals or the direction of our program. Those things remain unchanged."

Both Bomar and Quinn lost a season of eligibility. Bomar has been ordered by the NCAA to pay back more than \$7,400 in extra benefits to charity, while Quinn was told to pay back more than \$8,100. Both players transferred to Division I-AA schools — Bomar to Sam Houston State and Quinn to Montana — where they can resume their careers this season.

Through Sam Houston

State athletic department spokesman Paul Ridings, Bomar declined comment Wednesday.

When reached on his cell phone, Quinn said he didn't pay any attention to the infractions committee's ruling on Oklahoma, calling it "dumb" and referring to it with an expletive.

"I have no idea," Quinn said. "I don't care."

Oklahoma officials also appeared before the Committee on Infractions in April 2006 following an investigation into hundreds of improper recruiting phone calls by former basketball coach Kelvin Sampson's staff.

Oklahoma escaped major sanctions in that case, as the infractions committee also found the university guilty of a "failure to monitor," a less severe ruling than "lack of institutional control," which had been recommended by the NCAA's enforcement staff.

The committee mostly accepted the university's self-imposed sanctions, which included reductions in scholarships, recruiting calls and trips and visits to the school by prospective recruits.

Fishing

front and mount on the bottom of the rod. They are the best choice for fishing situations where the line being used is 10 pounds or less in strength.

This kind of rod is supple enough to enjoy catching small farm pond bass and panfish, while beefy enough to land a large channel catfish or a four-pound bass. Spinning gear is easy to use and allows you to cast light lures a long way. Spinning rods help protect light lines, allowing beginners to make mistakes while landing a decent sized fish without breaking off.

The fast action gives the rod enough heft to set the hook when fishing a plastic worm or jig for bass, or setting the hook on a catfish.

For bluegill, crappie and small trout, a light power, fast action spinning rod is a good choice. A quality ultra-light rod also works for these fish, but many ultra-lights are too short and too wimpy. A 42-foot ultra-light rod with the backbone of a boiled noodle isn't worth the packaging it came in

for any species.

For larger black bass, walleye and channel catfish, a medium power, moderate fast or fast action baitcasting rod works well. Baitcasting reels have an enclosed spool and mount on top of the rod. They are the best choice for lines of 10 pound test or higher. They require much greater practice than spinning gear to use effectively.

Choose the moderate fast action if you plan to fish leeches or minnows for walleye, or chicken livers for channel cats. The slightly softer action usually helps prevent you from throwing off the bait while casting. If you plan to jig and worm fish for largemouth bass and occasionally fish for the other species, choose a fast action, medium power rod.

Get a medium heavy or heavy power baitcasting rod with a fast action for striped bass, muskellunge, flathead catfish and blue catfish. This set-up is also good for flipping or pitching jigs for largemouth bass. Choose a moderate or

slow action rod with a medium-heavy or heavy power rating if you plan to use live bait. Again, the softer action protects against throwing the bait off the hook on the cast. These rods possess enough strength to land these fish, but they can also handle the heavy lures and strong line needed.

Lee McClellan is an award-winning writer for Kentucky Afield magazine, the official publication of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. He is a life-long hunter and angler, with a passion for smallmouth bass fishing.

The 8th Annual Youth Squirrel Hunt/Campout at German Bridge Campground sponsored by the Floyd County Hunter Education Organization, Kentucky Hunter Education Association, Dewey Lake Fish and Game Club and Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife will be held Aug. 17-18.

Continued from p7

Pikeville

mers in Senior Little League.

It was my friend Mike Spears. He'd just been told that Travis Hall, a Pikeville College alum, had lost his life in an automobile accident.

Mike was shaken. So was I. I called my friend Charolette, who was still in the hospital from delivering a beautiful baby girl on Saturday. Her husband George was on his cell phone, getting the same information.

As the day wore on, cell phones stayed hot all around Eastern Kentucky. Friends and co-workers — upon graduation, Travis had been hired as an admission's counselor and had only recently left us for the more lucrative world of pharmaceuticals — who gathered to celebrate the life of Dr. John Strosnider learned the news as they left.

Make no mistake about it: In the calm of summer, Pikeville College has been rocked to its core this week. We loved Travis Hall and can't believe we'll be going on with only his memories to share.

Travis was that likeable kid I got to know early on in his time as a student. His mom told us at Tuesday's visitation that she didn't think he'd stay when he came to Pikeville from his native Boyd County, thinking that if he did it would be only because of baseball.

Travis, she said, had his doubts too. But he dug in deep, got a good foothold and came to love Pikeville.

"Pikeville was his home," his mother said Tuesday. "And it wasn't baseball that

kept him there. It was the people."

Often Travis would stop by my office to talk. We'd talk about sports, our common love of baseball and Pikeville College baseball. Travis was a fine third baseman who also pitched and played first and was named honorable-mention all-conference.

But baseball wasn't his only interest. In the truest sense of the word, Travis was a Bear. He loved all sports at Pikeville College and was a fixture at football games, basketball games, at volleyball matches and softball games. He loved sports, loved his classmates and his fellow student-athletes and supported them unconditionally, through good seasons and bad.

I thank God Melinda Lynch had the good sense to hire Travis last summer. He had a terrific experience at Pikeville College and wanted to share it with others. He wanted to open the doors of his experience to those coming after him, and his easy smile and boyish good looks made him a natural to visit high schools and try to convince college-bound students that Pikeville was the place for them.

Travis was a good student, a good athlete and a good co-worker. But we didn't love Travis for those reasons.

We loved him because he was a nice guy whose company we enjoyed keeping. We loved him because he was quick-witted, funny and pleasant to be around.

We were blessed to have Travis Hall in our lives for the

last five years or so. His shaken family was blessed to have him for 23.

And we'll always wonder why they couldn't have had him around for 23 more.

Travis Hall was in the wrong place at the wrong time on Saturday morning when — according to police and newspaper accounts — a car crossed the center line and hit him head on.

Travis was on his way to play in a softball tournament. Think about that: Had he been like a good number of people his age and desired instead to play video games all day, this may not have happened. But he loved to play and crawled out of bed on his day off early in the morning, intending to spend the entire day on a ball diamond, doing the thing he loved most of all.

Life can be cruel sometimes. I don't mind telling you I've thought a lot about Travis this week, fought back tears many times and prayed for his family, his loved ones, his friends.

I'm proud to say I'm included in that number. On Tuesday night, I was one of an estimated 5,000 people who lined up outside of and snaked through a funeral chapel to pay our respects to someone who was taken from us entirely too soon.

I'm also proud to say I loved Travis Hall. Folks like Travis love unconditionally.

And he'll be missed miserably. Today I'll take a moment and thank God for allowing me to know Travis Hall. I hope you'll do the same.

Continued from p7

Rolling with it: Champion skateboarder finds sport to be addictive

by ROSS JOHNSON
THE ADVOCATE-
MESSENGER

DANVILLE — For Brad Hardin, skateboarding comes as naturally as walking. He's been doing it since he was 4 years old.

So when the annual skateboarding competition in Lexington's Woodland Park rolled around, Brad rolled up with his board and won first place in the advanced level competition.

Brad beat more than 85 other skateboarders in the Cosmic Invasion skateboard competition, held in June, to celebrate National Go Skateboarding Day.

Skateboarders get two 60-second runs through the course, a concrete park with ramps, pipes and rails. With only a minute to perform, skaters try to show off their best tricks without wiping out.

"You don't mess around. If you mess up, you just keep going," says Brad.

Now 16, Brad learned that he loved skateboarding at a young age.

"My grandpa got me one (a skateboard) at a yard sale," Brad says. "So I started rolling around with it."

Though he skates effortlessly now, Brad had to start somewhere.

"When he was little, he couldn't stand on it at first," says Cecil Hardin, Brad's father. "He used to sit on it and ride down the driveway."

Brad has come a long way since those days, demonstrating his skill by grabbing his skateboard and casually — as if it were a normal way of descending stairs — hurtling down several steps from the walkway of his house to the street below. Once on the street, Brad begins circling the pavement, performing kick-flips and ollies.

Twelve years after he started, Brad finds that skateboarding — in some fashion — now takes up most of his time.

"It's addicting," says Brad, who spends hours each day practicing or hanging out at the Sirimongkhon Skateshop, a haven for Danville skaters. "It's like walking to me."

He had a pivotal role in the creation of the skatepark now

in Danville's Millennium Park, an undertaking that took years but eventually gave area skaters a place of their own to practice.

Hardin collected signatures for a petition to build the skatepark, and once the time came, even helped test out potential equipment for the park.

Skateboarding is obviously more than just a hobby for Brad.

He plans to make his passion into a lucrative career, and hopes his win at Cosmic Invasion acts as a springboard to a company sponsorship.

Right now, his dad says, Brad's trademark red trucker hats from Ranger Boats in Arkansas are the closest thing he has to a sponsorship.

"You see that hat, you know it's Brad," says Cecil Hardin.

Brad hopes to land a place in the Tampa Am, a competition held every January at the renowned Skatepark of Tampa.

If you do well at the Tampa Am, Brad says, "You're set for life."

FORMER STUDENT-ATHLETE REMEMBERED: Former Pikeville College baseball player Travis Hall lost his life earlier in the week in a car accident. Hall made an impact on many during his time at Pikeville College. Pikeville College Sports Information Director Rick Bentley had fond memories of the former Baseball Bear. Hall was a Boyd County High School graduate.



Miners

that much harder to achieve their goals in life."

The Miners are committed to staying involved in communities throughout Eastern Kentucky and surrounding areas.

Excitement is building for the East Kentucky Miners' press conference set for July 19 at the East Kentucky Expo Center. The press conference is scheduled to get underway at 7:30 p.m. and is open to the public as fans are invited to attend the event.

Tickets for the East Kentucky pro basketball

team's debut season will go on sale following the press conference.

Continued from p7

ONLINE
www.ekminers.com

MSU rifle squad ends season ranked 20th nationally

TIMES STAFF REPORT

MOREHEAD — Most collegiate rifle coaches can tell you that the Ohio Valley Conference is one of the nation's premier rifle conferences, and it was proven true again this season as five OVC teams finished the season ranked in the Collegiate Rifle

Coaches Association top 20, including the Morehead State University squad — led by head coach Walt Rybka — which finished 20th nationally.

The rifle Eagles, comprised of Ed Lemley, Jennifer Cross, Keli Schram, Kevin Mulligan, Lindy Nettleton, Matt Hanak, Nathan Lambert, Nick Rosati and Sara Bullock, averaged

4436.67 in the three-match average category of the rankings. Mulligan was named to the OVC All-Newcomer Team for smallbore.

Jacksonville State, Murray State, Tennessee Tech and Tennessee-Martin also all earned national rankings in the final poll.

New York holds off Cincinnati: Mets 3, Reds 2

by HAL BROCK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — If the New York Mets wanted to shake up their offense by firing their hitting coach, it worked.

For two batters, Jose Reyes and Ruben Gotay opened with consecutive home runs, the first time that's happened in the Mets' 46-season history, and New York beat the Cincinnati Reds 3-2 on Thursday night.

It was a strong start in the first game since New York dismissed hitting coach Rick Down and added Rickey Henderson to the coaching staff. It has not been decided whether Henderson or first-base coach Howard Johnson

will replace Down, but Johnson filled the role against Cincinnati. Henderson was traveling and didn't arrive in time for the game.

New York also jettisoned 48-year-old Julio Franco, who hit only .200 in 50 at-bats with one home run and eight RBIs, and promoted Lastings Milledge from the minors.

The Mets needed both homers, some daring baserunning by Milledge and six sharp innings from Orlando Hernandez (5-4) to win their first game of the second half.

Reyes, fresh off his three-hit performance in the All-Star game, led off the bottom of the first with his fifth homer and Gotay followed with his fourth, both against Bronson Arroyo

(3-10). It was the third time this season that the Mets hit back-to-back homers but the first time in 7,238 games the club opened that way.

"I don't know if they were mistakes," Arroyo said. "I threw the pitch I wanted to Reyes. The other one (to Gotay) was a 2-1 breaking ball. I was surprised he hit it out of the park."

Cincinnati finished with just four hits and fell to 5-2 under interim manager Pete Mackanin, who took over for Jerry Narron earlier this month. Arroyo gave up three runs and eight hits in seven innings.

The Reds placed outfielder Josh Hamilton on the 15-day disabled list before the game and recalled catcher Chad

Mocler. Hamilton sprained his wrist Saturday night.

Scott Hatteberg hit a two-run single in the second to tie it at 2, but the Mets went in front for good in the fifth.

Milledge, who got the start in left field, led off with a single. Arroyo then retired Hernandez and Reyes before Gotay's drive fell just in front of diving center fielder Ryan Freel.

Milledge circled the bases and barely beat the play at home, touching the plate with his hand ahead of catcher David Ross's tag.

"It was a good throw and that made it pretty close," Milledge said. "I knew it would be close. I kind of waited a split second to get my hand in

around him a little."

Hernandez allowed three hits and two runs, struck out seven and walked three. He retired the last 12 batters he faced.

"I think it was a little difficult coming back after the All-Star game and three days without throwing," Hernandez said. "I threw yesterday but it was a little difficult."

Joe Smith worked a perfect seventh for New York, Pedro Feliciano pitched the eighth and Billy Wagner got three outs for his 18th save in 19 chances.

Brandon Phillips led off the ninth with a single, ending a streak of 18 consecutive hitters retired by New York. He advanced on a groundout but was caught off second when

Edwin Encarnacion bounced to Reyes at shortstop.

"He wanted to make something happen," Mackanin said. "It was an aggressive mistake."

Encarnacion stole second before Jeff Conine grounded out to end the game.

Notes: Reyes' drive was his ninth career leadoff homer, a franchise record. He had been tied with Lenny Dykstra and Tommie Agee. ... Hernandez's stolen base in the second inning was the second steal of his career. ... Milledge's single was his first hit of the season for the Mets. He was 0-for-3 in a brief stay in April.

Kinzer set to contend for Southern Nationals Series championship

TIMES STAFF REPORT

ALLEN — Floyd County native Brandon Kinzer is currently in one of the busiest portions of his race season. The Late Model driver is gearing up to compete in the O'Reilly Southern Nationals Series. Kinzer finished runner-up in the Series last season.

Officials from the O'Reilly Southern Nationals Series announced that the July 20 event at the Lavonia Speedway in Lavonia, Georgia has been changed to a \$3,500 to win, \$350 to start race. The promoters at Lavonia agreed to host a \$5,300 to win show on Friday evening, July 20, but have since backed out on that commitment. Instead, series promoter Ray Cook and the O'Reilly Southern Nationals Series have leased the track for that night.

"It is unfortunate that there has been a cut in purse for the Lavonia event," commented Cook. "The promoters there called us at the last minute and for some reason couldn't do the show. I thought it was very important to ensure that there are ten races on the schedule, so the series is going to lease the track and promote the event ourselves. Unfortunately with such late timing, we are unable to search for sponsors for the race and promote it enough to pay \$5,300 to win. We still look forward to hosting a great event at Lavonia on Friday night, July 20."

The O'Reilly Southern Nationals Series has also added two additional contingency sponsors for the 2007 tour, which starts on Monday night at the Wythe Raceway in Rural Retreat, Virginia. Graphic Impressions has signed on as the official apparel provider of the series and will provide the series champion with a \$500.00 product certificate. In addition, Youngblood Concrete and Brownie and Cheryl Brown will hand \$100 cash to any Ford driver that sets

fast time at a series event in 2007. Below is the entire list of contingency sponsors:

Altuna Mats — \$100 product certificate for Fast Qualifier each night (each driver only eligible once).

Barry Wright Race Cars — \$100 product certificate to highest finisher in their chassis each race.

Extreme Hauling — \$1,000 for Rookie of the Year and \$500.00 for Rookie runner-up

Graphic Impressions — \$500.00 product certificate to series champion.

GRT Race Cars — \$100.00 product certificate to highest finisher in their chassis each race.

GW Performance — \$50.00 product certificate to winner each night.

Integra Racing Shocks — \$2,000 product certificate to series champion if on Integra shocks, \$1,000 product certificate to series runner-up if on Integra shocks, and \$500 product certificate if third place finisher in points is on Integra shocks.

Integra Racing Shocks — \$100 product certificate to fast qualifier each night and \$250 product certificate to driver with most fast time awards.

Mason Racin' — Free starter to seventh place in series points.

MasterSbilt Race Cars — \$500 to winning crew chief and \$250 to runner-up crew chief

Ohlins Shocks — \$1,000 product certificate to series winner, \$500 product certificate to series runner-up, and \$250 product certificate for third place.

PPM Performance Products — \$50 product certificate to hard charger each night.

Premier Racing Suspension — \$50 product certificate to winner each night.

Rocket Chassis — \$100.00 product certificate to highest finisher in their chassis each race.

SHY Racing Suspensions —

\$65.00 product certificate to winner each night

Wilwood — \$50.00 product certificate to first driver who misses the feature each night

Youngblood Concrete — \$100 to any Ford driver that sets fast time.

The 2007 O'Reilly Southern Nationals Series schedule is as follows:

Monday, July 16: Wythe Raceway, Rural Retreat, Va., \$3,500 to win, \$350 to start. Previous Winners: Dennis Franklin (2006).

Tuesday, July 17: Cherokee Speedway, Gaffney, SC, \$3,500 to win, \$350 to start.

Previous Winners: Rain (2006).

Thursday, July 19: Tri-County Race Track, Brasstown, NC, \$3,500 to win, \$350 to start. Previous Winners: Benji Cole (2005), Casey Roberts (2006).

Friday, July 20: Lavonia Speedway, Lavonia, Ga., \$3,500 to win, \$350 to start. Previous Winners: Rain (2005), Anthony White (2006).

Saturday, July 21: Screven Motor Speedway, Sylvania, Ga., \$5,300 to win, \$500 to start. Previous Winners: Henry Carter (2006)

Monday, July 23: Duck River Speedway, Wheel, Tenn., \$3,500 to win, \$350 to start.

Previous Winners: First Series Event in 2007.

Tuesday, July 24: Crossville Raceway USA, Crossville, Tenn., \$3,500 to win, \$350 to start. Previous Winners: Eddie Carrier, Jr. (2005).

Thursday, July 26: Cleveland Speedway, Cleveland, Tenn., \$3,500 to win, \$350 to start. Previous Winners: Clint Smith (2006).

Friday, July 27: Volunteer Speedway, Bulls Gap, Tenn., \$5,300 to win, \$500 to start.

Previous Winners: Jimmy Owens (2006).

Saturday, July 28: Tazewell Speedway, Tazewell, Tenn., \$5,300 to win, \$500 to start.



photos by Nancy Lane-Feldner



NASCAR drivers Dave Blaney, Ken Schrader and Tony Stewart took to the Eldora Speedway red clay Tuesday night. Stewart owns the famed Rossburg, Ohio dirt track.

Wolfe, Schrader win Eldora Speedway features

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

ROSSBURG, Ohio — Lucas Wolfe and NASCAR veteran Ken Schrader each claimed victories Tuesday night at Eldora Speedway during the Old Spice Summer Sizzler event at Eldora Speedway. Wolfe prevailed in the NRA Sprint Invaders feature. Schrader outlasted Brian Ruhlman to the finish line in the UMP Modified feature. Complete results from Tuesday night's races follow.

OLD SPICE SUMMER SIZZLER, NRA Sprint Invaders — 36 cars, Fast Time: Gary Fast 14.791. Heat 1: Greg Wilson, Tim Allison, Kevin Huntley, Gary Fast, Dave Blaney, Cory Seeling, Tony Stewart, Kent Wolters, Steve Erwin, Bob Gehr, Dave Miller, Bob Carman. Heat 2: Phil Gressman, Mike Brecht, Lucas Wolfe, Kasey Kahne, Dustin Daggett, Mike Miller, Mike Dussell, Dennis Yoakam, Ryan Myers, Chad Wilson, Randy Fusi, Mike Dunlap. Heat 3: Ron Blair, Dale Blaney, Darren Long, Dwain Leiber, Jared Horstman, Luke Hall, Scott Carter, Mark Hery, Bud Kaeding, Rick Boughan, Adam Main, Brent Gehr.

B-Main: Luke Hall, Cory Seeling, Tony Stewart, Mike Miller, Bud Kaeding, Kent Wolters, Mike Dussell, Scott Carter, Steve Erwin, Chad Wilson, Mark Hery, Bob Gehr, Randy Fusi, Brent Gehr, Bob Carman, Dave Miller, Dennis Yoakam, Rick Boughan, Ryan Myers, Adam Main, Mike Dunlap.

The 25-lap A-Main: 1. Lucas Wolfe; 2. Dale Blaney; 3. Greg Wilson; 4. Kasey Kahne; 5. Dustin Daggett; 6. Darren Long; 7. Mike

Brecht; 8. Dave Blaney; 9. Gary Fast; 10. Mike Dussell; 11. Kevin Huntley; 12. Tony Stewart; 13. Phil Gressman; 14. Bud Kaeding; 15. Jared Horstman; 16. Tim Allison; 17. Kent Wolters; 18. Dwain Leiber; 19. Mike Miller; 20. Cory Seeling; 21. Ron Blair; 22. Luke Hall; 23. Dennis Yoakam.

UMP MODIFIEDS — 34 cars. Heat 1: Brian Ruhlman, Ken Schrader, Todd Sherman, Jerry Bowersock, Mike Dirksen, Rob Trent, Mike Hohlbein, Shane Unger, Todd Sanders. Heat 2: Steve Shute, Mike Chrisman, Scott Orr, Jon Henry, Rob Williams, Tim Richardson, Zach Walkup, Aaron Jenkins, Brent Hole.

Heat 3: Tony Anderson, Davey Gantt, Mark Kowarsch, Justin Matson, Fireball Pinkerton, Ron Capps, David Treon, Jr., Ryan Forst. Heat 4: Gary Richard, Shaun Smith, David Spille, Doug Hewitt, Jr., Mike Roediger, John Brooks, Stan Smith, Bob Burch. B-Main 1: Mike Dirksen, Rob Williams, Mike Hohlbein, Rob Trent, Aaron Jenkins, Todd Sanders, Tim Richardson, Shane Unger, Zach Walkup. B-Main 2: Mike Roediger, Fireball Pinkerton, Ron Capps, Bob Burch, John Brooks, Stan Smith, Ryan Forst, David Treon, Jr. The 17-lap A-Main:

1. Ken Schrader; 2. Brian Ruhlman; 3. Jerry Bowersock; 4. Gary Richard; 5. Steve Shute; 6. Scott Orr; 7. Shaun Smith; 8. Tony Anderson; 9. Rob Williams; 10. Mark Kowarsch; 11. Mike Roediger; 12. Mike Dirksen; 13. Mike Chrisman; 14. Jon Henry; 15. Justin Matson; 16. David Spille; 17. Fireball Pinkerton; 18. Davey Gantt; 19. Todd Sherman; 20. Ron Capps; 21. Doug Hewitt, Jr.; 22. Mike Hohlbein.

2007 NASCAR Nextel Cup Schedule/Results

- July 15 — USG Sheetrock 400, Joliet, Ill.
- July 29 — Allstate 400 at the Brickyard, Indianapolis.
- Aug. 5 — Pennsylvania 500, Long Pond, Pa.
- Aug. 12 — NEXTEL Cup at The Glen, Watkins Glen, N.Y.
- Aug. 19 — 3M Performance 400, Brooklyn, Mich.
- Aug. 25 — Sharpie 500, Bristol, Tenn.
- Sept. 2 — NASCAR Nextel Cup Series 500, Fontana, Calif.
- Sept. 8 — Chevy Rock-and-Roll 400, Richmond, Va.
- Sept. 16 — Sylvania 300, Loudon, N.H.
- Sept. 23 — Dover 400, Dover, Del.
- Sept. 30 — Kansas 400, Kansas City, Kan.
- Oct. 7 — UAW-Ford 500, Talladega, Ala.
- Oct. 13 — Bank of America 500, Concord, N.C.
- Oct. 21 — Subway 500, Martinsville, Va.
- Oct. 28 — Georgia 500, Hampton, Ga.
- Nov. 4 — Dickies 500, Fort Worth, Texas.
- Nov. 11 — Checker Auto Parts 500, Avondale, Ariz.
- Nov. 18 — Ford 400, Homestead, Fla.

x-non-points race

THE FLOYD COUNTY TIMES ONLINE

www.floydcountytimes.com

Kentucky youth teams qualify for National Trapshooting Championships

Event attracts young shooters from throughout state

TIMES STAFF REPORT

BEREA — Young trap shooters from across Kentucky earned state titles — with many qualifying to represent Kentucky at upcoming national championships — at the recent Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP) Kentucky Trap State Championship.

The competition, held July 4 at Central Kentucky Gun Club in Berea, featured some of Kentucky's top young shooters in varsity, junior varsity, intermediate and rookie divisions.

SCTP, for youths in grades 12 and under, has been called "the Little League of shooting sports." More than 10,000 students in over 40 states are expected to compete in 2007. A program of the National Shooting Sports Foundation, SCTP is managed in partnership with numerous sponsors, agencies and organizations.

Kentucky teams participating in the state title shoot qualified for their sport's upcoming national championships. Skeet and sporting clays national titles will be decided July 13-15 at the National Shooting Complex in San Antonio. Trap national championships are slated for Aug. 5-7 at the World Shooting

and Recreational Complex in Sparta, Ill. Last year, the event attracted more than 1,600 youths from across the nation.

The best of these young shooters could be selected to attend an Olympic development camp in August in Colorado Springs, and some will go on to compete at the collegiate level.

For more information, visit www.nssf.org/sctp. Results — SCTP Kentucky Trap State Championship (held July 4 at Central Kentucky Gun Club, Berea):

Varsity Division (Grades 9-12): First Place—Northern Kentucky Scholastic Trap, 478 (Brandon Ryan of Warsaw, Sean Williams Hamons of Butler, William Price of Falmouth, Christina Kuchle of Ft. Mitchell, Bred Felty of Alexandria). Second Place—Union County 4-H Shooting Sports Club, 473 (Lee Davis Jackson of Morganfield, Stephen Zachary Crisp of Owensboro, Kirk French of Sturgis, Christopher D. Duncan of Morganfield, Wil Kolbe Jackson of Morganfield). Third Place—Morgan-Elliott, 461 (Johnny Skaggs of West Liberty, Jessica Litton of Sandy Hook, Luther Horton of West Liberty, Adam Perkins of Hazel Green, Aaron Barker of Ezel).

Junior Varsity Division (Grades 9-12) — First Place—W.C. Clay Crushers, 451 out of 500 targets (Matthew Catron of Monticello, John Glenn Diamond of Albany, Lucas Dalton Guinn of Monticello, Matthew Hutchinson of Monticello, Kyle Brookman Parris of Monticello). Second Place—W.C.

Clay Crushers, No. 2 Team, 445 (Cameron Crowley of Monticello, Zachary T. Gibson of Monticello, Konagher Parris of Monticello, Alexander Petrenko of Monticello, James Smith of Alpha). Third Place—Not awarded.

Intermediate Division (Grades 6-8): First Place—Smokin' Dragons, 442 out of 500 targets (Julie Church of Greensburg, Jordan Harmon of Greensburg, Thomas Dylan Penick of Greensburg, Jacob Shofer of Greensburg, Christina Joyce Simpson of Greensburg). Second Place—Montgomery County 4-H Clay Runners, 440 (Dustin L. Brooks of Jeffersonville, Aaron Donathan of Jeffersonville, Bryan Lawson of Jeffersonville, Waylon Mapel of Mt. Sterling, Zane Stafford of Jeffersonville). Third Place—Morgan-Elliott, 423 (Marshall Jordan of West Liberty, Joseph Litton of Sandy Hook, Garrett Finch of West Liberty, Billy Wade Conn of Sand Hook, Joshua Reynolds of West Liberty).

Rookie Division (Grades 5 and under): First Place—Morgan-Elliott, 344 out of 500 targets (Brandon K. Lewis of Morehead, Austin N. Lewis of Morehead, Kevin Clevenger of Sandy Hook, Patrick Moore of Sandy Hook, Ben Powers of Sandy Hook). Second Place—Northern Kentucky Scholastic Trap, 326 (Nathan J. Penick of Ryland Heights, Seth Hounshell of Alexandria, Charles K. Allen of Independence, Jacob Melville of Southgate, Nicholas Paul Sinclair of Alexandria). Third Place—Not awarded.

The Floyd County Times

CUTEST PET CONTEST

Friday

July 29



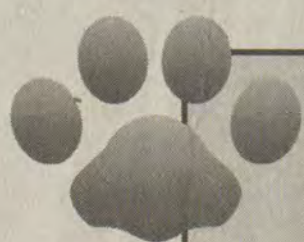
Send us your
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along with a \$5.00 entry fee to:

Floyd County Times Cute Pet Contest

P.O. Box 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653

Deadline to enter: Monday, July 23, 2007



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- State your price or terms
- Include a phone number and/or e-mail address

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 ADDRESS: _____
 PHONE #: _____

Write your ad here:

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 886-2842
 886-3451.

FOR SALE
 2002 Honda Shadow, 750 Ace Deluxe, Lots of chrome and extras, sharp pain, great condition. \$4300. After 5pm 886-0323.

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 Submergible deep well Meyer pumps. Half 3 quarter and 1 horse power. Call 358-2000.

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Job Listings

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 Airgas has a career opportunity available for a Route Driver at its Prestonsburg, KY location. This position requires a Class A CDL with H A Z M A T Endorsement. Knowledge of the welding industry & customer service experience is a plus. Airgas offers a competitive salary and benefits which include paid vacation days, holidays, sick days, 401(k), employee stock purchase plan. Please inquire to: Email: HYPERLINKmailto:heather.arnold@airgas.com heather.arnold@airgas.com Fax: 270-936-6228 Airgas Mid America Attn: Heather Arnold EOE M/F/V/H Visit Airgas on the web at www.airgas.com.

JOB OPENING

Salesperson
 Growing manufacturing and rebuilding company seeks sales rep to call on established accounts and open new accounts in the coal industry in eastern KY and southwestern VA. Successful applicant must be a self starter. Previous record of successful sales experience preferred but not required.
 Salary plus commission plus good benefits.
 SEND RESUME TO "BLIND BOX" Downward Hydraulics, Inc. 1 Turnpike Industrial Park Princeton, WV 24740

JOB OPENING
 Legal Secretary at the Law Office of Larry D. Brown, 143 North Arnold Avenue, Prestonsburg. If interested, please mail a resume to PO Box 550, Prestonsburg, Ky 41653. Experience preferred, but not required. Must be proficient on computer (Word and WordPerfect), friendly, work well with public, possess good communication skills and be organized. Salary commensurate with skill level and experience.

JOB OPENINGS
 Shoe Sensation in the Glynview Plaza seeks an energetic individual interested in a retail management career. We offer bi-weekly compensation and flexible scheduling. Apply at the store of call 886-0903 to schedule an interview.

JOB OPENING
 MET wanted please call 791-0625

JOB OPENING
 Registered Nurse needed for Pediatric Practice. Pediatric experience and references to: "RN" PO Box 1810 Prestonsburg, Ky 41653.

JOB OPENING
 100 Workers needed. Assemble crafts, wood items. To \$480/wk. Materials provided. Free information Pkg 24 Hr. 801-428-4649.

JOB OPENING
 Salon is looking for a part time cosmetologist or booth rental available. Call 358-4844 for more information.

JOB OPENING
 Company seeking caring staff to work with individual with mental retardations, developmental disabilities in a residential setting. Staff training will be provided. Benefits include 1week paid vacation and Holiday and

Birthday bonus. Must be able to pass drug screen and criminal background check. To apply please call 606-946-2078 or 606-377-1009.

JOB OPENING
 Renos Roadhouse in Prestonsburg is now hiring for all positions. Shifts: Day and Night. Apply in person only.

MERCHANDISE

BOOK FOR SALE
 Corners of inspiration (A collaboration of Kim's Korner). Priority mail \$13.30, shipping UPS \$20.00, allow 2-4 weeks for delivery. To order send check or money order to Kim Frausre 955 Abbott Mountain Road Prestonsburg Ky 41653, or email kifrasure@bellsouth.net

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

Animal

LOST!!!!!!!
 German Shorthaired Pointer bobtail. Solid liver color. Lost in David area. Reward offered, answers to Frisky. Call 889-9546.

Yard Sale

ESTATE SALE
 Nick-Nacks to Antiques. Complete 12 place setting of Havland and Sango china. 575 Mays Branch, Prestonsburg off Hwy 23 turn at Pizza Hut. 11:00 to 4:00, Friday and Saturday. Cash only. Bring a box.

YARD SALE
 4 Family yard sale 8-7 July 7 at Slick Rock of Cow Creek. Household items, appliances, whatnots, furniture, hardware, tools, baby items, to much to mention.

FOR SALE
 Recording Studio great price! We also do CD duplication + graphics + shrinkwrap the CD'S. Call Rick to set up appointments. 377-2773

REAL ESTATE

House

TWO HOUSES FOR SALE
 income producing property 2 BR house. \$550 per month. 3 BR house rented \$650 per month. Third rental unit can also be completed. Upstairs would rent for \$500 per month. Can see

four lane from house property location at Ivel, Ky. Call 437-6507 or 434-9008.

HOUSE FOR SALE
 2 houses, one low price! Will sell separately! 3 BR, 2 bath, 3 story level \$40,000. 2 BR 1 bath \$25,000. Located at Dwale, call 606-634-9111 for more info.

HOUSE FOR SALE
 Beautiful newly built 2 story 3 BR, 3 Bath Capecod style home located directly off Rt. 80 just West of Martin. Home includes several exciting features such as hardwood flooring throughout, central vac, heated in ground pool. Property also has a nice 30x60 2 story building, another 1 story home is also located on the property which may serve as a great business location or rental. All for one price. Will not separate. Call 285-1450 for additional information or viewing.

Sale or Lease

FOR LEASE OR RENT
 Commercial building for rent. Approx. 1700 sq ft on left Hillside Center just before Mountain Arts Center. Owned by Ed Ousley (formally Curves) Available immediately call 886-2163.

FOR SALE
 5 Golf carts for sale. 2002 and up to 2004 Club carts and E-Z go carts with tops and windshields. All are in excellent condition. Call 606-789-1618 or 606-789-5835.

FOR SALE
 2001 26X72 Patreat MH and 2002 Buick Park Ave. 28,000 miles call 874-9289.

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 Carl D. Perkins Job Corps
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 Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653
 Fax: 606-886-6073
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 Established business, Prime location in Prestonsburg, 240 Front Rd. 791-3663.

FOR LEASE OR RENT
 Duplex for rent at David, 2 BR, 1 bath, new siding and roof, hardwood floors, big kitchen, all utilities paid. \$700 per month plus \$450 deposit. Call 606-454-5494 or 297-9851.

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 Newly furnished one BR apt. Near college. AC, no pets please. Lease + security deposit. House of Neeley. 886-3565.

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 Female roommate to share rent/expenses on 3 BR 2 bath home located near Heritage house inn. If interested please call 886-1744.

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 3 BR house at Eastern. \$550 per month plus deposit. Call 791-4515 after 6pm.

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 Renovated apts, like new, furnished, downtown Martin. 1 BR and efficiency apartments. Call 285-3233 between 10a-6p M-S.

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 Nice 3 BR MH in Prestonsburg. Call 874-0875 or 226-3207.

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 Building for rent 50x90, 18' ceilings. 12x12 garage door, \$450 per month. Martin, Ky. call 285-3368

FOR RENT
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1994 Mazda B3000 4x4 Pickup. Ext. cab, 3.0 V6, with 97,406 miles. 5-spd. standard trans., red in color. Priced at \$2,500.
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