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The Murray Ledger and Times, October 16, 2002

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Vol. 123, No. 245

Wednesday, October 16, 2002

50 CENTS

Bond arrangement for MSU center gets conditional OK

By EDWARD SHERIDAN
Staff Writer

It appears that Murray State University is well on its way to obtaining the funding necessary to construct a new student health and wellness center on its campus.

The Kentucky Capital Projects and Bond Oversight Committee gave the university conditional approval Tuesday morning to

proceed with an arrangement with the City of Murray where the city would issue MSU with \$10 million in general obligation bonds to construct the center.

The committee gave the approval during a meeting in MSU's Pogue Library. According to committee chairman and state Rep. Jodie Haydon, D-Bardstown, holding the meeting in Murray was part of the com-

mittee's desire to experience different parts of the state.

"It's been a few years since we've been here," he said. "I think it's really important for us to move these (meetings) and to see what's going on in different parts of the state.

"Some of us have found that the state is bigger than we thought," Haydon added.

The agreement between Murray State and the city would begin with the city obtaining the \$10 million. The university would then basically borrow that money from the city, which would be the agency to receive the bonds. However, the university would be responsible for paying the city back over a set amount of time.

According to MSU President Dr. F. King

Alexander, the money that will be used to pay back the bonds will come from a \$3 per credit hour student fee that was enacted over a year ago after a request to do so by the university's Student Government Association.

Tom Denton, MSU Vice President of

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County asks for new list of nominees

Resolutions pass dealing with hospital board seat, by-laws

By EDWARD SHERIDAN
Staff Writer

With the Calloway County Fiscal Court being asked to consider a \$50 million bond issue for renovations to the Murray-Calloway County Hospital, County Judge-Executive Larry Elkins wants a complete MCCH Board of Commissioners in place with which to negotiate.

The fiscal court passed a resolution Tuesday evening to request another list of nominees from the hospital board's nominating committee to fill a commissioner's seat that has been vacant for nearly a year-and-a-half.

The vacant commissioner's seat is the one that is appointed by the fiscal court. The last person to hold the seat was Richard Youngerman, who had served three prior terms as a commissioner but was not even included on the hospital board nominating committee's list of candidates when the seat came open in March 2001.

At that time, the nominating committee provided the fiscal court with its customary list of three candidates for the position, as stipulated in the hospital board's by-laws; however the court rejected all three of the nominees, leaving the seat vacant.

"We considered them at the time

Calloway Co. Fiscal Court

and didn't accept any of them, basically because we felt that the current board member at the time had been excluded because he hadn't voted just exactly the way (the hospital board) wanted him to," Elkins said.

According to County Attorney Randy Hutchens, Youngerman's name was left off the list because he had voted against the rest of the board on several issues involving the Murray-Calloway County Community Healthcare Foundation, a private fund-raising arm of the hospital.

"We had hoped to work through this more quickly in the courts, but we're still some way away, apparently, from getting it resolved," Elkins said. "With a \$50 million bond issue to consider, we certainly don't want to be under-represented."

The court also passed a resolution asking the hospital board to amend its by-laws and provide a complete list of nominees, rather than just the three the nominating committee currently selects.

Because of MCCH's status as a publicly-owned hospital, the fiscal court and the Murray City Council each get to appoint one board member, in addition to the mayor and judge-executive serving on the board. The city council is also provided with only three candidate names to appoint its representative.

"We're asking them to amend the by-laws to allow anyone who might want to serve to be considered,"

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'Light' Work



ERIC WALKER/Ledger & Times photo
WATT'S UP, DOC? ... James Crittendon of Jay's Electric, Inc., of Benton, Ky., places the glass over the bulb after working on an ornate light pole outside Murray Middle School Tuesday afternoon.

Murray Planning Commission

Murray may look at Landlord/Tenant Act

By EDWARD SHERIDAN
Staff Writer

Even though it gained approval from the General Assembly over 20 years ago, not many cities in Kentucky have opted to add the state's Landlord/Tenant Act to their books.

Now, though, the city of Murray will at least take a look at the act, as the Murray Planning Commission is passing the act on to the Murray City Council for consideration.

The commission voted 7-2 Tuesday to ask the council to consider the act. The commission's vote did not come with a recommendation as to whether or not the council should adopt the act, however, as commissioners still had several concerns about its specific details.

"There's pros and cons to both sides of it," said David Roberts, Murray engineering supervisor. "The question for us is, do we really need it?"

The act was passed by the General Assembly in 1974, but it was only available to first-class cities until 1984. According to Roberts, only two Kentucky cities, Louisville and Lexington/Fayette County, have chosen to use the act.

The act outlines several duties and rights of both landlords and tenants. The commission had questions, however, regarding enforcement of the act, its fairness to both the landlord and the renter, and the vagueness of some of the terminology used in the act.

For example, the act states that a landlord must "keep all common areas of the premises in a clean and safe condition," but goes no further in its definition of "clean" or "safe." The same stipulation is included in the tenants list of duties.

The city fire inspector and building official currently enforce the city's property maintenance code, and Roberts was not sure who exactly would be assigned to enforce the landlord/tenant act if it was adopted.

"Obviously, if you enact something like this, you've got to enforce it," said commissioner Tom Kind. "That's my concern."

Commissioner Ed Pavlick, who cast one of the votes against sending the act to the city council, said he believed the act favored the tenant too heavily.

Roberts said that although cities are not required to adopt the act, it must be accepted in its entirety if a city chooses to use it. Therefore, there is no way to pick and choose among its stronger and weaker points.

Commissioner Howard Koenen cast the other vote in opposition to

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ERIC WALKER/Ledger & Times photo

FOR A GOOD CAUSE ... Members of the Murray Woman's Club, from left, Lois Pharris, Martha Crafton, Virginia Randolph, Barbara Brandon, Pat Harrington and Pat McMullin prepare to dish out the barbecue this Saturday to raise funds for an automated external defibrillator used by the Calloway County Sheriff's Office.

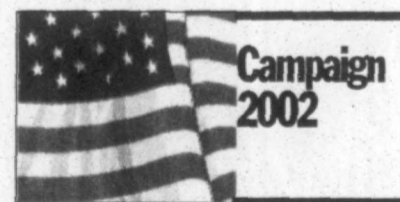
Political season in full swing Saturday

Staff Report
Murray Ledger & Times

It may not be the First Saturday in August or Fancy Farm, but there'll be plenty of barbecue and politics happening here this weekend.

The weekend festivities open Saturday at 9 a.m. with the 3rd Annual AARP Health & Independent Living Festival at Murray State University's Regional Special Events Center.

The festival, sponsored by the NBS Radio Network and froggy 103.7 FM, will feature free health screenings by Murray-Calloway County Hospital, information booths from various agencies, plus door prizes, music and entertain-



ment throughout the day.

Then from 1-3 p.m., a candidates forum featuring U.S. Rep. Ed Whitfield, R-Ky., and Democratic challenger Clint Alexander will take place. The forum will focus on issues such as prescription drugs, long-term care, Medicare and Social Security, according to a flier from

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Sheriff's Log

Calloway County Sheriff's Office

• Brandon S. Westra, 22, Murray, was arrested Tuesday on charges of possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia. Westra was released from the Calloway County Jail on two \$500 unsecured bonds.

— Information gathered from reports, logs and citations from respective agencies

Act ...

From Front

sending the act to the council, stating he believes there is really no need for it.

"I don't think we've got that

many problems in the city," he said. "It's just asking for trouble."

Roberts said a public hearing would have to be held by either the council or the planning commission before any action could be taken on the act. Unless the council chooses to pick it up, though, the act may never even come to a vote.

"I understand that the council had it some years back, and we had to send it back to them," said commissioner Mike Lovins. "It's going to be their final call."

Politics ...

From Front

the local AARP.

A Fall Picnic and Political Rally, sponsored by the Calloway County Republican Party, will be held at the Howard Brandon Farm, located south of Murray on U.S. 641, from 3-5 p.m. Featured at the Republican rally will be Whitfield, as well as candidates for Kentucky Governor Steve Nunn, Virgil Moore and Sonny Landham.

That evening, a barbecue dinner will be presented by the Murray Woman's Club at the MWC Clubhouse, located on Vine Street. The dinner, with servings at 5:30 p.m. and 6:15 p.m. including take out plates, is a fundraiser for the Murray Woman's Club with proceeds from ticket sales going to fund an automated external defibrillator for the Calloway County Sheriff's Office.

Call 759-2560, 753-1975 or 6406 for ticket information.

At 7 p.m. at the Clubhouse, Congressional candidate Alexander will speak and field questions from the audience, and other local candidates in attendance will also be introduced.

The Murray Woman's Club is a non-partisan organization. According to a MWC spokeswoman, Rep. Whitfield was invited to attend the dinner with Alexander but had a prior evening commitment.

Murray man hurt in fatal wreck

Staff Report

Murray Ledger & Times

A Murray man was involved in a two-vehicle accident in Graves County Tuesday that left a Clinton man dead.

Louis R. Sims, 54, Murray, was driving south on Ky. 440, and Phillip B. Ray, 73, Clinton, was driving east on Ky. 408 at 11:20 a.m. Tuesday. According to a report from the Kentucky State Police, Ray failed to stop at the intersection of the two roads and was struck in the driver's side door by Sims' vehicle.

Ray's vehicle, a 1989 Chevrolet

pickup truck, then overturned and came to final rest in a nearby field. Sims' vehicle, a 1997 Buick LeSabre, left the road and collided with a tree before coming to a final stop.

Ray was pronounced dead at the scene of the accident, while Sims was transported to the Jackson Purchase Medical Center, where he was admitted for multiple injuries. According to the KSP report, both men were wearing seat belts at the time of the accident.

Information on Sims' condition this morning was unavailable.

Nominees ...

From Front

Elkins said. "We're the elected officials and it's our job to make board appointments. We don't think it's right that people not elected exclude citizens from consideration."

Hutchens also said he will be taking depositions today regarding a complaint filed in Calloway County Circuit Court regarding a possible violation of the open meetings law during a March 2001 hospital board meeting. Included in those depositions are current and possibly former Murray Ledger & Times employees.

In other business, the court authorized Elkins to seek additional funding from the Kentucky Association of Counties (KACO) to complete a

renovation project on the downtown courthouse.

The court authorized Elkins to enter into a KACO agreement for bonds not to exceed \$499,000 to put toward the project. There is currently \$200,000 in grant funds secured for the project, but Elkins said estimates for the exterior portion of the renovation alone have already reached \$280,000.

"We hope we won't need that much, but with some of the estimates we're getting with the heating and air, we don't know," he said. "The bid's already been awarded (to Swift Construction), and we hope to get started by the end of the week."

The court also passed a resolution of intent to

proceed with looking into being able to provide federally-guaranteed flood insurance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for county residents. The resolution, according to Hutchens, does not mean the court has officially adopted the insurance option. To get the insurance, the county would have to take several steps, including setting up land use and control measures.

"This is the first step in something we've never done before," Hutchens said. "I don't think it's offered commercially, though, and this is the only way we'd be able to get it."

Elkins said a public hearing on the matter of flood insurance will likely be held in the future.

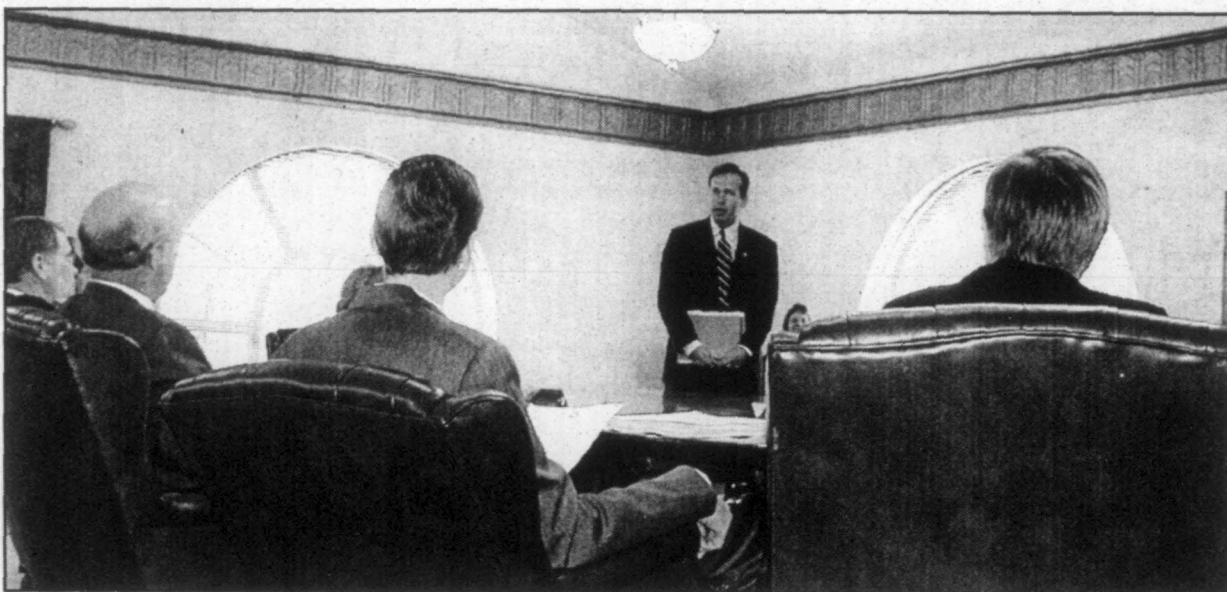
Center ...

From Front

Financial and Administrative Services, said the university places a 12-hour cap on hourly-based fees, therefore no student would end up paying more than \$72 over two semesters.

Alexander said engineers are currently working to try and ensure that the project comes in at around the \$10 million mark. If it does not, though, nearly \$500,000 in student fees have already been collected to cover any difference that might occur.

According to Glenn Mitchell, deputy secretary of the Kentucky Finance and Administration Cabinet, the bonds would be issued with a stipulation that MSU raise the student fee should it become necessary to make the bond payments; however committee member and Murray State alum Sen. Bob Jackson, D-Murray, said that under current projections no fee increase would be needed to cover the cost of constructing the new center.



EDWARD SHERIDAN/Ledger & Times photo

COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS ... Murray State President Dr. F. King Alexander addresses the Capital Projects and Bond Oversight Committee of the Kentucky Legislature yesterday on the campus of MSU.

SGA President Jace Rabe said students would likely continue to support the fee even if it was increased because they recognize the importance of having adequate health and recreational facilities on campus.

"Students realize there might be adjustments to get this center," Rabe said. "I would say probably the main complaint I get when students come to is inadequate fitness facilities."

The committee's approval came with conditions that it be able to review the project again at a later date; that MSU and the city would complete a formal agreement of the bond issue; and that the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education also be given an opportunity

to review the bond proposal.

Alexander is scheduled to go before the CPE Nov. 4 to present the proposal. He said Tuesday there is a strong likelihood CPE will also approve of the project funding.

"By putting it in the governor's spending budget, it's been approved to go forward to seek state agency bonds," he said. "What we're trying to do is review the financing with (CPE) and make sure they're okay with how we're pursuing this."

Although it did not stop the funding method from being approved, committee member Sen. Tom Buford said a legal opinion may need to be obtained in the future to determine if, since the city is issuing the bonds, city employees should be allowed to use the new center as

well. "It is state property that it's on," Buford, R-Nicholasville, said. "It would be like lawyers using (Pogue Library)."

Alexander said he believed that since the center will be paid for by student monies, MSU would likely not make use of the center available to anyone other than university students, faculty and staff. He also said, though, that the university is exploring collaborative options with other local fitness facilities.

"The last thing we want to do it put any local fitness centers out of business," Alexander said. "Since the students are footing the entire bill, though, I think it gets into a legal area where the university couldn't extend it (for use) if it wanted to."

Murray City Administrator Don Elias said that a formal agreement between MSU and the city will likely be approved within "three or four weeks."

Both Alexander and Jackson praised the city's willingness to work with MSU on the project.

"There's a wonderful 'town/gown' relationship here," Jackson said. "It says a lot when the city steps up to do these kinds of things."

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Congressional candidates reveal finances as Election Day looms

By NANCY ZUCKERBROD
Associated Press Writer



McConnell

WASHINGTON (AP) — With just three weeks to go until Election Day, many congressional candidates are hoping to use whatever campaign cash they have to get their message out to voters. But not everyone is looking at the same balance sheet.

The candidates had to file fund-raising reports with the Federal Election Commission Tuesday for the three-month reporting period that ended Sept. 30.

In the Senate race, Republican incumbent Mitch McConnell had nearly \$3.5 million on hand at the end of last month. His oppo-



Weinberg

nent, Democratic challenger Lois Combs Weinberg, had about \$1 million.

Despite that disparity, Weinberg's campaign manager, Tim Shock, said \$1 million was plenty.

"I can assure you \$1 million in the last three weeks is certainly enough money to deliver an effective message in Kentucky," he said.

McConnell has received roughly \$5.1 million in contributions to date, according to his report. He received about \$324,000 during the three-month reporting period that just ended.

So far, individual donors have contributed about \$3.9 million to McConnell's war chest, while political action committees representing interest groups have given him roughly \$1.1 million.

Weinberg has taken in about \$1.5 million in contributions this cycle, with \$259,000 coming in during the three-month period that just ended. In addition, Weinberg has given her campaign \$265,000 and loaned it \$241,000.

"The fact that Ms. Weinberg is forced to dip into her personal family fortune to a large extent demonstrates that she is having a difficult time getting support from Kentucky voters," McConnell campaign

manger Hunter Bates said.

Shock disagreed, saying it showed that Weinberg was a candidate who was "willing to put her money where her mouth is and make sure that this campaign has the resources to deliver its message."

Individuals have given Weinberg about \$1.3 million. Political action committees representing interest groups have given her about \$188,000, and Democratic Party committees have given her about \$17,000.

Political observers are keeping an eye on the 3rd and 4th District House races in Kentucky.

In Louisville's 3rd District, Republican incumbent Rep. Anne Northup reported having about \$945,000 on hand to fend off a spirited challenge from Democratic challenger Jack Conway, who had \$386,000 at the close of the reporting period.

Northup has taken in nearly \$2.5 million

in campaign contributions to date. Of that, she raised about \$700,000 during the period that just ended.

Individuals have given Northup about \$1.7 million. She's taken in about \$722,000 from political action committees and \$59,000 from Republican Party committees.

Conway has raised about \$1.2 million, with more than \$250,000 coming in during the most recent three-month period. He has given his campaign roughly \$10,000 and loaned it \$50,000.

Individuals have contributed about \$812,000 to the Conway campaign. Political action committees have given him nearly \$375,000, while Democratic Party committees have given him about \$19,000.

In northern Kentucky's 4th district, Democrat Ken Lucas reported having about \$624,000 on hand, while Republican Geoff Davis had about half that amount.

Birchtree seeks reinstatement

Controversy in the COMMONWEALTH

CLINTON, Ky. (AP) — The nursing home owned by the woman who claims Gov. Paul Patton tried to ruin her business after she ended their sexual relationship was inspected Tuesday and is trying to get recertified.

Birchtree Healthcare lost eligibility for Medicare and Medicaid funding after state inspectors said they found serious staffing and other safety and health problems. Owner Tina Conner said the inspections came on the heels of her decision to end her relationship with Patton in October 2001.

The facility has struggled since late last year and now houses only 12 private pay residents, said Dan Dabney, who manages the nursing home.

Dabney said a team of state inspectors visited the facility Tuesday and was expected back Wednesday.

Dabney said he is seeking authorization to open 53 beds initially and the remaining 53 beds within six months. There is a waiting list of more than 60 people to move in, Dabney said.

Cabinet for Health Services officials in Frankfort could not be reached for comment Tuesday.

Conner has alleged that her nursing home was targeted at Patton's direction, a charge he has denied. She is suing Patton and the state for sexual harassment and alleges her business was harmed by his vindictiveness.

Dabney said he does not know if

he can get a fair shake from inspectors this time around.

"We've not felt like in the past we have, obviously," Dabney said. "We hope that the findings they come back with are realistic and based on fact."

Meanwhile in Frankfort, the former executive director of the state's Office of Minority Affairs said he met Tuesday with federal and state investigators looking into Conner's allegations.

Norris Beckley said previously that Transportation Secretary James Codell III asked him to work closely with Conner on a document that would certify the construction company she co-owned with her husband as a disadvantaged business enterprise. That status would give the business special designation on road projects.



Tina Conner

To appear on 'Dr. Phil' show

Conner to tape 'Dr. Phil' today

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — The woman suing Gov. Paul Patton for sexual harassment will tape an episode with the "Dr. Phil" talk show, a Louisville television station reported Tuesday.

WAVE-TV, which airs the talk show, said Tina Conner will appear on a segment to be taped today and air at a later date.

Patton, 65, has admitted having an affair with Conner, 40, but has denied the claims in her lawsuit that during the affair he helped a state-regulated business owned by her and then sent inspectors in to shut it down after the affair ended.

Conner's business, Birchtree Healthcare, a nursing home in Clinton, lost its Medicaid and Medicare funding after failing inspections and is now in bankruptcy.

Conner told WAVE she has talked with Dr. Phil McGraw about fallout from her now-public affair with Patton.

McGraw is "helping me through dealing with reconnecting with my family and children," Conner said. "Obviously my reputation will never be repaired in the community, but how do I deal with the guilt and the shame and the embarrassment of it. That's what he's helping me through."

Clinton lawyer joins Patton team

FRANKFORT, Ky. (AP) — A partner in the Washington, D.C., law firm that represented former President Clinton in his impeachment trial has joined the legal team defending Gov. Paul Patton against accusations made by a western Kentucky nursing home operator.

Gerald Feffer is a partner in the Williams & Connolly firm. He did not represent Clinton in his impeachment trial, but his clients have included the Church of Scientology and New York hotelier Leona Helmsley.

Louisville attorney Sheryl Snyder, who represents Patton, said he recommended Feffer to the governor.

"He's just first-rate in his area," said Snyder, who said Feffer's specialty is defending clients in federal criminal investigations.

Tina Conner alleged in a lawsuit filed last month that during a two-year affair with Patton she won special favors, and that after she broke off contact he retaliated by having state inspectors crack down on her nursing home. Patton has admitted the affair but insisted he never misused his powers to help or harm Conner.



Patton

whether Patton ethics code.

Conner's attorney, Fred Radolovich of Louisville, said, "I have the utmost respect for the Williams & Connolly law firm. ... If I was in trouble that's where I would

go for help. I look forward to the challenge."

Feffer and Snyder conferred Monday with Patton in the governor's office.

Feffer did not return calls Tuesday.

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Wednesday, October 16, 2002

Washington Today

A 'patient' Bush's rhetorical rush toward war

By **SONYA ROSS**
Associated Press Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — Just two months ago, President Bush insisted he would take his time in taking on Saddam Hussein. "I'm a patient man," he said.

Now, Bush is an impatient man. "Iraq is a part of the war on terror, and he must disarm," Bush said Monday, making the link between post-Sept. 11 action and his desire to get rid of Iraqi President Saddam.

But why now?
"If we know Saddam Hussein has dangerous weapons today — and we do — does it make any sense for the world to wait to confront him?" Bush said as he explained his position to the nation last week. In his talk, he uttered more than 3,400 words. "Patient" was not one of them.

Dealing with Saddam was on Bush's agenda before he lumped Iraq in with Iran and North Korea as an "axis of evil" last January. But until recently, he seemed in no hurry to check this item off his to-do list. Aides deflected queries about where Bush stood on Iraq by saying he had no war plans on his desk.

By September, he had war options on his desk.
"Everyone agrees if Saddam is around five years from now, we've got a problem. What's less clear is why we've got to act now," said Lee Feinstein, senior fellow on U.S. foreign policy and international law at the Council on Foreign Relations. "I think the president needs to make the case."

Jim Steinberg, a foreign policy expert at the Brookings Institution, said Americans don't sense the urgency because the Bush administration has not offered a "precipitating factor" to galvanize them.

"I do think the 'now' is the question that needs to be focused on," Steinberg said. "On the whole, the more presidents provide as complete an account of just what's driving them, the more the American people tend to support them."

Retired Marine Gen. Anthony Zinni, who has served as Bush's Middle East mediator, said the president has far more pressing foreign policy priorities than Iraq. "My personal view — and it's just personal — is I think this isn't number one. It's maybe six or seven," Zinni said during a forum by the Middle East Institute last week.

Iraq wasn't always such an urgent issue for Bush. As a candidate in November 1999, he did not mention Saddam or Iraq in a major foreign policy address at the Ronald Reagan library. He focused on Russia and China.

A month later, Bush said if he discovered Saddam was developing weapons of mass destruction, "I'd take 'em out." He explained he referred only to the weapons.

Of Saddam, Bush said, "I'm surprised he's still there."

The escalation in rhetoric began June 1, when Bush told graduating West Point cadets that the United States would make pre-emptive strikes against suspected terrorists, and governments that help them, to protect American lives and liberty. "We must take the battle to the enemy, disrupt its plans, and confront the worst threats before they emerge," Bush said.

He did not mention Iraq, but aides said Bush referred in the speech to Iraq and any others that might support terror when he men-



AP File Photo

tioned "unbalanced dictators with weapons of mass destruction."

Bush then left it up to his deputies to make the case on Iraq.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld appeared in London four days later, saying Iraq's appetite for destructive weapons is well known, and "There is not a doubt in the world that with every month that goes by, their programs mature."

Vice President Dick Cheney turned up the heat, telling a June 24 GOP fund-raiser in Oregon that Iraq is a "gathering danger" that requires "the most decisive response by America and its allies."

On July 19, Bush labeled terrorist governments a "mounting danger." Again, he shied away from direct references to Iraq, telling soldiers at New York's Fort Drum: "Some parts of the world, there will be no substitute for direct action by the United States. That is when we will send you, our military, to win the battles that only you can win."

On Aug. 5, Rumsfeld said a case like the one Bush made about Afghanistan could be made about Iraq. Two days after that, Cheney warned that Saddam would acquire nuclear weapons soon if "left to his own devices," while Bush said he would explore all options on Iraq, including military action.

Then Bush's strategists took the rhetoric to its peak. In an Aug. 15 interview with the BBC, national security adviser Condoleezza Rice declared the threat posed by Saddam would emerge "in a very big way" if he is allowed to remain in power. Cheney followed on Aug. 26 with a blistering assessment that arguments against a pre-emptive strike on Iraq are "deeply flawed."

"We will not simply look away, hope for the best and leave the matter for some future administration to resolve," Cheney told the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

The White House said the rhetorical buildup was planned in advance with an eye toward the Sept. 11 anniversary and Bush's U.N. speech. "From a marketing point of view, you don't introduce new products in August," Bush chief of staff Andrew Card told The New York Times.

In his U.N. speech, Bush warned that the world body would look irrelevant if it did not confront the "grave and gathering danger" posed by Saddam. "If Iraq's regime defies us again, the world must move deliberately and decisively to hold Iraq to account," he said.

Bush offered a specter darker than war: A nuclear weapon in Saddam's hands within a year.

"We cannot wait for the final proof — the smoking gun — that could come in the form of a mushroom cloud," he said.

I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE SYMBOL OF THE UNITED NATIONS OF THE WORLD-- AND TO THE SOCIALISM FOR WHICH IT STANDS-- ONE WORLD UNDER NATO, INDESTRUCTIBLE, WITH FLOWERS AND CLOUDS FOR ALL!!!!



Welfare for religion

The Maryland minister is a fervent opponent of gambling. He especially opposes the state lottery, which he believes tempts many of his lower income



Cal's Thoughts
By Cal Thomas
Syndicated Columnist

A television reporter interviews the couple. The woman looks slightly embarrassed as the reporter asks the minister what he thinks about his wife playing the lottery and winning a lot of money.

"The Lord moves in mysterious ways His wonders to perform," says the minister.

I thought of this several-years-old incident when I read that religious broadcaster Pat Robertson is one of several to receive a grant from the federal Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, which go to religious organizations that provide social services.

Among Robertson's ministries is a charity called Operation Blessing that, according to its Web page, "helps impoverished families and individuals around the world."

What links Robertson to the Maryland pastor is that until Robertson received the \$500,000 government grant, he had criticized the faith-based initiative as a "Pandora's box," saying it could make religious charities dependent on government and even finance cults that "brainwash" people.

So why is he taking the money, especially when government cannot discriminate among religions and may finance other organizations whose beliefs are anathema to Robertson and other conservative Christians?

Is this the Lord moving in mysterious ways, or is it temptation from the other guy?

While the intent of this program is noble, the idea of government aiding charity (which used to begin at home, but will now apparently begin in Washington) is fraught with problems.

First is the purpose of charity. The Scriptures in which Robertson and other conservative Christians say they believe teach that charity is a means of demonstrating God's love to needy people so they might seek Him. Many liberals view charity as a type of religious welfare and "salvation by works."

There is also a political dimen-

sion. The Bush administration is smiling favorably on a small percentage of applicants for federal largess (there were 500 grant applicants, but only 25 received the government's blessing, though more awards are likely).

A future Democratic administration might deny grants to organizations that lean Republican and shift the money to those with leanings more to that administration's liking. Charities will then become another special interest, selling their political allegiance to the higher bidder.

One of the rationales behind the faith-based office is that churches and charities often perform better than government in helping meet individual needs. That's true. But it does not follow that government should help charities fulfill their calling. Has God declared bankruptcy? *Psalm 50:10* says God owns "the cattle on a thousand hills."

The purpose of charity is to not only benefit the recipient but to bless the giver. That is what Jesus meant when He said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (*Acts 20:35*). If givers, or people who might give, see government supplanting their calling, the human tendency will be to give less, or not at all, because government is giving more.

If government wishes to bless charities, it should either cut taxes — enabling individuals to give more money to the charity of their choice

— or provide other tax incentives, such as allowing double deductions for charitable giving.

Government should not decide who deserves funding and who does not. That is an endorsement of one religion or religions over others.

Furthermore, the day will come when religious groups will be required to remain silent about their beliefs if they want to continue receiving government checks. By then, some will have compromised sufficiently to choose Mammon over God.

Conservative Christians rightly complain when the National Endowment for the Arts underwrites anti-religious works they find offensive. They cannot now favor government grants just because money is coming to them. While it can be argued that in one case the money was meant to demean religion and the other to enhance it, the principle is the same.

Robertson was right to warn of a "Pandora's box." But he has now opened that box and is taking the money.

It doesn't take a prophet to see trouble ahead.

Direct all mail for Cal Thomas to: Tribune Media Services, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 1500, Chicago, Ill. 60611. Readers may also leave e-mail at www.calthomas.com.

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'A rambling Taj Mahal of glass'

Washington Yesterday

By **LAWRENCE L. KNUTSON**
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The glass houses rose from the west wall of the White House in a long pile of cubes and rectangles devoted not to government but to lemon trees, potted palms, camellias, roses and exotic orchids.

By 1902, when Theodore Roosevelt decided to remove it, a half century of presidents and first ladies had grown accustomed to the White House conservatory as a secluded all-weather retreat, a private paradise, a highly prized executive privilege.

Massed floral arrangements from the conservatory smothered White House banquets. Blooms from the White House greenhouses stood watch at Abraham Lincoln's funeral and astounded the guests at Grover Cleveland's wedding.

But Charles McKim, the prominent New York architect directed by Roosevelt to shape the White House for the demands of a new century, saw the glass houses as vulgar white elephants. They occupied valuable and much-needed space. He planned to wipe the slate clean.

White House gardener Henry Pfister had invested his life in the

care of the White House conservatory and fought a rearguard action to preserve the greenhouses and his plants. First lady Edith Kermit Roosevelt, listened, then negotiated a compromise by which the greenhouses would be carefully dismantled and rebuilt elsewhere on the White House grounds.

Tight money and expanding budgets upended that plan. New working greenhouses would eventually grow the plants and flowers needed for White House social events. But they were miles away and no longer a place for after-dinner walks.

Soon the glass houses were gone. But memories lingered like the scent of roses. Andrew Jackson built the first hot house or Orangery at the White House in 1835, possibly to shelter a sago palm from Mount Vernon that had been prized by George Washington. Stepped tables also displayed potted fruit trees, and many varieties of flowering plants.

By the 1850s something more elaborate and efficient was demanded. President Franklin Pierce built the first glass-ceiling green house on top of the flat roof of the West Colonnade, erected a half century previously by Thomas Jefferson.

By the time James Buchanan's administration opened in 1857, the conservatories were attached to the house itself, reachable through doors from the State Dining Room.

From that point, historian William Seale writes in "The White House Garden," published in 1996 by the White House Historical Association, the conservatories "grew and grew over 45 years, climaxing at the century's end in a rambling Taj Mahal of glass." There were palm houses, a fern house, and rose and orchid houses.

Harriet Lane, Buchanan's niece and White House hostess, strolled through the indoor foliage with the visiting Prince of Wales as the Marine Band played "Listen to the Mocking Bird."

"As you enter the conservatory itself it seems almost like penetrating the luxurious fragrance of some South American island....," a newspaper reported.

The floral retreat was available to first lady Mary Lincoln during the Civil War and camellias and roses grown there were displayed as her assassinated husband lay in state in the East Room in April 1865.

An 1867 fire damaged the conservatory and destroyed Washington's sago palm, but the greenhouses were rebuilt more elaborately than ever. Ulysses S. Grant

placed a billiard room between the greenhouse and the mansion. Rutherford B. Hayes, the next president, replaced it with a tile-floored palm court.

Hayes rearranged the interiors in broad walks furnished with iron benches and ornamental plant stands. "A jungle of ferns and palms down the middle screened one walk from another, while on the outer walls a variety of flowers was massed on stepped tables," Seale writes.

Since Hayes and his wife served no spirits at state dinners, they replaced the custom of after-dinner drinks by leading guests on a gas-lit promenade through the palms.

Flowers from the conservatory banked the Blue Room on June 2, 1886 as Grover Cleveland married the beautiful Frances Folsom. She loved orchids, and soon the conservatory brimmed with them.

The glass houses had become a paradise with more space than any one floor of the mansion itself. "On a winter day one could look out onto the falling snow from a spring garden inside," Seale writes.

But in 1902, with America an emergent world power, orchids and greenhouses would make way for a new presidential workshop. Future generations would know it as the West Wing.

MURRAY LEDGER & TIMES

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"Where there is no vision, the people perish."
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October being celebrated by 4-H youth in area

Pumpkins, flowers, and cookies are three of the ways we are going to celebrate Calloway County 4-H this October. We have scheduled three events that we encourage all 4-H youth to come and join.

4-H Update
By Ginny Harper
Calloway County Extension Agent for 4-H Youth Development

"Celebrating 4-H in October is always a highlight of the year. Youth enjoy getting together and doing fun activities to help others know that we appreciate our community's support that we receive all year long. Kids love to spend time together in the park cleaning and getting to know others from other clubs," said Joe Geurin, past president of Calloway County 4-H Council.

Calloway County 4-H will sponsor a Cookie Round-Up on Oct. 15 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at the Extension Office in which youth will make cookies to give to community groups. Limited spaces are available and call to sign up.

On Oct. 11 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church Social Hall, 4-H will have an event called "Balloons and Bouquets." Youth will learn to make a simple bouquet and then share with 4-H supporters. Call the Extension Office to sign up.

On Oct. 22 from 3:30 to 5:30 at the New City Park, 4-Hers will host the Annual Pumpkin Painting and Park Clean-up. A hot dog supper will be provided. All 4-H encouraged to attend.

Three exciting events for youth to help us celebrate the centennial anniversary of this great organization. There are still ways you can plug in and participate, call and find out how

Upcoming Events:
•Exchange 4-H Club 5 p.m. Extension Office New members welcome
•East Clovers will meet at East Elementary on Oct. 15 after school until

4:15. Joe Geurin and Vi Wood are leaders.
•Cookie Roundup- Youth will be baking cookies to share 3:30 to 5 pm. on October 15 at the Extension Office. Limited spaces available. Call 753-1452 to sign up.

•Area records training Extension Office Oct. 16 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Extension Office.

•Balloons and Bouquets Oct. 17 from 3:30 to 5 pm. At this event, youth will learn to arrange flowers and balloons which will be given to groups that have helped the 4-H Program. Call to register.

•Pumpkin Painting and Park Clean Up at New City Park Oct. 22 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Hot Dog Supper.

•Geology trip to Evansville Oct. 26 from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. leaving from the Extension Office. Call to register by Oct. 21.

•Main Street Youth 4-H Club will meet Oct. 21 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the center. Michael Siebold will be the leader.

•Teen Impact Community Service Club at Mr. Gatti's Oct. 21 from 5 to 6:30 p.m.

•Pennyrite Teen Retreat Applications due Oct. 21.

•Area records and Honors Applications due Nov. 1

The Calloway County Cooperative Extension Service is open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The phone number is 753-1452 and the fax is 759-4243. The Calloway County 4-H Council receives funding from the Murray-Calloway County United Way.

Educational programs of the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service serve all people regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky counties, cooperating.



Photo provided

KIWANIS MEETING...Bob Rodgers as model, left, and Nancy Kiernan presented a program at the Murray Kiwanis Club meeting.

Kiernan and Rodgers give program

Nancy Kiernan, a conservation education program leader for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife, demonstrated teaching techniques at the Murray Kiwanis Club meeting at Pam's Cake Hut Thursday evening.

Working with school children grades 4-6, Kiernan averages 65 classes a month during the winter months. Other activities include being at fishing and hunting events, teaching outdoor survival and working in summer camps.

Using the beaver as an example of a wetlands mammal, Kiernan demonstrated special environmental adaptations possessed by beavers.

With Kiwanian Bob Rodgers as a model, she illustrated the beaver's swimsuit with a quilt layer to represent a layer of fat, plus a beaver coat to show the fur, both being adaptations for living in the water.

"The beaver is the largest rodent in North America. Other special adaptations include clear eyelids, which permit vision under water. There is a flap of skin in the mouth to keep water out. Chewing keeps the teeth in good condition," Kiernan said.

"The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife is quite an impressive organization. Education is just one part of the Department," Kiernan concluded. She explained that the major financing of the Department comes from hunting and fishing licenses and boat registration fees.

Furches receives recognition

ATLANTA, Ga. — Bryan Furches of Murray has been selected for membership in The National Society of High School Scholars.

The society inducts only the most outstanding high school students and honors them for superior academic achievement.

"The hard work and success of today's youth provides the foundation for a future dedicated to community - and world - betterment. I congratulate Furches on being recognized as one of the most outstanding high school seniors in the nation," said Claes Nobel, honorary chairman of the society.

The mission of the society is to recognize and encourage academic excellence among the most exceptional high school seniors.

Furches is a member of the Kentucky Academy of Governor's Scholars and has been named "Most

Outstanding Senior" at Calloway County High School for the 2003 class. He is also a member of the Varsity Soccer Team, Academic Team, Beta Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Leadership Murray. He is an active member of First Baptist Church, Murray.

He is the son of Tripp and Sharon Furches of Murray. He is the grandson of Joe and Janette Walker and Elizabeth Furches and the late Thurston Furches, all of Murray.

For more information about the society visit the web page at <http://nshss.org> or contact Furches at 753-8151 or furches@apex.net.

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Orders due in to the Extension Office or to Judy Stahler by November 22nd. Plants can be picked up or delivered on December 5th at the First United Methodist Church.

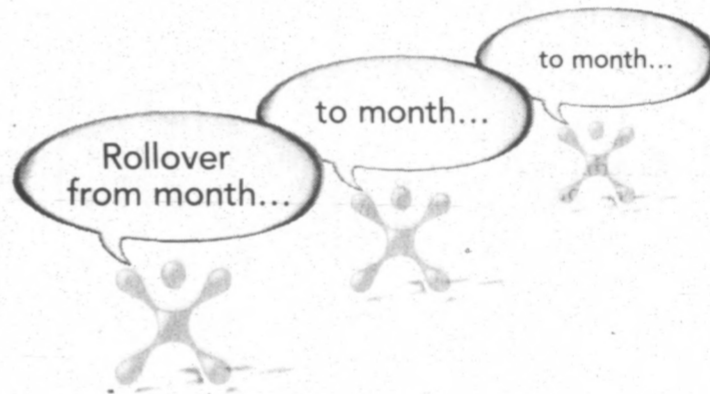
To place order by phone contact Calloway County Extension Office at 753-1452 or Judy Stahler at 753-7387

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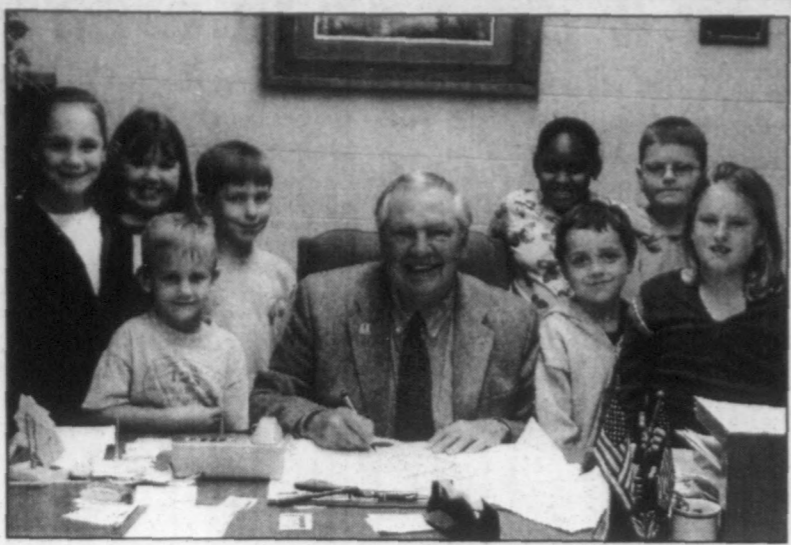
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BRANDI WILLIAMS/ Ledger & Times photo
SEEING RED ... Students from Murray Elementary School watch as Mayor-elect Tom Rushing signs a proclamation for Red Ribbon Week, Oct. 23 to 31, which promotes a drug free environment. Pictured left to right are Mariel Jackson, Kayla Adams, Sawyer Lawson, Carver Lawson, Megan Perry, Cole Troupe, Jacob Oakley and Chandler Purdom.

Commandments monument on trial in Ala.

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — Alabama Supreme Court Chief Justice Roy Moore is expected to testify Wednesday concerning why he ordered a 5,300-pound monument to the Ten Commandments moved into the lobby of the Alabama Judicial Building in the middle of the night.

Moore's testimony is expected to highlight the second day of testimony in the trial of a federal lawsuit seeking to remove washing machine sized monument from the judicial building.

Attorney Stephen Glassroth testified Tuesday that he was stunned and offended when he first saw the monument.

"I was blown who subscribe to this particular creed," he testified.

Legal experts say the case eventually could be used by the U.S. Supreme Court to decide if such monuments in and around government buildings are constitutional.

More than 150 people, including about 75 schoolchildren, packed a courtroom for trial of the lawsuit, filed by the Southern Poverty Law Center and Americans United for Separation of Church and State on behalf of Glassroth and two

other attorneys.

The lawsuit asks U.S. District Judge Myron Thompson to order the monument removed from the judicial building. Thompson is hearing the case without a jury.

In opening statements, Morris Dees, lead counsel and co-founder of the SPLC, said Moore placed the monument in the judicial building to make good on campaign statements that he was "on a personal mission from God for one purpose — to acknowledge God."

"Judge Moore has turned a beautiful hall of justice impartial to all into a sanctuary for religion," Dees told Thompson.

Moore was elected chief justice in 2000 after he had become famous nationally as a circuit judge for posting a wooden plaque of the Ten Commandments in his courtroom in Gadsden.

One of Moore's attorneys, Herbert Titus of Virginia Beach, Va., told Thompson the lawsuit was part of a national movement "to censor God."

"What is at stake here is the historic American legacy of God and liberty," Titus said.

Titus said Moore installed the monument to

show the Ten Commandments serve as the moral foundation of American law. "Justice Moore believes there is a law higher than man's law," he said.

The only witnesses called to testify Tuesday were attorneys Glassroth, Beverly Howard and Melinda Maddox, who testified that they visit the courts building often and are forced to look at the monument, which includes giant tablets on a granite stone. The stone also includes other quotes from historical figures and documents.

Maddox said she saw the monument for the first time as she was walking into the lobby from the outside.

"My first reaction was that I'm embarrassed to be a lawyer in Alabama," Maddox said. "I just think that religion is very personal and private and to thrust it onto the public is almost profane."

Under cross-examination by Moore's lead attorney, Steve Melchior of Cheyenne, Wyo., Maddox said she finds other public acknowledgments to God such as the U.S. motto "In God We Trust" or references to God in the Declaration of Independence as offensive, but not as intrusive as the monument.

Tobacco company donates to family resource center

U. S. Smokeless Tobacco Company has donated \$10,000 to the Calloway County Family Resource Center, a facility providing support services to families in crisis situations in Calloway County. The donation will support the Angel Fund program. Danny Kingins, plant manager, presented the check to Donna Herndon, coordinator.

"We are extremely grateful for U. S. Smokeless Tobacco's gift which is both needed and appreciated as it works to make a real difference in serving our farm families," said Herndon.

U. S. Smokeless Tobacco Company has been a strong supporter of Kentucky's agricultural community for several years. In the last decade, the company has

donated more than \$1.3 million to agricultural organizations and education programs throughout the state.

"As a corporate citizen, U. S. Smokeless Tobacco is proud to lend a hand to organizations by providing assistance to individuals that are less fortunate or who have fallen upon short-term financial difficulties," Kingins said.

Deadline for next ACT Test approaches

College-bound high school students who wait to take the ACT Assessment have two chances to register before the December 14

test date. The postmark registration deadline is Friday, Nov. 8. There is also a late registration postmark deadline on Nov. 21 (an additional

fee is required for late registration). Students can get information from their high school counselor or register online at www.act.org.

ACT scores are accepted by virtually all colleges in the nation, including all Ivy League schools. A student's ACT scores are considered by colleges for admissions and course placement, along with several other important factors including high school GPA, college prep courses taken in high school, extracurricular activities, personal background and other information. The test fee is \$25 (\$28 in Florida).

To learn more about the ACT Assessment, including registration forms and test locations, contact your high school counselor or go to the ACT website (www.act.org), which also offers useful tips, sample tests and the opportunity to order inexpensive test prep materials.

School of Agriculture sells mums

Murray State University's greenhouse facilities offer students a chance to produce plants for all seasons.

The department is selling chrysanthemums to the public. Mums are available in yellow, white, red and purple for \$3 each. Funds raised help support activities of the program. In addition to mums, a variety of house plants and others are available to purchase each Saturday from 9 a.m.-noon. Expansion of the program and facilities at the Pullen Farm now offer students more opportunities to showcase their products and provide information to consumers on more of a year-round basis. The Pullen Farm Greenhouse is located on Hwy. 94W near Doran Rd. and is staffed Monday through Saturday. During the week, visitors are asked to call 767-0467 to make sure someone is there to assist them.



AVA WATKINS/ MSU photo
MUM SALE ... Steve Roehm, senior horticulture student and greenhouse management staff, displays some of the chrysanthemums that are on sale to the public.

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Health

Wednesday, October 16, 2002

MSU center offers info on trichotillomania

Trichotillomania. An unusual sounding word, but chances are that you may know someone who suffers from this illness. Trichotillomania refers to chronic hair pulling resulting in obvious hair loss.

Sufferers usually have an uncontrollable urge to pull their hair and, although it sounds painful, they often report an increase in tension before the incident and a sense of relief afterwards. The individuals may feel powerless to resist the urge to pull hair, but are ashamed of the behavior and the resulting hair loss. Because of embarrassment, sufferers often go to great lengths to hide it.

"Often not even their spouses will know the full extent of the hair pulling and the sheer amount of time that they spend in engaging in this behavior," says Dr. Stephanie Muller, a psychologist at the Murray State University Psychological Center.

Individuals with trichotillomania also have a high rate of other mental disorders including anxiety and depression, as well as engaging in other "bad habits" such as nail biting, knuckle cracking or lip chewing.

The disorder often begins at the onset of puberty or during a stressful life event, like pregnancy, and is more common in women than in men. Research suggests that trichotillomania is present in one to two percent of the population. "That means that for every 100 people you know, at least two of them are, or have been, chronic hair pullers," Muller says.

Hair pullers often don't seek help because of shame related to the condition, but successful treatments are available. "It's important for these people to know that they are not alone, and that people with trichotillomania do benefit from therapy," Muller reports. "We often see a significant reduction in hair pulling treated with behavior therapy. Behavior therapy works to decrease hair pulling through education, self-monitoring, relaxation and other techniques."

The MSU Psychological Center is open for individuals wishing to learn more about trichotillomania or other mental and behavioral disorders. The center is located on Murray State's campus on the fourth floor of Wells Hall, located on 16th Street across from the MSU public safety office.

The center is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Hours on Tuesday evenings are extended to 8 p.m. Individuals may also call (270) 762-2504 for information.

Are redheads harder to knock out before surgery?

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The genetic quirk that makes red hair red may also make carrot-tops harder to knock out — in the operating room, that is.

A new study suggests people with naturally red hair need about 20 percent more anesthesia than patients with other hair colors.

It's a small study that will need confirmation. But it marks the first time scientists have linked a visible genetic trait to anesthesia doses, said Dr. Daniel Sessler of the University of Louisville, whose study was to be presented Tuesday at a meeting of the American Society of Anesthesiologists.

Inadequate doses of general anesthesia can allow people to recall surgery, or even wake up during it, problems that occur in 1 percent of cases, Sessler said.

"If redheads require more anesthesia and are not given more, their chances of having recall during surgeries increase," he said.

Determining a patient is properly anesthetized is a partly an art: Physicians must watch for sometimes subtle signs of an underdose, like slight movements or sweating, as well as overdose warnings such as low blood pressure or heart rate.

Anesthesiologists have long grumbled that redheads can be a little harder to put under, but no one

had ever studied if that was real or folklore, said Dr. Andrea Kurz of Washington University in St. Louis, who praised the new research.

It's likely the first of many yet-to-be-discovered genetic factors that will allow anesthesia to be fine-tuned for increased safety, added Dr. James Cottrell, president of the anesthesiology society.

The theory hinges on melanin, a pigment responsible for skin and hair color.

The sun triggers a hormone that in turn triggers the production of melanin to form a tan. Redheads seldom tan easily because they have a defective receptor for that hormone — a quirk with this "melanocortin-1 receptor" that also leaves their hair red. Without its intended receptor to dock in, the melanin-producing hormone may cross-react with a related receptor on brain cells that influences pain sensitivity, Sessler explained.

Here's what Sessler can say for certain: He and colleagues gave 10 healthy women with naturally red hair and 10 with dark hair the common inhaled anesthetic desflurane. Then they administered electric shocks and inched the desflurane dose up or down according to the pain response until each patient was judged to be at the optimum anesthetic dose. The redheads required a 20 percent higher dose.

Conquering 'doctor-speak'

By LAURAN NEERGAARD
AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Toni Cordell-Seiple uses different-colored markers to carefully write "from lung doctor" or "for blood pressure" on her husband's myriad prescription bottles.

It's easier than stopping to decipher the 10-letter, almost unpronounceable drug names each time she grabs one of the lookalike bottles.

It's also something of a reflexive defense for the Georgia woman, who says she once read so poorly that she signed hospital forms unknowingly consenting to a hysterectomy.

"The personal humiliation that I had not understood it was too great to confess" until years later when the mother of three, who spent her youth with undiagnosed dyslexia, finally conquered reading.

Comprehending medical jargon is difficult, even intimidating, for the most educated of laymen. It's almost impossible for tens of millions of people who can't read well, aren't fluent in English or have vision or cognitive problems caused by aging. And the consequences of low health literacy can be devastating: more and longer hospitalizations, even death.

A major study in Florida is testing whether teaching health literacy classes and using simple-to-understand medical instructions —

including lots of pictures instead of big words and doctor-speak — can keep Medicaid patients with diabetes and high blood pressure healthier.

But "low literacy is far more than a reading problem," says Dr. David Baker of Chicago's Northwestern University, citing studies that show patients who have a hard time comprehending health instructions avoid care.

"How can we get patients with limited literacy to be empowered and ask questions of their doctors, rather than just nodding their heads so that they're not embarrassed because they think that the doctor is going to say that they're dumb?"

The prestigious Institute of Medicine has just begun a study of how many Americans risk their health because they can't understand hospital forms or medication labels or don't know what to say when a doctor asks for their medical history.

Education statistics show one in five adults reads below the sixth-grade level, while most health materials are written at the 10th-grade level or above.

Then there's the common lack of translations for immigrants, plus Barker's research that suggests health literacy drops with old age.

Not to mention busy doctors who don't take the time to fully explain how to treat or prevent a disease in words patients can understand.

Why say "you have a benign tumor" instead of the clearer "it's

not cancer"? Or assume people know "take orally" means "by mouth"?

Even with instructions as simple

as "take a pill three times a day," "You would be maybe amazed at how many people really don't understand that means breakfast, lunch and dinner."

“ You would be maybe amazed at how many people really don't understand that means breakfast, lunch and dinner. ”

can kill if not controlled properly.

For two years, half the centers will administer standard care. At the other half, patients will attend classes

about their disease and receive special health materials, in English and Spanish, that are full of pictures and very easy words: the diabetic symptom "increased urination," for example, is written as "having to pee a lot."

They also get real-world advice — such as that a half-mile walk to the bus stop each day or salsa dancing every weekend is comparable to exercising at an expensive gym.

However the Florida study turns out, the head of an American Medical Association health-literacy program advises doctors to begin communicating better today.

Dr. Joseph Riggs, a New Jersey gynecologist, makes his patients repeat back treatment instructions to ensure they understood.

"We can't make them feel embarrassed and ashamed," Riggs said. "We have to help them through this process."

Lauran Neergaard covers health and medical issues for The Associated Press in Washington.



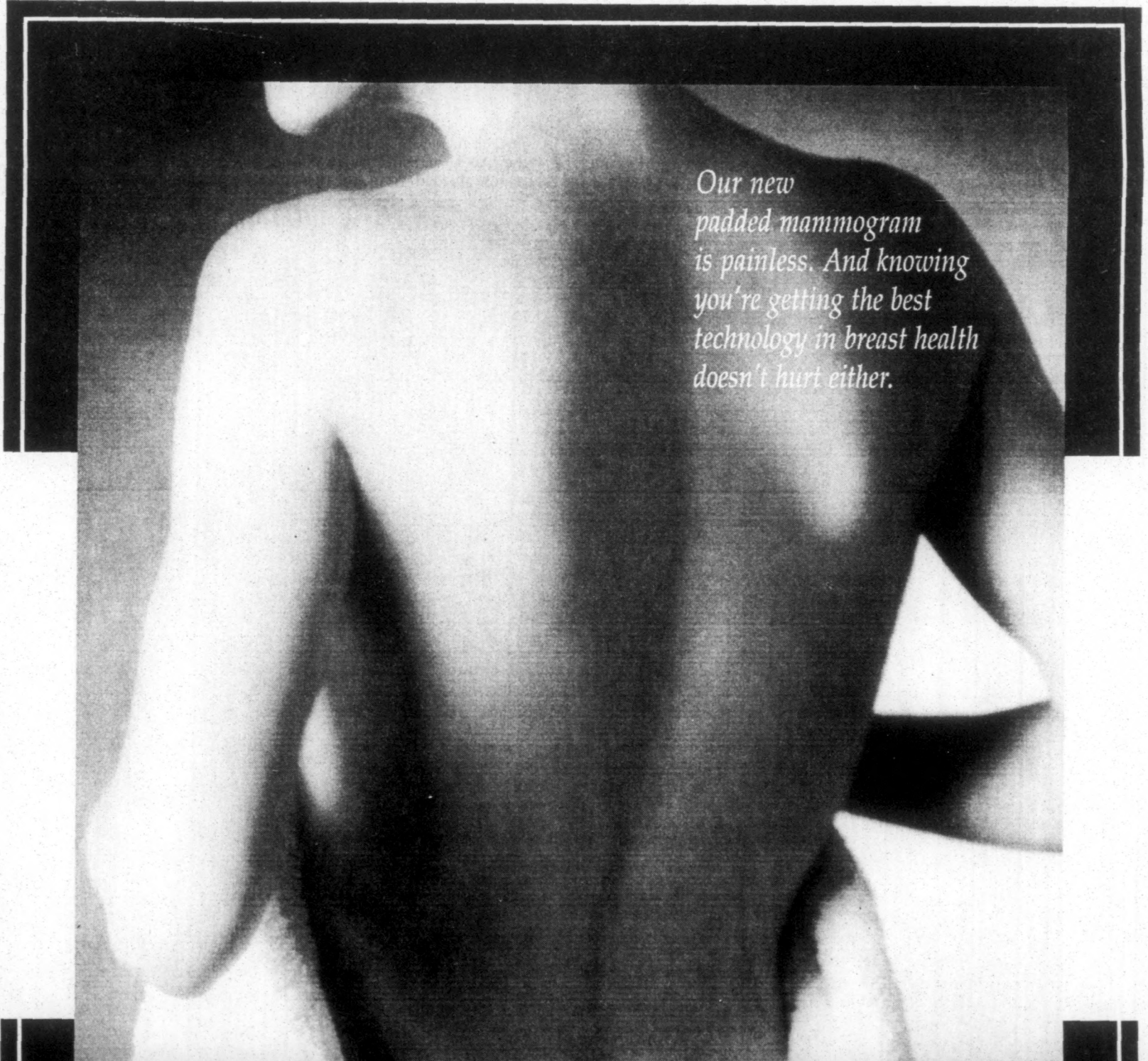
Photo provided

AN APPLE A DAY ... What better way to end a unit on Johnny Appleseed, than to eat apples? Southwest kindergarten and 1st grade classes of Becky Robertson and Diane Jones spent time studying Johnny Appleseed. To end the week, Calloway County Extension Agent Jane Steely visited the class to talk about healthy snacks. She told the class about different food groups and how to combine them to make healthy meals and snacks. As an example, the kids enjoyed a snack of apples with peanut butter washed down with a glass of milk.

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SPORTS

Wednesday, October 16, 2002

Second District Tournament

Clemson, Lady Tigers escape 1-0

By SCOTT NANNEY

Sports Editor

MAYFIELD, Ky. — Murray High head coach Jennifer Boone just couldn't bare to watch parts of her squad's intense Second District Tournament battle with Mayfield on Tuesday evening.

At times, maybe it was a good thing she didn't.

The Lady Tigers (12-3), the tournament's top seed, literally took Mayfield's best shot and delivered one of their own with the play of junior sweeper Lauren Clemson in escaping with a closer-than-expected 1-0 victory at Graves County High School.

With the win, Murray advances to Thursday's 5:30 p.m. championship match against the winner of tonight's Calloway County-Marshall County contest. The Lady Tigers also earned another trip to the Girls' First Region Tournament.

But not without a few anxious moments.

The Lady Cardinals (9-7) missed a golden opportunity to put pressure on the favored Lady Tigers with an early goal when Kendall Peebles was tripped by a Murray defender in the penalty box just five minutes into the match.

But Peebles' penalty kick sailed over the Murray goal, and the match remained scoreless for the first half.

"To be honest, I didn't even watch the penalty kick," Boone noted. "I'm not a superstitious



COMPLETE CONCENTRATION ... Murray High senior forward Leslie Schwettman makes sure she's in line with the ball on her way downfield during the Lady Tigers' 1-0 triumph over Mayfield in Second District Tournament action Tuesday night at Graves County High School.

SCOTT NANNEY/Ledger & Times photo

person, but good things seem to happen when I don't watch. So I just turned away and didn't look."

Boone would have another anxious moment later in the match, but not before actually watching

her Lady Tigers take the lead.

Clemson's corner kick from the right side with nine minutes to go crossed the mouth of the goal in the air and found the head of All-First Region forward

Lacey Latimer, whose diving attempt pushed the ball past Mayfield goalkeeper Tara Isbell for a 1-0 Murray edge.

"I told the girls at halftime that if we were going to score,

it would probably come on a corner kick because Mayfield was cramming everybody into the box and clogging up the middle of the field," Boone said.

"I really haven't been kicking the ball too well from the corner, but I just tried to kick it as hard as I could and hoped it would go to the right place," Clemson explained. "Lacey usually finishes my corner kicks, but that was the best one all year."

The Lady Tigers then dodged another Mayfield bullet before closing out the victory.

The youthful Lady Cardinals — often playing with five or six freshmen during Tuesday's contest — appeared poised to tie the match with just over six minutes left when Murray goalkeeper Haley Hart left the goal to corral a shot attempt.

The ball squirted loose to freshman Ashley Jones, who seemingly had a free shot at the unmanned goal. But Clemson — who was backing up Hart on the play — managed to slip in front of the net and head the ball out of the box to preserve the lead.

"I usually go behind Haley to back her up in those situations," Clemson said, "but (a shot) like that never happens ... I just closed my eyes and hoped it would hit my head."

"I ought to buy her an ice cream cone for that," Boone joked.

Despite some shaky play at times, the Lady Tigers controlled the ball for much of the contest — outshooting Mayfield 23-6. Hart recorded six saves while Isbell stopped 10 for the Lady Cardinals.

Loss in NLCS difficult for Cards

ST. LOUIS (AP) — This wasn't how the St. Louis Cardinals' storybook season was supposed to end.

Wearing patches on both sleeves to honor fallen teammate Darryl Kile and broadcaster Jack Buck, the Cardinals persevered to win the NL Central and then swept the world champion Arizona Diamondbacks in the first round of the playoffs.

With Kile's 5-year-old son, Kannon, sitting in the dugout, the Cardinals seemed destined to win. They just had too much to play for. Plus, the worst appeared to be over. They'd already gotten past Randy Johnson and Curt Schilling.

It all collapsed in the NL championship series. The intangibles didn't help as the San Francisco Giants knocked them out of the postseason in five games.

"No matter how bad we want to keep playing, it doesn't matter," catcher Mike Matheny said. "We fell short. Getting past the first round, that's good, but that wasn't our goal."

The Cardinals batted .278 with runners in scoring position during the regular season but failed in the clutch time and time again during the NLCS, going 3-for-39. Without any timely hitting, they lost a pair of one-run decisions in Games 4 and 5.

A few more hits from Albert Pujols, Jim Edmonds, Edgar Renteria and Tino Martinez, benched for the finale after going 2-for-25 in the postseason, and they might still be playing. There were a lot of stunned looks in the clubhouse after the 2-1 loss in Game 5 on Monday night.

"I'm kind of blank," Edmonds said. "This is a good group and a special team and a special city. The people rallied behind us and we tried to do our best, but we just came up short."

Manager Tony La Russa took no solace in the team's stirring finish to the regular season, or the impressive first round. What he saw in the NLCS was a team that underperformed.

"They just outplayed us," La Russa said. "However you look at it, the postseason is a failure. We failed."

If it wasn't one thing, it was another.

In Game 1, Matt Morris collapsed. In Game 2, the offense was stymied by Jason Schmidt. In Game 4, the bullpen coughed up two big hits. In Game 5, they wasted a dominant start from Morris by going 0-for-8 with runners in scoring position.

Some Cardinals believed things might have been different had Scott Rolen been available for the NLCS. Rolen sprained his left shoulder in Game 2 against Arizona and the team perhaps optimistically included him on the roster for the second round, but he never progressed beyond indoor workouts.

Rolen, acquired near the trade deadline from the Phillies, had been viewed as the final piece in the championship puzzle. He tied his career highs with 31 homers and 110 RBIs and played Gold Glove-caliber defense.

Rolen's replacement, Miguel Cairo, was 9-for-17 in the post-season and had the game-winning hit in Game 2 of the Division Series. So La Russa minimized the loss.

"That's just an excuse," he said. "When they outplayed you in every category, how much is Scott going to change that?"

La Russa also had his share of struggles. He left reliever Rick White in for 2 1-3 innings in Game 4, long enough to give up a two-run game-tying double to J.T. Snow and game-winning two-run home run to Benito Santiago. Playing with a short bench, he appeared unwilling to use his extra weapons. He put 12 pitchers on the roster, but avoided using Jeff Fassero and rookie Mike Crudale.

Anderson pleased with Racers' start

Staff Report

Murray Ledger & Times

With a roster full of experienced players, it's no surprise that Murray State men's basketball coach Tevester Anderson is pleased with the progress of his team after three practices.

Murray State began preparing for the 2002-03 season last Saturday, the first day college teams could conduct workouts under NCAA guidelines.

Anderson has put his team through three days of intense work. "Things are going real well," the fifth-year coach said Tuesday. "It's one of those deals when you have a lot of veteran players, you expect things to go well early."

Losing just two players from last year's 19-13 squad which won the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament and advanced to the NCAA Tournament, the Racers return four starters and nine players overall who have significant experience.

Anderson has been pleased with the enthusiasm and effort displayed by this year's team, but it has been their maturity and focus which have him smiling the most.

"There's not as much confusion as in years past," he said. "We have more veteran players than in years past and that makes things go a lot smoother. They're like students who have already studied the material."

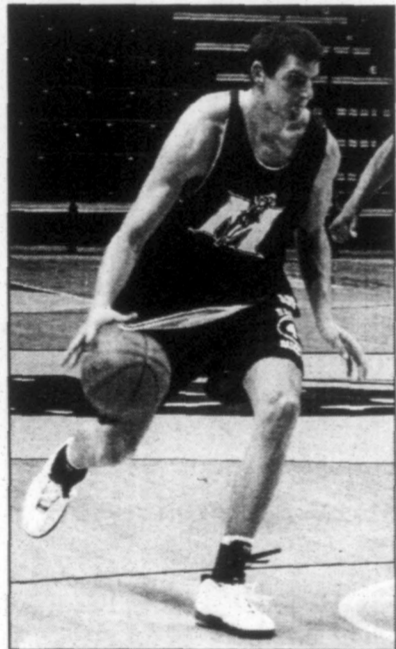
In the early going, Anderson has focused on conditioning, looking to push the Racers to the point of exhaustion.

"At the start of practice, you want to fatigue them and see if they can execute when they're fatigued," Anderson explained. "You want to see them do the little things when their legs are tired and their lungs are burning."

Anderson said the Racers will scrimmage more this year to promote competition and see more live situations.

"We feel that you get better by playing," he said. "We don't need to do as much teaching of the offense and defense because we don't have a lot of newcomers. Last year, we spent a lot of time teaching."

Individually, Anderson has been



SCOTT NANNEY/Ledger photo

JUST GETTING STARTED ... Sophomore center Petar Roncevic heads toward the basket during Tuesday's practice session at the Regional Special Events Center.

pleased with the performance of every player on his roster, singling out senior James Singleton and juniors Cuthbert Victor, Chris Shumate and Kevin Paschel as players who have had an impressive first three days.

"Singleton has really stood out and Victor has been Victor," Anderson said.

Anderson said that those three players have been the most improved thus far.

Singleton and Victor emerged as two of the top players in the OVC late last season, while Shumate is coming back healthy after missing all but four games last season with a stomach virus.

"Singleton, Victor and Shumate have all gotten stronger and it's easy to see that they've all worked on their games," he said.

Junior Rick Jones, a transfer from Vanderbilt who sat out at MSU last season, is struggling with tendonitis in his left knee but has not missed practice time.

Anderson also noted that Paschel is in the best shape of his life, and senior Chiwale Bedeau, a 6-7 forward who has seen limited playing time in his career with the Racers, has had the three best practices of his career.

Laker netters eliminated

Tigers advance to third round of tournament

Staff Report

Murray Ledger & Times

While Calloway County was upended twice in its attempt to advance in the First District Volleyball Tournament, Murray High breezed into the third day of play with ease.

The Lady Tigers stayed alive in the loser's bracket of the 13-team, double-elimination format with a 15-3, 15-3 victory over Fulton County Tuesday at Caldwell County.

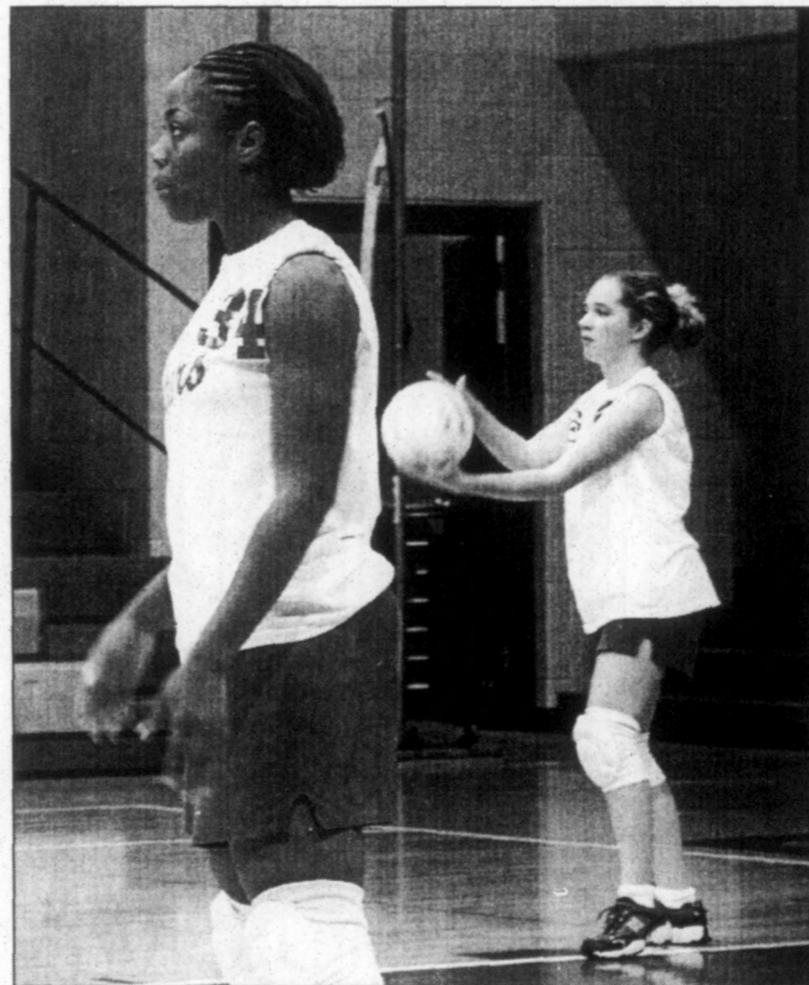
MHS (7-13) will return to Princeton today to face Marshall County, a 2-0 winner over Graves County Tuesday at Calloway, at 7:30 p.m.

The Lady Marshals swept both regular-season meetings with the Lady Tigers, winning 15-0, 6-15, 15-13 Sept. 3 at MHS and 15-4, 15-6 Oct. 8 in Draffenville.

The Murray-Marshall loser would be knocked out of the tournament while the winner would take on the loser of today's 6:15 p.m. match between Hopkins County Central-Lone Oak match Thursday at 5 p.m. at Caldwell.

Hopkins Central remained in the winner's bracket by stopping Calloway 15-10, 15-5 in the Lady Lakers' first outing Tuesday at Jeffrey Gymnasium.

The district co-hosts then had to stay on the court for an elim-



ERIC WALKER/Ledger & Times photo

READY TO GO ... Shameka Dial (34) gets ready for action while teammate Nicole Newberry prepares to serve during the Lakers' loss to Hopkins County Central in the First District Volleyball Tournament Tuesday night.

ination game with Paducah Tilghman.

CCHS claimed the first game by a 15-2 count, but the Lady

Tornado rebounded to take the next two sets 15-6, 15-12 and ended Calloway's season with a 9-11 record.

Play-call latest Gators' folly

GAINESVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Rex Grossman surveyed the defense, called an audible, took the snap and threw for a touchdown — to the wrong team.

It turned out that the audible, a little wiggle of the hand, means one thing under Florida offensive coordinator Ed Zaunbrecher's new system and another under Steve Spurrier's old one.

Or so the story goes.

Was it a simple mistake, or something more unseemly?

That's one of the big questions this week in Gainesville, and after a full round of interviews on Monday and Tuesday, it remains a mystery, mostly because all the key parties are giving conflicting explanations.

To refresh, the Gators had third-and-11 from their own 30 in the first quarter against LSU on

Saturday, when Grossman made the audible and threw the pass into the hands of LSU cornerback Corey Webster.

The 45-yard touchdown return gave LSU a 10-0 lead en route to a 36-7 victory.

Upon throwing the interception, Grossman immediately ran over to the intended receiver, Taylor Jacobs, and started berating him for going long, instead of curling back for a 12-yard pass.

Grossman claimed the audible meant one thing under Spurrier's offense and another under Zaunbrecher's, and the whole thing was an innocent crossing of signals.

"We have a form of the same signal," Grossman said. "It's one of those deals we need to start with a clean slate, no old signals. No confusion at all. That's definitely a play where that became a problem."

Angels next team to ponder Bonds dilemma

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Listening to the talk at Edison Field, it seems as if the Anaheim Angels will be playing only against Barry Bonds in the World Series, a 25-on-1 battle.

Pitch him or walk him? That's what everyone wants to know.

"I'm sure there will be times we walk him, and I'm sure there will be times we challenge him," Angels manager Mike Scioscia said.

Of course, San Francisco will have 25 players on the roster when the first all-wild-card World Series opens Saturday night. But Bonds is the focus.

"The last two seasons, he's had the most incredible seasons in the history of baseball, if you look at all his numbers and all the micro-statistics," Scioscia said.

Scott Schoeneweis is likely to be Anaheim's antidote for the hitter pitchers fear most. Bonds is 1-for-7 against the left-hander with four strikeouts, no walks and no home runs.

"The best-case scenario is to get the guys out before Barry



Barry Bonds

comes up," Schoeneweis said. And with no one on base, there's a good chance Bonds will be walked.

Bonds was walked a record 198 times during the season — and scored on just 34 of them, according to the Elias Sports Bureau. Following his record 68 intentional walks, he scored just three times.

Of course, 79 of his walks came

with two outs.

"The guys that faced the guy every day, all the time, year in, year out, they all seemed to do the same thing," Angels pitching coach Bud Black said. "I don't think that they're all wrong."

Still, his gut feeling was Anaheim would pitch most of the time to Bonds, who has four homers and 10 RBIs in the postseason.

In addition to Schoeneweis — Anaheim's only lefty reliever — Bonds has faced just three other pitchers on Anaheim's roster: He's 4-for-7 with two homers, two walks and a strikeout against Kevin Appier; 0-for-1 against right-handed reliever Ben Weber; and 0-for-1 with three walks and no strikeouts against Troy Percival.

"We'll just be smart. I don't think we'll be scared of him and pitch around him," said Jarrod Washburn, picked Tuesday by Scioscia to start the opener.

"We'll try to not let him beat us. I'll challenge him," Washburn said. "I'm looking forward to the challenge. He's a great player. If there's a situation where he can beat us, the smart thing to do is pitch around him."

Washburn isn't a fan of intentional walks when no one is on base.

"I don't see that happening," he said. "I don't think we're going to be intimidated or scared by Barry Bonds. We're going to be smart about it."

As workers cleaned and did some touchup paint work at the ballpark, Washburn already was looking ahead to the opener, where he could face the Giants' Jason Schmidt.

"I'm sure I'll be thinking about it a lot," Washburn said. "It's going to be the biggest game of my life. I'm pretty sure we won't sweep and they won't sweep, so I'll have another start and that will be the biggest game of my life."



HOME BOYS ... The Calloway County High School junior-varsity boys' soccer team won its own JV tournament Saturday at the Jim Nix Soccer Complex. Team members are (front row, from left) coach Marshall Ward, Justin Lewis, Ryan Stanger, Heath Towery, Jon Gordon, Evan McDaniel, Monte Kennedy, Jason Stubblefield, Blake True, Lee Hart, Jonathan Lewis, David Morrison, (back row) Joe Paul Wilson, Brandon Phillips, Seth Asher, Jesse Morrison, Brinnon Parker, Josh Johnson, Colby Lyle, Sam Rogers and Anthony Fortenbery. Not pictured is Chris Fike.

Mariners field calls from Mets, Rays about Piniella

NEW YORK (AP) — Lou Piniella may not be out of work very long.

After releasing Piniella from the final year of his contract because he wants to work closer to home, the Seattle Mariners on Tuesday fielded calls from other teams interested in talking with their ex-manager.

If he really wants a short commute from his Florida home, the Tampa Bay job is open. However, it's unlikely the budget-conscious Devil Rays would be able to pay him enough or be able to adequately compensate the Mariners for allowing him to manage elsewhere.

The New York Mets, however, are another story. Although the team owes ex-manager Bobby Valentine \$2.7 million for the final year of his contract, owner Fred Wilpon wants a high-profile individual with a background as a winner as the next bench boss. That comes with a high price tag.

Piniella fits that profile, managing Cincinnati to the World Series championship in 1990 and Seattle to a record 116 victories in 2001.

He also has New York roots, with two terms as manager of the Yankees, a team he played with for

11 seasons.

Piniella won't come cheap. He was due to make \$2.5 million with the Mariners next season and would likely want at least three years at \$3 million. That's well beyond the Tampa Bay budget.

The Mariners said they'd listen to the Mets and Devil Rays and the conversation could be compelling. In its statement releasing Piniella from his last year, Seattle included an important provision.

"The Mariners will seek to negotiate reasonable compensation from such clubs in exchange for releasing Lou from his employment contract," the team said.

That means players and/or cash. On Tuesday, the Mets confirmed that Wilpon had spoken with Mariners president Chuck Armstrong to request permission to talk with Piniella.

Armstrong told the Mets that permission would be granted after the teams agree to a compensation package.

"Assuming an agreement on compensation is reached, it is expected that Piniella will be interviewed shortly thereafter," the Mets said in a statement.

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MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — The top teams in the Kentucky Associated Press high school football polls, with first-place votes, records, total points and previous rankings:

4A		2A	
1. Lou. Trinity (14)	7-0 140 1	1. Breathitt Co. (8)	7-0 133 1
2. Lou. Male	8-0 123 2	2. Larue Co. (5)	7-0 126 2
3. Henderson Co.	8-0 101 4	3. O'boro Cath. (1)	7-0 106 3
4. Lou. St. Xavier	7-1 97 5	4. Mason County	7-1 77 4
5. Dixie Heights	6-1 78 6	5. Webster County	7-0 70 5
6. Scott County	7-0 67 7	6. Belfry	6-1 57 7
7. Lou. Manual	6-2 42 8	7. Russell	5-2 53 6
8. Lou. Eastern	6-1 36 9	8. Glasgow	6-1 48 8
9. Lou. PRP	6-1 33 3	9. Lloyd Memorial	6-2 34 10
10. Conner	6-1 20 10	10. Madison S.	7-0 18 —
OTHERS RECEIVING VOTES: Prestonsburg 11, Whitesburg 9, Bardstown 8, Monroe County 6, Caldwell County 6, Trigg County 4, Casey County 2, Mercer County 1, Fort Campbell 1.			
3A		1A	
1. Lex. Catholic (10)	6-1 136 1	1. Mayfield (12)	7-0 138 1
2. Rockcastle (1)	6-1 107 2	2. Danville (2)	5-2 114 2
3. Warren Cen. (2)	6-1 90 3	3. Lou. Holy Cross	7-0 100 4
4. Boyle Co. (1)	5-2 89 4	4. Newport Cath.	6-1 99 3
5. Bullitt East	7-0 61 5	5. Beechwood	5-2 60 6
6. Highlands	5-3 53 8	6. Green County	6-1 54 7
(tie) Pad. Tilghman	5-2 53 6	7. Middlesboro	5-2 42 —
8. Lawrence Co.	6-1 46 7	8. Pikeville	5-2 37 8
9. Hopkinsville	5-2 44 9	9. Cumberland	6-1 31 5
10. Bell County	6-1 22 —	10. Ballard Mem.	5-2 24 9
OTHERS RECEIVING VOTES: West Jessamine 15, Ashland Blazer 13, East Jessamine 13, Louisville Fairdale 10, Allen County-Scottsville 8, Covington Catholic 6.			

Sports Briefs

• TUCSON, Ariz. — Liza Holman of Murray is a member of the recreational league tennis team from Kentucky that will compete in the USA League Tennis 4.0 Senior National Championships Friday-Sunday at the Moore Tennis Academy.

• The team includes captain Esther Hubbard of Mayfield, Beverly Nuerge of Green, Marylee Clark of Mayfield, Suzanne Dillihay of Bowling Green, Ellen Wise of Paducah, Maria Boyer of Marion, Ill., Bobbie Ogletree of Carbonale, Ill., Louise Owen of Evansville, Ind. and Diana Harris of Louisville.

• The Youth Sports Association will meet Saturday at 2 p.m. at the Calloway County Public Library to nominate and elect officers for the 2002-03 recreational baseball and softball leagues, which are held at Murray-Calloway County Park. For more information, call Mark Winchester at 753-2808.

• The Calloway County Girls' Basketball Little League will hold late signups for girls in grades 3-6 Oct. 19 and Oct. 26 from 9-11 a.m. at Jeffrey Gymnasium. The entry fee is \$40 per player or \$75 for siblings, and applications are available at all district schools. The league will begin play Nov. 2.

• The Calloway County High School football team will host a football alumni golf scramble Saturday at Miller Memorial Golf Course. The tournament will begin at 8:30 a.m. The entry fee is \$40 per player. For more information, call Todd Contri at 753-2315.



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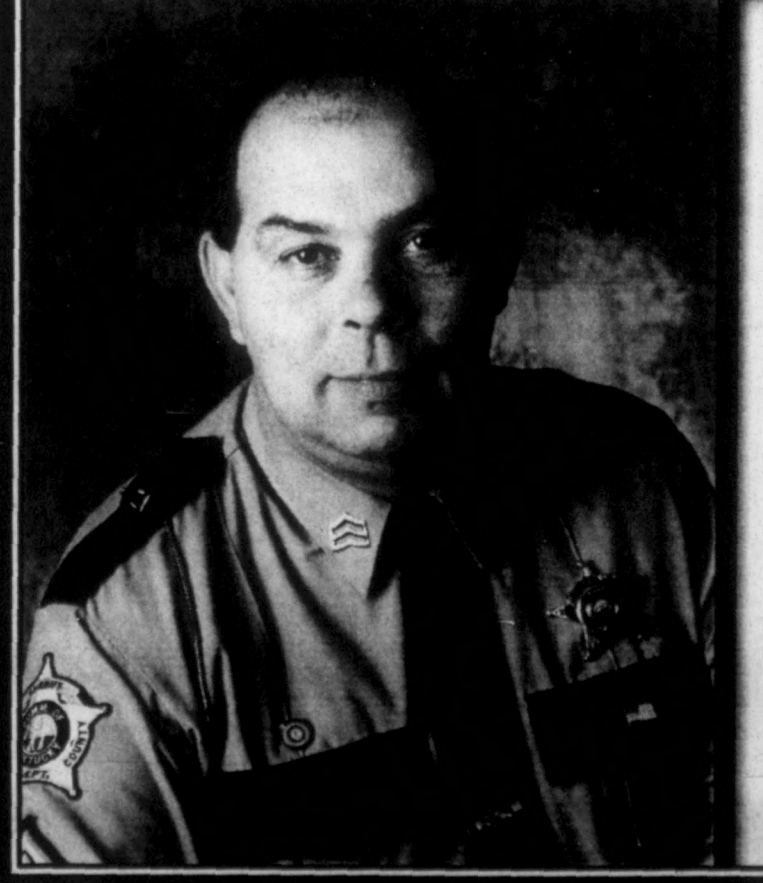


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Evolution to be part of science curriculum in Ohio public schools

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — The state school board said Tuesday it will adopt a science curriculum that leaves it up to school districts whether to teach the concept of "intelligent design," which holds that the universe is guided by a higher intelligence.

The board voted unanimously in favor of the standards, which emphasize both evolution and critical analysis of the theory. It will adopt them formally in December.

The standards put into writing what many school districts already do — teach evolution, but also explain that there is debate over the origin of life.

"In no way does this advocate for creation or intelligent design," said Michael Cochran, a board member who had pushed for the concept to be included in the standards. "I do look upon this as a compromise."

The decision follows weeks of behind-the-scenes talks to reach an agreement with members who wanted alternative theories to evolution to be put of an equal footing with Darwin's theory.

In January, Ohio became the latest battleground in the debate over what high school biology students should know about evolution.

Supporters of intelligent design included some conservative groups that had tried and failed to get biblical creation taught in public schools. Critics of intelligent design said it is creationism in disguise.

Report made on guardianship program

FRANKFORT, Ky. (AP) — The state program for safeguarding people who cannot care for themselves does not have adequate financial controls and suffers from mismanagement, according to a state audit.

The Cabinet for Families and Children, responsible for overseeing the affairs of incapacitated people, "does not effectively safeguard, monitor or manage the assets of its wards," according to the report, which details improper spending of client money and poor and improper checks and balances that increase the chance of fraud.

The cabinet could not account for a \$265,000 shortfall in a master bank account that held clients' assets, said the report from Auditor Ed Hatchett's office. The state's computer system reported a \$5 million balance in the master account, but the bank showed \$265,000 less.

The cabinet also "blatantly violated duty to clients by paying some people's bills with the money of other people," said Hatchett.

Hatchett's office looked for possible fraud during the four-month investigation and didn't find any. But he did not rule it out.

After the initial draft of the audit was forward-

ed to the cabinet, Secretary Viola Miller said immediate steps were taken to tighten controls. The report contains the cabinet's response to 28 separate recommendations.

The cabinet said it would consult with the state's own Finance Cabinet for assistance in managing people's financial affairs to the state's Finance Cabinet. The cabinet also plans to contract with an outside agency to manage client assets. That would effectively replace the state's present fiduciary section, which has a staff of eight managing clients' financial resources.

These problems "were not on our radar screen," said Dietra Paris, commissioner of the cabinet's Community Based Services Department, which oversees the affairs of 2,500 people — mostly elderly — through its Fiduciary and Guardianship Sections.

Hatchett said the questionable and sometimes illegal practices were uncovered after a complaint urged his office to look at the system, which was authorized by the General Assembly in 1978.

"There are a number of our vulnerable citizens who need this kind of professional care, and it's a critically important function," Hatchett said.

"It would be very difficult if the (District)

courts across the state could not depend on guardianship."

In this case, guardianship is a legal relationship in which a court appoints the state to oversee the affairs of a person who has been ruled unable to care for his or her personal needs or finances.

The state also has been charging inconsistent or excessive fees and, at times, has failed to notify benefit providers of client deaths.

In one case, the state continued to receive more than \$35,000, including Social Security payments, nearly two years after a death. On the other hand, \$114,000 belonging to the estates of those who died as long ago as 1997, still had not been distributed, the report said.

In addition to the missing \$265,000, many of the other problems are being caused by a poor computer system, state officials said.

Specifically, they blamed the instances where one person's expenses were being paid with others' money on the computer program that ran the master bank account. In addition, Jennings said guardians were handling jobs, such as initiating and approving check requests that supervisors should have handled.

Column notes happenings, services

DEXTER, Ky. — Greetings from Dexter. I am thrilled to be writing this weekly column for the

Postings
By Peggy Smith
Dexter
Postmaster

Murray Ledger and Times. Every week, I will be informing the community on the various services the Postal Service has

and how you can make the most of the Postal Service.

I'd like to introduce my staff in this opening article. I am Peggy

Smith, the Postmaster of Dexter. I started my career working the mid-night shift at the Paducah processing plant, was appointed Postmaster in Melber in 1998, and I have served in Dexter for a year.

I am temporarily away from my office and the Officer in Charge is Teena Hudson. Teena brings a huge amount of knowledge and experience into the Dexter Post Office. She started her career with me in Paducah, unloading trucks in the middle of the night. She first worked as a casual employee, then a transitional employee, a part time flexible clerk and then a regular

clerk in Hickman.

Glen Olson is our regular rural carrier; he has 21 years with the Postal service and is also the president of the Kentucky Rural Letter Carrier Association. We are very proud of his dedication.

We also have two part time employees Tonya Lee works as a substitute for Glen and Marcia Crick works as substitute for the Postmaster. These ladies find the part time hours blend well with their families. We are thankful to have them on board.

Our staff is always here to serve you and you will find a very

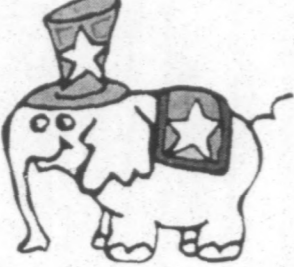
knowledgeable and friendly staff at your local post office as well.

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I look forward to visiting with you every week.

The Calloway County Republican Party invites you to our Fall Picnic and Political Rally US Congressman Ed Whitfield Virgil Moore, and Sonny Landham Candidates For Governor Saturday, October 19, 2002 3 to 5 p.m. Howard Brandon Farm One mile south of Murray on 641



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Child-rearing frustrations are common

QUESTION: I worry so much about my children and wonder if I'm raising them wisely. Every few days my husband and I encounter a problem we don't know how to handle. Is it common for other parents to feel this way? It never has been easy to raise healthy and productive children. After all, babies come into the world with no instructions and you pretty much have to assemble them on your own. They are also maddeningly complex, and there are no guaranteed formulas that work in every instance. And finally, the techniques that succeed magnificently with one child can fail bewilderingly with another.



Focus on the Family
By Dr. James Dobson
President

answers received from more than 1,000 mothers and fathers were very revealing. Some responded with humor, especially those who were raising toddlers. They told the most delightful stories about sticky telephones, wet toilet seats and knotted shoestrings. Their experiences reminded me of the days when Shirley and I were chasing ambitious preschoolers.

Tell me why it is that a toddler never throws up in the bathroom? Never! To do so would violate some great unwritten law in the universe.

It is even more difficult to understand why he will gag violently at the sight of a perfectly wonderful breakfast of oatmeal, eggs, bacon and orange juice — and then go out and drink the dog's water. I have no idea what makes him do that. I only know that it drives his mother crazy! Unfortunately, the majority of those who responded to our questionnaire did not share funny stories about cute kids. Many of them were experiencing considerable frustration in their parenting responsibilities. Rather than being critical of their children, however, most said they were troubled by their own inadequacies as mothers and fathers!

Their answers revealed the great self-doubt that is prevalent among parents today, including these actual responses:
• "Not knowing how to cope with children's problems."
• "Not being able to make the

kids feel secure and loved."
• "I've lost confidence in my ability to parent."
• "I've failed my children."
• "I'm not the example I should be."
• "Seeing my own bad habits and character-traits in my children."
• "Inability to relate to my children."
• "Dealing with guilt when it seems that I have failed my sons."
• "Inability to cope."
• "It's too late to go back and do it right."
• "I'm overwhelmed by the responsibility of it all."

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QUESTION: Why do you think parents are so quick to criticize themselves? What is the source of the self-doubt that seems so prevalent?

DR. DOBSON: It is a cultural phenomenon. Mothers, especially, have been blamed for everything that can conceivably go wrong with children. Even when their love and commitment are incalculable, the experts accuse them of making grievous errors in toilet training, disciplining, feeding, medicating and educating their youngsters. They are either overpossessive or undermourishing. Their approach is either harsh or permissive. One psychiatrist even wrote an entire book on the dangers of religious training, blaming parents for scaring kids with talk of the next world. Thus, no matter how diligently "Mom" approaches her parenting responsibilities, she is likely to be accused of twisting and warping her children.

Perhaps this explains why women are more critical of themselves than men. Eighty percent of the respondents to our poll were women, and their most frequent comment was, "I'm a failure as a mother!" What nonsense! Women have been taught to think of themselves in this way, and it is time to set the record straight.

The task of procreation was never intended to be so burdensome. Of course it is demanding. And children are challenging, to be sure. But the guilt and doubt that often encumber the parenting responsibility are largely self-imposed. It's time we restored the confidence to those who are working so hard to raise their children with love and wisdom.

Dr. Dobson is president of the nonprofit organization Focus on the Family, P.O. Box 444, Colorado Springs, CO. 80903; or www.family.org. Questions and answers are excerpted from "The Complete Marriage and Family Home Reference Guide," published by Tyndale House.

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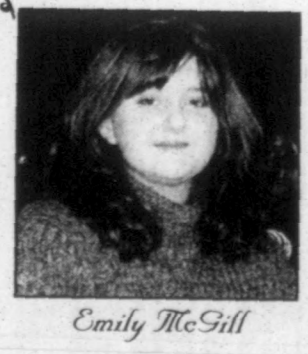
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Students show military support

With their pencils and paper, kindergarten kids at Southwest Elementary carefully trace around their hands. It's not a lesson in drawing; instead, it's a lesson in support - support for their country and their community's heroes. Students across Calloway County are giving a "helping hand" to their heroes-members of Murray's 438th Military Police Company of the Kentucky National Guard. Soldiers in the 438th leaves Oct. 17th for Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and will stay six months.

In a show of support, students are offering the soldiers a little encouragement.

At Southwest Elementary, the kids' support takes on even more meaning.

Principal Janet Johnson's husband is one of the 124 members of the 438th heading for Cuba. Johnson said with the 438th leaving for six months, it really brings home the sacrifice thousands of men and women make everyday.

"It's someone that the children know," Johnson said. "They know that Mrs. Janet's husband is going away until the end of the school

year, which seems like an eternity to the children."

Johnson said it's exciting to see how the community is pulling together to show support for the men and women of the 438th. She said without that support, many family members left behind would have a much more difficult time dealing with the separation.

"It's such a supportive community," Johnson said. "The minute this came up I was offered a lot support. I step out my office door and I have children hugging me; it's a very supportive atmosphere."

"A Community Salute" took place on Oct. 13 at the Regional Special Events Center. Hundreds of folks from the community came out to offer support.

"We should continue to support them, even if it's just a post card offering encouragement," Johnson said.

Johnson said it will be tough to see her husband leave for six months, but seeing the community supporting the soldiers and their families helps deal with the situation.

"I will miss him terribly, but I'm



GIVE US A HAND ... Students from Southwest Elementary construct a flag out of handprints for members of Murray's 438th Military Police Company of the Kentucky National Guard who are leaving for Cuba on Oct. 17.

very proud of the work he is doing," Johnson said. "I'll be glad when he's home, and I'm very

thankful of the support I have, which helps me go on with daily life."

Atlantis astronauts say goodbye, prepare to unlock

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — After a week of construction work, space shuttle Atlantis' astronauts said goodbye to their friends at the international space station on Wednesday and then closed the hatches for undocking.

It was an emotional farewell, especially for station astronaut Peggy Whitson and shuttle astronaut Sandra Magnus, who are good friends. They hugged each other tightly and wiped away tears.

"I didn't know it was going to be so hard," Magnus said.

Shuttle pilot Pamela Melroy thanked Whitson for a wonderful stay and added, "We miss you. Come home soon."

Whitson and her two Russian crewmates are scheduled to return to Earth next month aboard shuttle Endeavour. They have been living on the space station since June.

The shuttle crew told the three to be careful and wished them good luck.

Atlantis and its six crew members were scheduled to leave the space station later Wednesday morning, leaving behind a \$390

million girder that they installed on the orbiting outpost during three spacewalks.

The 14-ton addition, which features an elaborate air-conditioning system, boosted the mass of the space station to more than 180 tons. The complex will grow another 14 tons when another girder is launched next month.

The construction work provided valuable lessons for the shuttle mission coming up, said flight director Mark Kerasich.

The biggest lesson — and surprise — came during the second of three spacewalks, when astronaut David Wolf discovered some older space station plumbing had been launched without all its parts. Because of missing locking collars at two of the joints on the ammonia coolant lines, he was unable to attach pressure-relief clamps.

Kerasich said NASA will probably not try to fix the two fittings. Engineers are scouring photos and other documents to determine whether any other pipes may have been launched without the necessary pieces.

Man arrested after bowlers thwart kidnapping attempt

WINDHAM, N.H. (AP) — A group of bowlers who stopped a man from leaving a bowling alley with an 8-year-old girl helped thwart a kidnapping, authorities said.

Gerard Bean, 55, was arraigned on a charge of attempted child abduction Tuesday, two days after he allegedly walked out of the bowling alley with the girl.

"There was no doubt in my mind that he planned to take that girl," said officer Ed Fedele.

A judge set Bean's bail at \$250,000 after prosecutor Catherine Baumann said Bean had been convicted of kidnapping and served time in prison from 1979 to 1988. No plea was entered.

Bean was arrested Sunday night after being confronted by several bowlers who saw the girl follow him out of Park Place Bowling

Lanes, authorities said.

The men said Bean told them that he hadn't realized the girl was following him. But the girl, who had accompanied her father to the bowling alley, said Bean claimed to be her uncle and told her to come with him, the witnesses said.

After the bowlers questioned him for a few minutes, Bean began walking toward the front door, said bowler Scott Bradish.

"He gave us the thumbs-up and said, 'You guys are good for doing this because there are some real sickos out there,'" Bradish said.

But word had apparently spread, and Bean was surrounded by nearly 100 bowlers who stopped him and called police, Bradish said.

"Something wasn't right," he said. "You watch out for everybody's kids here because you are always looking out for your own."

Group warns Medicare cuts will hurt patients

WASHINGTON (AP) — With Medicare scheduled to cut billions of dollars from doctors' payments, a group representing physicians is urging Congress to restore the money before elderly patients have trouble finding doctors.

Unless Congress acts by Nov. 1, "more physicians will be forced to stop taking new Medicare patients into their practices," said Dr. Donald Palmisano, president-elect of the American Medical Association. The next round of cuts is scheduled for Nov. 1.

Palmisano said doctors have already taken a 5.4 percent cut and are facing another 12 percent in cuts, equaling about \$11 billion, over the next three years. At the current rate of cuts and inflation, Medicare doctor payments in 2005 will be below the 1991 level, Palmisano said.

"Physicians want to serve America's seniors, but they simply cannot afford to accept an unlimited

number of Medicare patients into their practices while facing continued payment cuts," Palmisano said. "Medicare's foundation is crumbling."

He said an AMA survey found that 24 percent of physicians have already either placed limits on the number of Medicare patients they treat or plan to institute limits soon.

The reductions are required under a Medicare payment formula that relies on the state of the economy, which is now struggling.

Lawmakers and the Bush administration have said the payment formula is unfair and have expressed interest in finding a remedy for doctors. But the White House has balked at lawmakers' plans to send extra money to hospitals and other health providers as well.

Last week, White House budget chief Mitchell Daniels told lawmakers that the nation could not afford to give billions of dollars to health providers.

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NOTICE...

MEMBERS OF WESTERN DARK FIRED TOBACCO GROWERS ASSOCIATION

The Annual Meeting of members will be held on Tuesday, October 29, 2002, at BB&T Bank, North Branch, 1004 Chestnut Street, Murray, KY 6:30 p.m. The purpose of the meeting will be to hear the President's Report and a general discussion of the cooperative's affairs.

Following the meeting, refreshments will be served and \$500 in door prizes will be given away.

Laura S. Paschall
Secretary



Calloway County Laker Band Seniors



Murray High Tiger Band

CCHS claims regional AA title, Murray High 4th

Both bands advance to state this weekend

DRAFFENVILLE, Ky. — The Calloway County High School Laker Band finished first at the KMEA Marching Band Class AA West Regional Quarterfinal Competition in Draffenville on Saturday and now advances to the semifinals as one of the top 16 bands in the state.

(those having between 41-60 musicians) who had qualified for the competition competed for the top eight western division spots.

Murray High, which finished second earlier this year in the Festival of Champions overall division, took fourth in regional competition, and will also advance to state to compete in AA.

The Tigers reached the Final Four last year.

The Laker Band, with seniors Melissa Lowe, John Wall, Chris Rogers, Meagan Hall, Kenneth Scott, Alicia Suiter, John Galloway, Rebecca Cripps, Brandon Myers, Rachel Moellenkamp, Susan Lassiter, and Michelle Taylor pictured above, left, as they receive the awards at the KMEA Quarter-Finals at Marshall County High on Saturday, earned its eighth distinguished rating along with other regional qualifying bands Murray,

LaRue County, Elizabethtown, Hopkinsville, Hart County, Caldwell County, and Barren County.

Calloway and Murray will also join Adair County, Anderson County, Harrison County, Ft. Thomas Highlands, Mercer County, Oldham County, Shelby County and South Oldham in the AA semifinal.

The Class AA State Semifinals will be held at Henry Clay High School in Lexington this Saturday, Oct 19, beginning at 10 a.m. with the performance for the Tiger Band

set for 11:30 a.m. EST, and the Laker Band at 2 p.m. EST.

Following the semifinal competition, the four highest scoring bands will advance that evening to compete for the State Championship at the University of Kentucky Commonwealth Stadium.

Other regional bands competing at state in the semifinals include: (Class A) Lyon County, Mayfield and Trigg County; (Class 3A) Christian County, Lone Oak and Madisonville-North Hopkins.

No regional team is competing in class AAAA.

Judge fires secretary after conflict cited

NICHOLASVILLE, Ky. (AP) — A Jessamine County Circuit judge declined to remove himself from a murder trial on Monday, opting instead to fire his secretary, the wife of the defense attorney in the case.

Judge Hunter Daugherty fired Susan Zeroogian, his secretary of five years and wife of Adam Zeroogian, who is defending Daniel Gordin, one of the three teens accused of robbing and murdering 18-year-old boarding school student Ryan Harris in January.

The Ethics Committee of the Kentucky Judiciary said the fact that Zeroogian's wife worked for the judge created "an appearance of impropriety," and said the judge should disqualify himself.

Daugherty met with lawyers from both sides for about 50 minutes on Monday, and then spoke in court.

"I have reviewed that previous ruling, and I'm still on this case," he said.

Commonwealth's Attorney Tom


Lockridge initially sought a ruling on Daugherty's role from state Supreme Court Justice Joseph Lambert in May. In June, Lambert supported Daugherty's preference to stay on the case.

The judge's move prompted heated reactions from Ryan Harris' father and from Adam Zeroogian, who directed his wrath at Harris and Lockridge.

"They have terminated the service of a 15-year state employee because they don't want the fairest judge in the land to sit on this trial. I think that's appalling," Zeroogian said.

The victim's father, Larry E. Harris, directed his anger at Daugherty. He noted that the judge was once a law partner with David Thomas, who represents another defendant, Summer Turner.

"This judge thinks he is God. He is hellbent to stay on this case," Harris said.



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South Carolina investigator searching for real-life Gatsby

By PAGE IVEY
Associated Press Writer

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — Howard Comen spent a long, hot summer in New York on the trail of one elusive man — who's been dead for almost 45 years.

The Charleston-based private investigator is trying to unravel the mystery of 1920s socialite Max von Gerlach, or maybe his name was Max Stark Gerlach.

He may have been a German baron whose family fled Europe during World War I. He may have been a bootlegger who used a car dealership and society friends to hide his ill-gotten gains.

Gerlach's story — like those of so many of his Jazz Age peers — may have simply faded away with time. But, some experts say, Gerlach was immortalized by one of his contemporaries, F. Scott Fitzgerald, in "The Great Gatsby."

Just how closely Gerlach resembled the character of Jay Gatsby — and just how friendly he and the author were — may never be known, Fitzgerald biographer Matthew Bruccoli says.

But those details are what Bruccoli, a University of South Carolina English professor, has been after for more than 30 years.

"He seems to be one of those '20s figures, who led the flamboyant lives and couldn't cope with the 1930s," Bruccoli said. "He would

be an archetypal '20s figure, if we knew enough about him."

The mystery of Max Gerlach intrigued Comen when he met Bruccoli at the university's Fitzgerald Room.

"He said to me, 'How good a private detective are you?'" Comen said. "I said, 'Doc, I'm the best you've ever seen.'"

Bruccoli offered to pay Comen for his research, but the private investigator refused.

"I was kind of mesmerized," Comen said. "Here's this old man ... telling me how he searched for this guy ... how he couldn't find that much about von Gerlach."

Instead of a paycheck, Comen asked Bruccoli to look over some of the stories the investigator had written about some of his more interesting cases.

"I said, 'Read it. If you like it, if it merits further study here or activity, I need an agent, a publisher and an editor,'" Comen said.

Comen began his search at the Mansfield Hotel in New York City, where a blind, pajama-clad Gerlach lived out his last days. He died in 1958.

It was during the 1950s that Gerlach approached a Fitzgerald biographer. In "The Far Side of Paradise," biographer Arthur Mizener quotes Fitzgerald's wife, Zelda, as saying Gerlach was the inspiration for Gatsby.

Bruccoli, who calls Mizener's refusal to meet with Gerlach "the heartbreaking hole in all of this," says calling any one person the basis for Gatsby may be a bit strong.

"Jay Gatsby is not a biographical figure," Bruccoli said. "Fitzgerald ... created a character from a variety of sources."

But, Bruccoli says, "Gerlach, clearly is one of the figures that went into the mix that is Jay Gatsby."

Gatsby's character — giving all for the love of a woman — was pure Fitzgerald. "All of Fitzgerald's heroes turn into Fitzgerald before the novel is over," Bruccoli said.

But other traits of the character — his mysterious past, his wealth — supposedly were based on Gerlach.

"We have this piece of paper — a newspaper clipping with the note — 'How are you and the family, Old Sport?' signed Gerlach," Bruccoli said. "This is proof positive that Fitzgerald knew somebody before

he wrote 'The Great Gatsby' who was in the habit of using what has become the defining expression for Gatsby — 'Old Sport.'"

Comen has found newspaper reports of Gerlach's failed suicide attempt in 1939. He has the paper clipping Gerlach wrote on and sent to Fitzgerald in 1920. He has tenuous connections to German barons with the same name and to a family in Yonkers, N.Y.

One story has Gerlach being born in Yonkers, training as a mechanic, going to war and coming home to no money and a divorce from his wife. He became a bootlegger, threw lavish parties and mixed with high society that could have included Fitzgerald. He may have even been Fitzgerald's liquor source during Prohibition.

The most detailed accounting of a brief period of Gerlach's life comes from newspaper stories about his suicide attempt. The Long Island Star-Journal reported on Dec. 22, 1939, that von Gerlach shot

himself in the head while visiting a girlfriend in Greenwich Village.

"Police tentatively attributed the suicide attempt to 'financial reverses' saying that Gerlach lost his agency, Park Central Motors, 150-10 Northern Blvd. Flushing about a month ago," the paper reported.

The paper said the German consulate in Manhattan had no record of a baron named Gerlach and police said they knew little about his past and had no knowledge of relatives in the United States or elsewhere.

Several descriptions of Gerlach are reminiscent of Gatsby: "a retired army officer ... a military bearing ... an Oxford accent."

Gerlach told an acquaintance he was a former German baron, had attended an English university and had been married, according to newspaper accounts at the time.

The descriptions, though, came after "The Great Gatsby" was published, so Gerlach could have begun mimicking some of Gatsby's char-

acter traits.

"It's quite possible that Gerlach began to imitate Gatsby," Bruccoli said.

Little more is known, except a letter from a Gerlach acquaintance to Mizener in 1954, asking the biographer to come for a visit. "He says he literally lives in pajamas, at home most of the time," according to the letter written on stationery from The Mansfield Hotel.

Next comes a death certificate in October 1958.

Bruccoli is excited by any new scrap of information in his 30-year search but doubts there's much more to be learned. "I don't believe (Comen) is going to establish that Gatsby is Gerlach and Gerlach is Gatsby," Bruccoli said.

"Every day there is the possibility of the e-mail, the U.S. mail ... that another piece of the puzzle will turn up," he says. "Almost 80 years after the publication of 'The Great Gatsby,' pieces turn up."

Fried Twinkie makes its way to state fair

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — In the South, where the four basic food groups are barbecued, baked, broiled or fried, state fairs are filled with booths that sell everything from corn on a stick to club-like turkey legs.

For dessert, an odd new treat has emerged: fried Twinkies.

Phil Dickson, of Hot Springs, has sold about 1,000 of the battered, deep-fried goodies topped with powdered sugar since the Arkansas State Fair opened Friday.

"It's amazing to me," Dickson said Monday. "The response has just been tremendous."

Each Twinkie, at 160 calories and five grams of fat a pop, is impaled on a stick and frozen until firm, then dipped in a batter similar to that used to fry fish.

Deep frying adds more calories and fat, and the powdered-sugar coating apparently complements the Twinkie's altered state.

"The inside creamy part stays cool, while the outside is warm," said Rhonda Yates, a postal worker spending her vacation helping Dickson with the Twinkie booth.

Fairs in Arizona, California, Kansas and Washington also are expected to roll out fried Twinkies this year.

Suzanne Hackett, the general manager of an English restaurant in New York City called The Chip-Shop, said the fried Twinkie was born in her eatery out of boredom.

"We had a very slow night in the restaurant so we decided to buy a bunch of junk food and deep fry it," Hackett said Monday. "And the Twinkies just tasted so good."

Interstate Brands Corp., the firm that owns Twinkie-maker Hostess,

doesn't object to the new creation — it actually promotes the idea — though it doesn't suggest a steady diet of the culinary concoction.

"It's one of the beauties of having a brand that is an American icon," said Mike Redd, a vice president of Interstate's cake marketing division. "It's fun ... and it's taken on a life of its own."

Still, Redd said, "It's not something you'd want to eat everyday."

Frances Price, a clinical nutritionist with Arkansas Children's Hospital, said parents should be cautious about their children's diet, but that eating treats is just part of being kid.

"There is room in the diet for some treats, you can't exclude it completely," Price said. "And at least fair food is part of a family activity where families walk up and down the midway."

Joel Counts, a tourist from the Los Angeles area who tried his first fried Twinkie on Monday, said it was excellent.

"It tastes like a Twinkie but it has a little extra flavor because of the frying," Counts said. "And the powdered sugar just tops it off."

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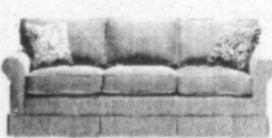
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Amish counting on tobacco to pay bills

LITITZ, Pa. (AP) — The straw-hatted farmer and a helper deftly cut away at stalks of the light-green tobacco so that they fell neatly in a row, ready to be speared onto drying racks.

"Without tobacco, I wouldn't be at it anymore," said the farmer, who is Old Order Amish and like many members of the publicity-shy religious sect asked not to be identified. "We have a three-year contract. I wish it would be 10 years."

With a price guaranteed by contract, a new form of genetically engineered tobacco destined for nicotine-free cigarettes is the saving grace for some farmers in this drought-stricken year. In Pennsylvania, most of the farmers are members of the Plain Sects, a collection of religious groups that shun many modern conveniences.

The tobacco is being grown for Vector Tobacco, which is devising a line of low-nicotine and nicotine-free cigarettes to go on the market.

The cigarette, to be sold under the brand name Quest, will be in stores in January, a spokeswoman for the Timberlake, N.C., company said. The new line of cigarettes goes hand-in-hand with a different cigarette with

reduced cancer-causing substances that Vector produces under the Omni label.

About 615 Pennsylvania farmers have contracts to grow the Vector tobacco. The tobacco's first harvest last year was a decent one, farmers say, despite dry weather that continued into this year.

Tobacco in general is a tough crop that can withstand dry spells and then bounce back with a late-season rain, said Jerry Winstead, president of Tri-Leaf Tobacco, which is acting as the liaison between farmers and Vector. In addition, the guaranteed price compensates for crops that aren't that good, Winstead said.

This year, some farmers in the most severely drought-stricken areas of Lancaster County said they expected to bring no more than half a crop to market when their leaves were done drying in tobacco sheds, stripped and then bundled into bales starting next month. But others were expecting an average-size crop.

"From our perspective, we think it's working out very well," said Rick Coyte, vice president of Vector's leaf operations. "You can find some individual cases where some people may be more pleased than others."

Farmers in Lancaster County, where about 70 percent of Pennsylvania's tobacco is grown, were facing dismal prices for their product a few years ago, sometimes as low as 50 cents a pound.

Vector came in and offered \$1.50 a pound to grow their form of tobacco, which was genetically engineered to leave the nicotine in the roots and not the leaves.

In order to avoid mixing nicotine and non-nicotine varieties, the company sought out locations to grow the tobacco where it could be kept separate from other versions of the plant. Pennsylvania farms proved to be prime candidates because farmers were willing to grow only the Vector crop.

"We're guaranteed a market," the Amish farmer said. "That was what ruined our tobacco industry before last year. For three years or so, we were raising it for practically nothing. We didn't have a market."

Farmers were cautious about the deal but signed on by the hundreds.

"Something new is always somewhat risky, you might say," said one farmer near Ephrata who is a member of a Mennonite sect. "Change is sometimes hard for us to take on."

Kentucky wine winning customers

MIDWAY, Ky. (AP) — Bill Longarzo emerged from the wine-tasting room at Equus Run Vineyards clutching a bottle of reserve cabernet sauvignon.

"I found it very pleasant," the former Army officer said of his selection. "And the fact that it's a local vintage makes it more appealing."

For Longarzo and hundreds of others who came to this winery in Kentucky's horse country on a recent evening, the experience was about more than just wine. They ate a buffet meal, listened to a local band, and strolled the willowy grape vines and winemaking facility on the one-time tobacco farm.

Kentucky winemakers are being encouraged to market their operations as tourist attractions to squeeze profits from a highly competitive industry dominated by brands from California and Europe.

Longarzo, of Lexington, was part of a gourmet group that made the short jour-

ney past picturesque thoroughbred farms and rustic stone fences to attend the finale of Equus Run's summer concert series.

The winery plays up the area's equine tradition. Equus is Latin for horse. And the winery sits next to a thoroughbred farm in Woodford County.

"People love the experience of being close to thoroughbred country, enjoying the ambiance of a vineyard and sipping the product," said vineyard owner Cynthia Bohn.

The Napa Valley region in California drew 2.5 million visitors in 2000, according to a California consulting firm that assessed the potential for Kentucky's industry. Closer to Kentucky, several dozen wineries in Missouri attracted the same number of visitors, the report said, while 425,000 people visited 25 wineries in Indiana.

One suggestion is that Kentucky promote a trail for wine enthusiasts.

Farmers frustrated by fertilizer bootleggers who steal

VENICE CENTER, N.Y. (AP) — Dale Parmley has lost count of how many times thieves have crept onto his 1,800-acre grain farm to rob him. You might think he was mining gold instead of growing corn and soybean.

The bandits are after anhydrous ammonia, a volatile liquid fertilizer that can be used to produce methamphetamine.

"They've hit my farm as many as three, four times in one week. They just keep getting more bold," said Parmley, whose farm lies amid the Finger Lakes in southern Cayuga County, 40 miles southwest of Syracuse.

"They caught one guy at my place. They put him in jail. He got bailed out. He hit one of my neighbors on the way out of town," Parmley said.

Cayuga County has become part of an illegal pipeline for an unorganized group of modern-day bootleggers, most of whom run the fertilizer from New York farms to meth labs in Pennsylvania.

In the past 18 months, more than 200 anhydrous ammonia thefts have been reported to Cayuga County Sheriff's deputies, said Steve McLoud, the chief investigator. Since July 2001, deputies have made 32 arrests — three-quarters of them people from Pennsylvania, he said.

Why New York? Many of the north-central Pennsylvania farms use other types of fertilizers. The Pennsylvania farms are too small to take on the risk of storing the ammonia, which comes as a pressurized liquid, and requires storage and application equipment that can cost thousands of dollars.

"What's really disturbing to us, though, is that if we are able to apprehend that many people, how many others are out there doing the same things that we're not catching?" McLoud said.

The thefts have plagued the Midwest for years, where the use of meth has spread "like a prairie wildfire" and become rural America's No. 1 problem, according to U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration chief Asa Hutchinson.

According to a DEA survey, the number of people abusing the drug — also known as speed, ice, crystal or crank — has tripled over five years to 9.4 million in 1999.

In Oklahoma, thieves were so persistent that farmers and fertilizer dealers fought for and helped pass a new law that carries a maximum 15-year prison sentence and \$25,000 fine for a person caught destroying or attempting to destroy any liquid transportation tank.

As evidence of the growing concern, governors from 13 midwestern states met last week in Sioux City,

Iowa, for a summit on how to battle the growing methamphetamine problem.

The thefts in New York have so far been confined mostly to Cayuga County.

"(But) we have a lot of farmers around the state who grow corn," said Chris LaRoe, spokesman for the state Farm Bureau.

In late June, three people were arrested in Yates County, west of Cayuga County.

LaRoe said New York needs tougher laws. Usually, local authorities can charge thieves only with burglary or petit larceny, misdemeanors that often draw penalties of less than a year in jail.

Cayuga County Sheriff James Mochler said he has taken extra measures, including increasing patrols.

"Like many police agencies, our resources are limited," Mochler said. "These locations are all rural. We have a big county to cover and it can be difficult. Plus, these people come late at night and early in the morning, make their grab and take off. They're not tourists. They don't spend a lot of time here."

The thefts have so overwhelmed local authorities that U.S. Sen. Hillary Clinton has asked the FBI to get involved in the investigation.

The economics are enticing. Farmers buy anhydrous ammonia for less than \$1 a gallon and typically store thousands of gallons on their farms for use at the beginning of the planting season. Supply wagons are invitingly parked overnight in dozens of dark, remote fields.

"Runners" — as the thieves are called — can get up to \$250 a gallon. Using coolers, propane tanks and even empty soda syrup canisters, they haul away several gallons at a time.

With one gallon, a meth cook can make a few ounces of the drug, worth about \$2,000. The average homeowner would probably find most of the ingredients for cooking meth — lithium batteries, matches, cold medication and liquid solvents — in a kitchen junk drawer and a medicine cabinet.

Anhydrous ammonia can be deadly. Federal regulations govern its use, requiring specific procedures and equipment for handling. Farmers use it regularly as a fertilizer ingredient and know how to handle it safely. Some, like Parmley, use tens of thousands of gallons

during a planting season, storing it in 30,000-gallon railroad tanker cars and transporting it to the field in 1,000-gallon "wagon" tanks.

The pressurized liquid can produce more than 200 pounds of pressure per square inch. It feels like minus 160 degrees on the skin. It turns into a gas when exposed to air and although it evaporates quickly, can cause serious skin and respiratory burns and even death if exposure is direct or prolonged.

Frequently, the chemical ends up spilled or abandoned by amateurs who are either reckless or looking to hide evidence, authorities said.

"They are dumping their waste in their back yards, along the side of the road, wherever they feel they

need to," said Mark Nemier, a special agent with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration office in Syracuse.

Rodney Donald said it "seems like just about every week" thieves hit the 1,300-acre farm he owns with his brother, Robert.

They have reinforced valve coverings with steel and installed heavy-duty locks that can't be broken with bolt cutters. Other farmers have mislabeled their anhydrous ammonia tanks as propane, installed barbed-wire fencing and moved their tanks closer to their barns and homes.

Nothing has worked.

"I'm just worried that they're going to get greedy and try to steal a

wagon out of a field. That would be real stupid, and real dangerous," Donald said.

So far, there has been no violence though several thieves have been arrested carrying guns and knives. There have been two high-speed chases with police and frequent run-ins between patrolling farmers and noisy thieves.

"It's only a matter of time," McLoud said. "I know farmers are only looking to protect their property. But they don't know who or

what they are dealing with. You never know when one of these guys is high on the stuff and if he's armed, a farmer might get hurt. And I'm just as worried about one of these farmers, in a fit of rage, injuring or killing a suspect."

Parmley, meanwhile, said he'll stop storing the chemical at his farm and buy only what he needs, when he needs it.

"Let's see them steal what I ain't got," he said.

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