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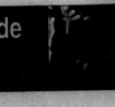
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EDGER & TIMES

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Monday, July 23, 2007

Murray, KY 42071

TOMMY DILLARD/Ledger & Times

Barbara Hendon, of Calloway County High School Youth Services Center, hands a bag of school supplies to Tammy Robinson and Chasity Parrish at the Back to School Blast held at the Weaks Center Saturday. Parrish will be junior at Murray High School.

Back to School Blast just that

By TOMMY DILLARD

If you happened by the Weaks Center on Saturday between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., you might have thought you stumbled upon a scene at a discount store the weekend before

It was the Back to School Blast, and the Murray-Calloway County Family Resource Youth Services Centers had school supplies available for the taking for families who met economic requirements. Michelle Hanson, of the Family Resource Center at East Calloway Elementary, said over 400 fami- dle and high school students, helped make

lies received school supplies free of charge thanks to the generosity of individuals and church groups who donated both money and school supplies for the event.

"We recognize that not having the school supplies needed can be a barrier - both academically and emotionally," Hanson said. "To show up at the start of school and not have basic school supplies can be hard on kids. This helps to create a level playing

More than 25 volunteers, including mid-

the event happen, unloading school supplies, placing them in grade-appropriate bags and giving them to parents and children. Volunteers combined school supply lists and created uniform bags for each

Organizers sent out letters to church groups and other community organizations in June, asking for specific donations.

Even though Back to School Blast is over, the Family Resource Centers are still asking

■ See Page 2A

Douglass cleanup gets community involved in effort

■ Neighborhood unity runs high at Saturday event

By TOMMY DILLARD Staff Writer

On a day in which neighborhood residents and outside volunteers worked side by side, clearing brush, cleaning up trash and giving the Douglass neighborhood a facelift, unity in the community ran high.

"It's a good thing for us to come together like this and beautify the neighborhood," lifetme Douglass resident Lewis Perry said. "There was a big need to have something like

"Let's have another one next week," he joked.

The clean-up held Saturday was the first act of the newly formed Douglass Civic Improvement Committee. The larger community pitched in to help as well. Organizer Johnny Blanton said the committee received support from Briggs and Stratton, Kenlake Foods, Lake Land Spring Water, Morningstar Foods, Murray Lumber, Murray Rental, Taylor Bus as well as the city of Murray, the Lions, Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs.

Volunteers from Bethel Fellowship Church brought both youth and adults to help with the clean-up effort.

"We're so glad to be able to

■ See Page 2A

Five people treated and released following Ky. 94 collision; 2nd accident there in four days

Five people were transported to the hospital Friday evening following a two-car collision at the intersection of Robertson Road and Ky. 94 West.

Murray Police Department officer Evan Timmons responded to the crash at 5:54 p.m. Friday after a 1988 Oldsmobile driven by a 17-year-old unnamed juvenile from Wingo pulled in front of another vehi-

cle that was westbound on Ky. 94 West. The vehicles collided in the intersection.

The juvenile was traveling eastbound on Ky. 94 West, attempting to turn north onto Robertson Road, according to a MPD release.

The westbound vehicle was a 1999 Mercury driven by Mildred Newton, 76, of Murray.

■ See Page 2A

Rudolph could be Fletcher's last remaining original cabinet member

■ Cowgill reportedly eyes Postsecondary **Education job**

By ROGER ALFORD

Associated Press Writer FRANKFORT, Ky. (AP) When another of Gov. Ernie Fletcher's top-ranking aides acknowledged last week that he is considering a new job, no one seemed surprised.

After all, budget director Brad Cowgill, who took part in a highly publicized job interview on Thursday, would be only the latest in a line of Fletcher aides to leave if he gets the position with the Council on Postsecondary Education.

Resignations are to be expected with a governor's race under way, said Michael Baranowski, a political scientist at Northern Kentucky University. Fletcher, a first-term Republican who has been weakened politically by a hiring scandal, faces a strong Democratic challenger in the



"If you're in adminisand tration feel you prospects are not good for re-election, it makes sense to get an early

Nov. 6 elec-

start, to get out there before colleagues Baranowski said.

The administration has been plagued by turnover from the start. If Cowgill leaves, only one of Fletcher's original cabinet members, Executive Secretary Robbie Rudolph, will

Rudolph also is Fletcher's running mate in the race against former Democratic Lt. Gov. Steve Beshear.

Finance Secretary John Farris resigned effective at the end of July. Economic Development

■ See Page 2A

Red Cross Party



TOMMY DILLARD/Ledger & Times

Aubrey Harper paints a design on Echo Falwell's cheek at the 90th Birthday Celebration for the Calloway County chapter of the American Red Cross Saturday. The celebration offered games for the kids, free food and birthday cake.

Legislators can't come to terms on special session pay

By JOE BIESK

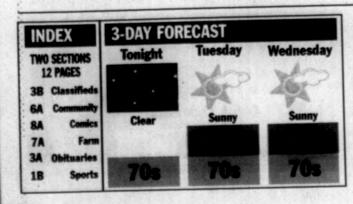
Associated Press Writer FRANKFORT, Ky. (AP) Whether Kentucky lawmakers will get paid nearly \$300 per day while not working during an ongoing three-week break in the special session pretty much depends on who's talking.

The 16-member Legislative Research Commission - a jointpanel of the House and Senate split down party lines Friday over separate plans aimed at withholding lawmakers' pay. After a series of parliamentary moves in committee seeking to suspend the pay and an hour of behind-the-scenes meetings legislative leaders could not to agree and went home.

"I have never worked as hard in my life not to be paid," House Speaker Jody Richards said at a press conference later. "We do not deserve pay, neither does the Senate."

Gov. Ernie Fletcher, a

■ See Page 2A



COMING SOON!





Above, Dale Newman uses a mower to cut down thick brush in the backyard of a home in the Douglass Neighborhood Saturday. Newman was one of more than 25 volunteers who helped clean up yards in the neighborhood as a part of the clean-up effort. The clean-up day was the first act of the newly formed Douglass Civic Improvement Committee. At right, Jordan Rowsan cleans up overgrowth around a home near Kenlake Foods while Johnny Blanton hauls branches in the background. Rowsan was part of a group of volunteers from Bethel Fellowship Church who assisted with the Douglass Community Clean-Up Saturday.

Douglass ...

From Front

be a part of this," said Dale Newman, Bethel member, while taking a break from mowing thick brush behind a home near Kenlake Foods. "We feel like it's our community too."

Workers cleaned up several overgrown lots in the neighborhood, using heavy duty mowers to cut down thick brush and chainsaws to take down small trees growing in unwanted areas.

Blanton said the clean-up Road in the east.

PoliceSheriffFireLogs

cation at 12:09 a.m. Saturday

6:34 a.m. Wednesday.

at 4:33 p.m. Wednesday

follow up on a stolen bicycle report.

John Mays, Local Minister

2:05 p.m. Thursday

Calloway County Sheriff's Department

A couch was on fire at a Ky. 121 North location at 12:02 a.m.

· A jug of coins was reported stolen from a Pottertown Road

· A possible theft of a boat from Wildcat Creek Campground

· Four horses were running loose near Ky, 94 East and Ky.

A theft case was opened after a caller from Protemus Road

Murray Police Department

A stolen bicycle may have been located at 401 N. Fifth St. at

· Richard David Tolmie, no age or address given, was arrest-

A bicycle was reported stolen from 1610 Chris Drive Apt. 4

· Dawn Barnett-Dixon, no age or address given, was arrested

· A camera was reported stolen from Holland Motor Sales at

An officer was at 402 N. Fifth St. at 2:05 p.m. Thursday to

The Mt. Olive Congregation of the

Church of Christ will have a

- Information is obtained from reports, logs

and citations from various agencies.

Wednesday on five counts of first-degree wanton endanger-

ed at 2:58 p.m Wednesday at 129 Covey Drive on a warrant

charging him with 15 counts of criminal possession of a forged

on Wildcat Beach Road was referred to Tennessee Valley

497 at 9:07 a.m. Saturday. An officer was unable to locate the

Authority Police after it was reported at 8:59 a.m. Saturday.

reported a credit card stolen at 11:46 p.m. Saturday

should cut down on mosquitos and other insects.

In addition to cleaning out growth, volunteers also picked up trash and debris from yards, placing it in the streets for the city to pick up.

Blanton said he hopes to make the neighborhood cleanup a yearly event.

The Douglass neighborhood stretches roughly from Olive Street in the south to Chestnut Street in the north and Fourth Street in the west to Industrial Road in the east.



Five treated ...

From Front

Newton's passengers were 78year-old Leet Newton and Becky Jo Jones, 57, both of Murray. In the juvenile's car was Aaron Dunhan, 19, of Mayfield.

All five were taken to Murray-Calloway County Hospital. The Newtons, Jones and Dunhan were treated and released, a hospital spokeswoman said this morning. The juvenile wasn't named in the information from the police so that condition couldn't be verified.

Timmons and other MPD officers were assisted at the scene by Calloway County Sheriff's Department, Murray Fire Department and EMS.

This was the second crash at the Robertson Road/Ky. 94 West intersection in four days.

Steve McReynolds, 40, of Murray, died as the result of injuries to his chest that he sustained during a two-vehicle collision on July 16 after another driver traveled westbound on Ky. 94 through the four-way intersection while McReynolds continued through the green light he had.

School ...

From Front

for donations. Anyone wanting to donate should contact the Family Resource Center at East

Calloway Elementary.

It's not too late to receive school supplies, either. Parents should contact the Family Resource Center at their child's school, according to event organizers.

Studies show that reading keeps the mind sharp. Give your brain a boost. Subscribe to the newspaper and expand your mind with a world of information.

LEDGER & TIMES



Rudolph ...

From Front

Secretary Gene Strong resigned in January. Others who have left include Environmental Secretary LaJuana S. Wilcher, Commerce Secretary Jim Host, Education Secretary Virginia Fox, Health and Family Services Secretary James Holsinger, Justice Secretary Pence, Steve Personnel Secretary Erwin Roberts, Secretary Gene Strong, and chief of staff Daniel Groves.

Since taking off in 2003, Fletcher has gone through five communications directors.

Fletcher, the state's first Republican governor in more than 30 years, ran for re-election on the promise to "clean up the mess in Frankfort" but ended up in a mess of his won. He was indicted for allegedly rewarding political supporters with protected state jobs. The indictment was dismissed last year in a negotiated settlement with prosecutors, but the grand jury that issued it released a written report alleging the governor had approved a "widespread and coordinated plan" to skirt state hiring laws. Fletcher charged that the investigation that led to the misdemeanor indictment was politically motivated.

Fletcher said the turnover among cabinet secretaries shouldn't be seen as a lack of confidence in his administration.

"I think that's an indication of the quality of people we brought here," Fletcher said. "And, I'm so proud of it."

Cowgill said his decision to pursue a job as interim director at the Council on Postsecondary Education was based on career goals, not politics. Cowgill had an interview with council members on Thursday, but he said it wasn't because he's concerned Fletcher may lose the election.

"That doesn't have anything to

do with my thinking," he said.

Farris, who took the finance position only a year ago, said he is leaving to spend time with his family before looking at other career opportunities. He had previously worked as an economist at World Bank, the International Finance Corporation and the Research Triangle Institute.

Fletcher campaign manager Marty Ryall said the governor recruited the most qualified people he could find to serve in the administration. Some left lucrative positions in the private sector and others came out of retirement with the understanding that they would serve only a year or two.

Many, Ryall said, stayed longer than they originally planned.

"These aren't people who came in looking to live off the government bureaucracy," Ryall said. "These are people who came in to try to make a difference."

Baranowski said he would expect more resignations if Fletcher continues trailing in the polls.

"There is a sense within the administration that they're short-timers," said Charles Wells, executive director of the Kentucky Association of State Employees. "I've been hearing that there are a lot of high-ranking Fletcher administration officials who are looking for a place to land right now."

Wells said he believes that has to do with polls that show Fletcher trailing Beshear.

"If these administrators really believed this administration would be around another four years, I think they would stay," Wells said. "They're good paying jobs. They're high profile jobs."

Ryall insists the criticism is unjustified.

"Clearly, they're grasping at straws to attack the governor."

Legislators ...

From Front

Republican, called the Kentucky General Assembly into a special session earlier this month to deal with issues including energy incentives, a ban on domestic partner benefits for public university employees and more than \$400 million in construction projects.

But the Democrat-controlled House and the Republican-led Senate disagreed over the necessity of holding the special session this summer.

The House, which claimed it was too costly and aimed at boosting Fletcher's re-election efforts, adjourned without addressing the governor's agenda. The Senate, however, passed legislation addressing several issues put forth by Fletcher.

Nevertheless, there was disagreement over whether the House could adjourn without consent of the Senate. Fletcher invoked his constitutional authority and ordered both chambers to take a three-week break and return on July 30.

During that time lawmakers, depending on their rank, are paid between \$180 and \$226 plus \$109 for daily expenses.

LRC director Bobby Sherman sent lawmakers a memo on July 9 that the LRC, which handles research and administration for the legislature, would continue paying lawmakers until both chambers adjourn the special session for good. Sherman noted in the memo that it would be up to the Legislative Research Commission - which

consists of legislative leaders - to change the policy.

A plan endorsed by the panel's Democrats on Friday would rescind House lawmakers' pay from July 5 on, while state senators would have not been paid for days beyond July 9 - the last day the chamber was in session.

Senate Republicans objected, saying the move is unconstitutional. Senate President David Williams, R-Burkesville, said the commission did not have authority to suspend state law or alter the constitution.

Instead, a Republican endorsed plan would have prevented lawmakers from being paid beyond July 11, the day Fletcher ordered the three-week break. State senators would have still been paid for two days they didn't work, while the House would have been paid for even more.

Both plans, however, fell short of the votes needed for passage.

Williams said Democrats were looking for political cover from not addressing the special session. The pay system for legislators was designed to make sure lawmakers worked to get their pay, Williams said.

"We will not direct the Legislative Research Commission to violate the statutes and the constitution of the commonwealth so that we give cover to the House Democrats from walking away and not doing their job," Williams said. "We're not going to do that."



GOSPEL MEETING with Virgil Hale speaking each service July 22nd — 26th, 2007 SUNDAY MORNING: 9:30 am Bible Study Worship • 10:30 a.m. Worship SUNDAY EVENING: 7:30 p.m. Worship MONDAY-THURSDAY: 7:00 p.m. EACH INDIVIDUAL IS IMPORTANT TO US Come and bring someone with you. You will hear preaching from God's own word.

The building is located one mile east of Golo or Mt. Olive Church Road.

UK student wins Miss Kentucky

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) - A University of Kentucky student won the Miss Kentucky pageant on Saturday night at the Singletary Center for the Arts.

Kaitlynne Postel, 20, of Lexington, beat out 29 other contestants for the right to compete in the 2008 Miss America pageant.

Postel won an \$8,000 scholarship and will be the spokeswoman for the "No Ifs, Ands or Buts" program for the state

Department of Agriculture.

Postel is studying communication disorders at Kentucky and gained entry into the contest by being named Miss Monticello.

Kasey Jo Bishop, of Falmouth, a student at Morehead State, was first runner-up. Ean Whitney Cox of Lancaster, a student at Eastern Kentucky University, was second runner-up.

Power outage traps approximately 200 in St. Louis Arch

. LOUIS (AP) - About 200 people were trapped inside the 630-foot Gateway Arch for about two hours after an apparent power outage, authorities said.

The power went out around 8:45 p.m. Saturday, stalling two trams filled with about 40 people each, said Mike Maris, deputy superintendent of the Gateway Arch.

About 100 other people were stranded at the top of the monument of stainless steel, Maris said. He said the evacuation of the south tram, where one of nine cables may have broken, took about two hours.

Power eventually was restored to the north tram, and stranded visitors no longer had to use the stairs to evacuate, said Capt. Steve Simpson, a spokesman for the St. Louis Fire Department. He said officials do not know what happened to the

Simpson said rescue crews treated two people. One was given oxygen and the other was diabetic. He did not elaborate on their treatment.

"Everybody else seemed to be in good spirits, glad and relieved to be coming down," he

Anxious relatives stood outside the popular tourist attraction as rescuers worked inside. Dozens of emergency vehicles surrounded the arch.

Maris said the Arch would be open Sunday with only the north tram running.

The 630-foot-tall structure is operated by the National Park Service and opened in 1966. It is one of the region's most popular attractions.

Human Ice Cream Sundae



Pastor Brett Miles challenged the youth at Northside Baptist Church in Almo to invite others to Vacation Bible School on Saturday. The pastor told the youth if they had an attendance of 100 or more they could make a "human" ice cream sundae out of him. Laughter and excitement filled everyone's faces.

Kentucky News Briefs

Comair reveals shows problems with NOTAM system

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) — The pilots of Comair Flight 5191 left the terminal the morning of the fatal crash at Blue Grass Airport last August without receiving information about four important updates at the airport, including one that the normal taxiway to the main run-

Comair pilots had 15 updates - called Notices to Airmen available through the airline's flight dispatch paperwork the morning of Aug. 27, 2006, the Lexington Herald-Leader reported.

But four NOTAMs - including the one detailing the closing of the taxiway normally taken to the main runway - were missing, the Air Line Pilots Association said in a submission to the National Transportation Safety Board.

The flight crashed shortly after mistakenly taking off from the airport's general aviation runway, killing 49 of 50 people on board.

Most Louisville bars, restaurants complying with ban

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) - Local bar and restaurant owners across the city are complying with a revised smoking ban despite vocal opposition to the measure.

The ban, which went into effect on July 1, prevents smoking in all public places except for Churchill Downs and any tobacco manufacturer that conducts research and development for tobacco prod-

Business booming at controversial Creation Museum

PETERSBURG, Ky. (AP) - The controversy surrounding the opening of a northern Kentucky museum that teaches the biblical story of creation hasn't hurt it at the box office.

The Creation Museum expected to host its 100,000th visitor over the weekend, less than two months after it opened, putting the museum on pace to easily exceed the 250,000 visitors organizers were hoping to get in the first year.

Tammy Faye Messner, ex-wife of Jim Bakker, dies Saturday at 65

By STEVE HARTSOE

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Associated Press Writer RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) - Live one day at a time, without fear, Tammy Faye Messner said earlier this month as she battled cancer, weighing just 65 pounds.

Messner, who as Tammy Faye Bakker helped her husband, Jim, build a multimillion-dollar evangelism empire that collapsed in disgrace, has died, her manager said Saturday. She was

Messner had battled colon cancer since 1996 that more recently spread to her lungs. She passed away peacefully Friday at her home near Kansas City, Mo., said Joe Spotts, who was also Messner's booking

A family service was held Saturday in a private cemetery, where her ashes were interred,

Messner had frequently spoken about her medical problems, saying she hoped to be an inspiration to others.

"Don't let fear rule your life," she said. "Live one day at a time, and never be afraid." But she told well-wishers in a note on her Web site in May that the doctors had stopped trying to treat the cancer.

In an interview with CNN's Larry King earlier this month, an emaciated Messner - still using her trademark makeup said, "I believe when I leave this earth, because I love the Lord, I'm going straight to heaven." Asked if she had any regrets, Messner said: "I don't think about it, Larry, because it's a waste of good brain space."

For many, the TV image of then-Mrs. Bakker forgiving husband Jim's infidel ities, tears streaking her cheeks with mascara, became a symbol for the wages of greed and hypocrisy in 1980s America.

30 years, with whom she had costs in other ways.

two children, in 1992 while he was in prison for defrauding millions from followers of their PTL television ministries. The letters stood for "Praise the Lord" or "People that Love."

Jim Bakker said in a news release that his ex-wife "lived her life like the song she sang, 'If Life Hands You a Lemon, Make Lemonade."

"She is now in heaven with her mother and grandmother and Jesus Christ, the one who she loves and has served from childbirth," he said. "That is the comfort I can give to all who loved her."

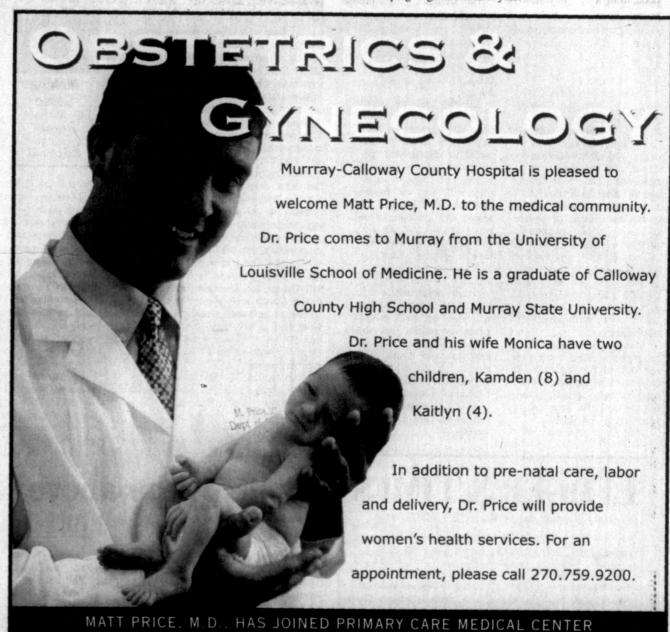
Messner's second husband also served time in prison. She married Roe Messner, who had been the chief builder of the Bakkers' Heritage USA Christian theme park near Fort Mill, S.C., in 1993. In 1995, he was convicted of bankruptcy fraud, and he spent about two years in prison.

Through it all, Messner kept plugging her faith and herself. She did concerts, a short-lived secular TV talk show and an inspirational videotape. In 2004, she cooperated in the making of a documentary about her struggle with cancer, called "Tammy Faye: Death Defying."

"I wanted to help people ... maybe show the inside (of the experience) and make it a little less frightening," she said.

A 2000 documentary "The Eyes of Tammy Faye" delved into the rise and fall of the PTL ministry, largely through interviews with Messner. Directors Fenton Bailey and Randy Barbato garnered wide critical praise for their intelligent and sympathetic depiction of the former PTL co-star.

Messner was never charged with a crime in the Bakker scan-She divorced her husband of dal. She said she counted the



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FORUM

www.murrayledger.com

Bring life back to KERA

FRANKFORT, Ky. - Is education reform in Kentucky -pre-school through graduate school - dead?

If it's not ready for the morticians, it's definitely on life support.

Consider:

The Kentucky State Board of Education spends months and \$50,000 searching for a new commissioner of the Department of Education and comes up with the superintendent of a suburban Chicago school district, Barbara Erwin

Erwin has never adminisfered a statewide public school system, hasn't administered a local school system beyond a medium-sized city's

Her resume is full of inaccuracies and exaggerations. She's controversial in all the places she previously worked, and her personnel file mysteriously disappears in Illinois just as she is preparing to retire and take the Kentucky job.

To everyone's relief, Erwin resigns before she ever sets foot in her new office, citing all the media attention she receives.

Is this the best the nation has to offer Kentucky's schools?

Within days of the Erwin debacle, the Council on Postsecondary Education announces its nationwide search for a new president has turned up no one worthy of the job. That's after months of searching at a cost of \$70,000.

And this is a job that is supposed to be the top of the heap in Kentucky higher education at a time when Kentucky is aiming at becoming a nationally-ranked center of academic research and distinguished scholarship equal to the nation's best public universities.

Some critics contend the problem is with the Council and Board of Education. both filled with appointees of Gov. Ernie Fletcher, who aren't wedded to education reform and therefore aren't interested in the best educafors to take these top jobs.

I think the main problem is that the caliber of people who were education commissioner since KERA was enacted in 1990 and Council president since it was created in 1997 take at look at Kentucky in 2007 and walk away from what they perceive to be an impossible challenge.

Many of the innovative programs in KERA are gone for lack of funding. We can pay for \$30 million new high schools but not incentive rewards for successful teachers in the school.

And those teachers are



Agree Or Not

General By Todd Duvall Syndicated Columnist

As for higher education, state colleges and universities at least have been able to raise tuition and fees over the last five years to offset falling state budget appropriations. Local school systems can't do that unless they raise taxes and the public won't support higher taxes.

The governor and General Assembly would rather borrow more than \$400 million to build pretty new buildings on campuses all over the state than use the same amount to match private donations for the defunct Bucks for Brains program.

Pretty buildings generate votes. Endowed chairs in academic disciplines most legislators can't even spell don't pay off on election

As for the Council and its presidency, powerful legislators aligned with regional universities and powerful presidents at the University of Kentucky and University of Louisville have succeeded in undermining both on important functions.

So, do we nail the lid of education reform in Kentucky'

Not necessarily. With determination and leadership, there is still a chance to bring life back to the patient.

Fletcher and his Democratic opponent in November, Steve Beshear, have the opportunity in the weeks ahead to reinvigorate the education reform movement. to lay out concrete ways they will meet the funding demands of pre-school programs and graduate school programs, all the while restoring the innovative reform features that have fallen away for lack of money.

Voters must demand to know how each candidate will stop the swift erosion of education reform that nearly brought Barbara Erwin to Frankfort and hasn't brought anyone of quality to lead Kentucky's public higher education system.

If Fletcher and Beshear fall short, then call for the hearse



CONDITION

MINEMENNEMIN

anger: Democrats at work

When the Democrats took control of Congress they couldn't wait to tell America how much they were going to accomplish.

That was seven months ago, and all they've done since is rant about the war in Iraq, talk about raising taxes, and go on a witch hunt in an attempt to find something - anything - illegal in the firing of a handful of U. S. Attorneys who got the boot from the Justice Department when the president exercised his constitutional right to right to fire them without explanation. This provides a glimpse into their utter incompetence as lawmakers. Consider:

The recent speech of Louisiana Democrat Sen. Mary Landrieu gave us prime example of the Democrats inability to get anything straight, including geography.

This week, she introduced an amendment to the Defense Authorization Bill stating that the foremost objective of the U.S. Government is to capture or kill Osama bin Laden and to dismantle the al Oaeda terrorist network

Her amendment would move troops from Iraq where they're locked in a battle with al Qaeda terrorists, and send them to Afghanistan to launch a hunt for bin Laden.

That would be some hunt.

Does Mary Landrieu have any idea what she's doing? After all, if you are going to hunt for Osama bin Laden wouldn't it be a good idea for hunt for him where we know he is? And where his is, is not Afghanistan.



Making Sense By Michael Reagan Syndicated Columnist

Somebody with a better idea of geography should inform Mary Landrieu that bin Laden is holed up in Pakistan, a country she may not know is next door to Afghanistan.

Sending troops to Afghanistan to search for bin Laden would make as much sense as sending a geography student to Mary Landrieu to find out where Beluchistan is

located. They'd probably end up in Flatbush.

Then we have the promises Nancy Pelosi made - often with Rep. John Murtha at her side - to clean up the alleged mess in Congress, taking aim at such slimy practices as so-called earmarks, billons of pork slipped into appropriations bills in the dead of night to benefit a member of Congress.

According to The Politico Web site, Arizona Republican Jeff Flake - a watchdog on the alert for earmarks spotted one which aroused his curiosity.

Flake was questioning Indiana Democrat Peter J. Visclosky, who chairs the subcommittee recommending the appropriation, about whether there was really something called the Center for Instrumental Critical Infrastructure which was slated in an earmark to collect a cool one million dollars courtesy of the U.S. taxpayers. He said his staff couldn't

find a website for it, He was asked by Flake, "Does the

Center currently exist?" Visclosky admitted he didn't have a clue. His shocking admission: "At this

time, I do not know." He then added that if it doesn't exist "the monies could not go to it."

According to The Politico, it then later developed that the \$1 million earmark was for the benefit of Mrs. Pelosi's bosom buddy, and fellow crusader against congressional corruption, one Rep. John Murtha, D-Pa.

It later turned out that the Center is a nonprofit technological consulting firm. The Politico noted that "A brief search of campaign finance records shows CTC President and CEO Daniel R. DeVos, of alternately Central City and Johnstown, Pa. has contributed \$7,000 to Murtha's reelection campaign since April 2002."

Flake moved to eliminate the funds destined for a group nobody could be sure existed, but the House rejected his attempt to strike the funds, 326-98. The Visclosky bill also breezed through, 312-112

So much for Mrs. Pelosi's crusade against congressional corruption.

Mike Reagan, the eldest son of the late President Ronald Reagan, is heard on more than 200 talk radio stations nationally as part of the Radio America Network. Look for Mike's newest book, "Twice Adopted." E-mail comments to Reagan@caglecartoons.com.

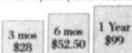
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2008 ELECTION

WASHINGTON (AP) And the leading Republican presidential candidate is none of the above.<*J> The latest Associated

Press-lpsos poll found that nearly a quarter of Republicans are unwilling to back top-tier hopefuls Rudy Giuliani, Fred Thompson, John McCain or Mitt Romney, and no one candidate has emerged as the clear front-runner among Christian evangelicals. Such dissatisfaction underscores the volatility of the 2008 GOP nomination fight.

In sharp contrast, the Democratic race remains static, with Hillary Rodham Clinton holding a sizable lead over Barack Obama. The New York senator, who is white, also outpaces her Illinois counterpart, who is black, among black and Hispanic Democrats, according to a combined sample of two months of polls.

A half year before voting begins, the survey shows the White House race is far more wide open on the

By Liz Sidoti

'None of the above' leads Republican field

Republican side than on the Democratic. The uneven enthusiasm about the fields also is reflected in fundraising in which Democrats outraised Republicans \$80 million to \$50 million from April through June, continuing a trend from the year's first three months.

"Democrats are reasonably comfortable with the range of choices. The Democratic attitude is that three or four of these guys would be fine," David Redlawsk, a University of lowa political scientist. "The Republicans don't have that; particularly among the conservatives there's a real split. They just don't see candidates who reflect their interests and who they also view as viable.

More Republicans have become apathetic about their options over the past month.

A hefty 23 percent can't or won't say which candidate they would back, a jump from the 14 percent who took a pass in June.

Giuliani's popularity continued to decline steadily as he faced a spate of headline headaches, came under increased scrutiny and saw the potential entry of Thompson in the mix; his support is at 21 percent compared with 27 percent in June and 35 percent in March.

The former New York mayor is running virtually even with Thompson, who has become a threat without even officially entering the race. The actor and former Tennessee senator has stayed steady at 19 percent. McCain, the Arizona senator who is revamping his nearly broke campaign, clocked in a bit lower at 15 percent, while Romney, the former Massachusetts governor, remained at 11 percent.

None of the top candidates has a clear lead among Christian evangelicals, a critical part of the GOP base that has had considerable sway in past Republican primaries. Giuliani, a thrice-married backer of abortion rights and gay rights, had 20 percent support - roughly even with Thompson and McCain who have one divorce each in their pasts. Romney, a Mormon who has been married for three decades, was in the single digits.

Among the legions of undecided Republicans is Barbara Skogman, 72, a retired legal assistant from Cedar Rapids, Iowa. She isn't at all excited about any

of the prospects. "I'm looking for a strong honest person. Do you know of any?" she joked. She had an easy time detailing why she was queasy about each of the most serious contenders. "Isn't that sad?" Then she reached a conclu-

sion: "I just don't know."

Obituaries

Miss Rita Mohundro

Miss Rita Mohundro, 59, Ky. 94 East, Murray, died Saturday, July 21, 2007, at 10:15 a.m. at her home. Her death followed an

She owned and operated the Finishing Touch Photography Studio in Murray before her illness and was a member of Emmanuel Baptist Church. She was born Aug. 24, 1947, in Calloway County. Preceding her in death was one stepsister, Sherry Freeland.

Survivors include her mother, Mrs. Bonnie Mohundro, and her father and stepmother, William (Bill) Mohundro and Betty Mohundro, all of Murray; two stepbrothers, James Meadows and wife, Lynda, Murray, and Stan Meadows and wife, Janice, all of Hazel; one stepbrother-in-law, David Freeland, Cedar Hill, Tenn.: several aunts and uncles, Louise Owens, Ruth Ferguson, Sue Roberts and husband, J.D., Jane Lovins and Jo Nell Drenner and husband, David, all of Murray, and Ruby West, Selmer, Tenn.

The funeral will be Tuesday at 1 p.m. in the chapel of J.H. Churchill Funeral Home. Rev. Elijah Balentine and Rev. Kerry Lambert will officiate.

Burial will follow in the Foundry Hill Cemetery, Puryear, Tenn. Visitation will be at the funeral home from 5 to 8 p.m. today (Monday).

Mrs. Estelle Gooch

Mrs. Estelle Gooch, 94, Murray, died today, July 23, 2007, at 12:18 a.m. at Parkview Nursing Home, Paducah. Imes-Miller Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Amid heightened tensions, Iran, U.S. schedule talks on Iraqi security this week

BAGHDAD (AP) - The United States and Iran have set a date for ambassador-level talks in Baghdad on the deteriorating security situation in Iraq _ the first such meeting since late May, U.S. and Iraqi officials said Sunday.

The two sides will sit down together Tuesday, according to Iraqi Foreign Minister Hoshyar Zebari and U.S. Embassy spokesman Philip Reeker, amid U.S. allegations that Tehran is supporting violent Shiite militias in the country.

Zebari told The Associated Press by telephone that the discussions would be at the ambassadorial level and would focus on the situation in Iraq, not U.S.-Iran tensions.

Iraq's fragile government has been pressing for another meeting between the two nations with the greatest influence over its future, and Iran has repeatedly signaled its willingness to sit down. State Department spokesman Sean McCormack said last week that Washington also was ready to hold new talks with Iran on the security situation in Iraq.

The May 28 meeting marked a break in a 27-year diplomatic freeze between the U.S. and Iran and was expected to have been matic dinners are scrutinized for followed within a month by a second encounter. But following that meeting, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and other U.S. officials said Iran had not scaled back what the United States claims is a concerted effort to arm militants and harm U.S. troops

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Tensions also have risen over Tehran's detention of four Iranian-American scholars and activists charged with endangering national security. The U.S. has demanded their release, saying the charges against them are false.

At the same time, Iran has called for the release of five Iranians detained in Iraq, who the United States has said are members of Iran's elite Quds Force _ accused of arming and training Iraqi militants. Iran says the five are diplomats in Iraq with permission of the govern-

As recently as Sunday, U.S. troops detained two suspected weapons smugglers who may be linked to the Quds force, the military said. The suspects and a number of weapons were seized during a raid on a rural farm compound in eastern Iraq near the Iranian border, according to a statement.

McCormack said the U.S. wanted to use the meeting to warn Iran against continuing its support for militants in Iraq. He offered no explanation for Washington's apparent change of heart about meeting with Tehran.

Iraq had hoped to arrange a higher-level meeting between Rice and Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki, but the two exchanged only stiff pleasantries during a recent international conference on Iraq's security in Egypt.

The U.S. is pursuing a twotrack strategy with Iran that reflects the high stakes in any engagement with a nation President Bush accuses of funding terrorism and building a nuclear bomb.

Washington is reaching out tentatively with the talks on Iraq, but also keeping a check on Iran with the Navy conducting exercises in the Persian Gulf this spring and the U.S. pushing for new U.N. sanctions against Tehran over its disputed nuclear

The United States broke off diplomatic ties with Iran following the 1979 storming of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and the holding of American hostages for 444 days. Any direct talks between the two nations are rare, and even fleeting encounters at larger gatherings or diploclues to their future relations

Iran denies the U.S. allegations about its activities in neighboring Iraq, which like Iran has a majority Shiite Muslim population.

In Baghdad, meanwhile, two powerful legislators said Sunday that prospects were dim for passage of a U.S.-backed oil bill before parliament's August vacation, casting a new cloud over a pivotal September progress report that could weigh heavily on the future of the U.S. presence in Iraq. American officials have pressed Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki and parliament to pass laws the U.S. deems essential to restoring stability in Iraq, and the oil bill is at the top of the list.

American commander Gen. David Petraeus must report to Congress on progress in Iraq by Sept. 15, and the absence of legislative progress will make it difficult to issue a positive assessment at a time when there is flagging support in Congress for keeping American troops in the country.

Mahmoud Othman, Kurdish lawmaker, and Abbas al-Bayati, a Shiite Turkman parliamentarian, said the oil legislation was not likely to be debated before September because political leaders have been unable to agree on a final draft of the leg-

Taliban extends deadline for 23 kidnapped South Korean hostages held in Afghanistan

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan (AP) - A purported Taliban spokesman said that negotiations for the lives of 23 South Korean hostages had stalled and that militants would kill the aid workers this evening if the government doesn't free Taliban

An Afghan lawmaker said the militants had upped their demands this morning, saying they wanted all insurgent prisoners in Ghazni province released in exchange for the Koreans, though Qari Yousef Ahmadi, who claims to speak for the militia, denied that was

Khail Mohammad Husseini, a lawmaker from Ghazni province, where the Koreans are being held, said a delegation of provincial leaders tried to meet with the kidnappers Monday but that the militants didn't show. He said the Taliban increased their demands by telephone, saying all militant prisoners in Ghazni had to be released.

Ahmadi said militants were still demanding the release of 23 Taliban prisoners but said the government hadn't signaled it was willing to do that.

"If the government won't accept these conditions, then it's difficult for the Taliban to provide security for these hostages, to provide health facilities and food," Ahmadi told The Associated Press by satellite phone. "The Taliban won't have any option but to kill the hostages."

The deputy interior minister, Abdul Khaliq, meanwhile, said Afghanistan was not prepared to make a deal "against our national interest and our constitution," though he did not explicitly rule out freeing any prisoners.

Afghan President Hamid Karzai in March authorized the release of five Taliban prisoners in exchange for a kidnapped Italian reporter, but he called the trade a one-time deal. Karzai also was criticized by the United States and European nations



South Koreans in Afghanistan and the withdrawal of South Korean troops from that country in Seoul, South Korea, this morning. South Korea has banned its citizens from travel to Afghanistan in the wake of the recent kidnappings of its 23 nationals, an official said, amic intense diplomatic efforts to secure their release. The placard reads: "Withdrawal of South Korean troops immediately."

who felt that trade would encourage more kidnappings.

Ahmadi said Sunday that the militants were giving the Afghan and South Korean governments until 7 p.m. (10:30 a.m. EDT) Monday to respond to their demands.

Afghan elders leading the hostage negotiations met with the kidnappers Sunday and reported that the Koreans were healthy, said Khwaja Mohammad Sidiqi, the police chief of Qarabagh district in Ghazni district, where the Koreans were kidnapped Thursday while riding on a bus from Kabul to Kandahar on Afghanistan's major highway.

The Afghan military has the region surrounded in case the government decides the military should move in.

South Korea, meanwhile, banned its citizens from traveling to Afghanistan in the wake of the kidnappings, said Han Hye-jin, a Foreign Ministry official. He said Seoul also asked Kabul not to issue visas to South Koreans and block their entry into the country.

South Korea had previously asked its nationals to refrain from visiting Afghanistan, citing political instability. Earlier, the South Korean

church that the abductees attend said it will suspend at least some of its volunteer work in Afghanistan. It also stressed that the Koreans abducted were not involved in any Christian missionary work, saying they only provided medical and other volunteer aid to distressed people in the war-ravaged country.



Mohammad Zahir Shah, last king of Afghanistan, dies at 92

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) -Mohammad Zahir Shah, the last king of Afghanistan who returned from three decades of exile to bless his war-battered country's fragile course toward democracy, died this morning, President Hamid Karzai said. He

Weak if well-meaning during his 40-year reign, Zahir Shah was a symbol of yearned-for peace and unity in a nation still struggling to emerge from the turmoil that began with his 1973 ouster in a palace coup.

When the fall of the Taliban at the end of 2001 offered fresh hope for national reconciliation, many clamored for Zahir Shah's return _ not only from exile but - the Afghan people." to retake the throne.

Zahir Shah returned home from Italy in April 2002, but stood aside in favor of a young anti-Taliban tribesman, the now-President Karzai. A new constitution passed in January 2004 consigned the monarchy to history with Zahir Shah named the ceremonial "Father of the Nation," a position that dissolves with his death.

"The people are relying on you and you should not forget them," the monarch told the loya jirga, or grand assembly, which ratified the charter. "I hope you will try your best to maintain peace, stability and the unity of

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Since his return, Zahir Shah left Afghanistan several times for medical treatment. Karzai, who announced the king's death at a news confer-

ence broadcast live nationwide, called the king a "symbol of national unity" who brought development and education to the country. The king remained a leader in his final years but one who didn't seek the power of a throne, he said.

"He was the servant of his people, the friend of his people," Karzai said. "He believed in the rule of the people and in human rights."

Karzai said Afghanistan would observe three days of mourning over the death of the king, whose body will lie in state at a mosque in Kabul and then will be taken by carriage to a hillside tomb Tuesday for bur-

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AWARDS PRESENTED: Pat Harrington, immmediate past president of Murray Woman's Club, presented special awards. Cynthia Barnes, right in upper left, was named Newcomer of the Year; Gale Vinson, upper right, as Volunteer of the Year; and Tracey Wortham, bottom photo, as Clubwoman of the Year.

LadiesofMurrayCountryClub

The Ladies of the Murray Country Club played golf on

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Wednesday at the club. Winners were announced as

Championship flight - Debbie Hixon, low gross; Bobby'

Ann Lee, low net;

First flight - Freda Steely, low gross; Cyndi Cohoon, low

Second flight - Patsy Green, low gross; Norma Frank, low

Overall low putts - Inus

Nine hole golfers for low gross, Helen Dunn.

The ladies will play golf on Wednesday at the club and the line-up is as follows:

Tee #1 - Natalie Doering, Sue Outland, Debbie Hixon and Betty Jo Purdom;

Tee #3 - Ve Severns, Linda Burgess, Freda Steely and Peggy Shoemaker;

Tee #6 - Marilyn Adkins, Patsy Green, Cyndi Cohoon and Norma Frank;

Tee #8 - Barbara Gray, Betty Stewart, Susan Johnson and

Judy Muehleman; Tee #10 - Patsy Chaney.

Helen Dunn and Ann Stanley. Anyone not listed in the line-up, but wishing to play, or anyone listed who will not attend should call the pro-shop. Patsy Green will be the hostess for the day.



Ethel opened up the Hickory Woods "Spu" again the week. As usual everyone enjoyed being parapered. The employees even got pampered! Tell me where can you work and get pampered and still get paid? Everyone had a great time and we can't wait until Ethel opens up her "beauty make-over spa

by Annita Peeler

It's been so hot outside it's actually too hot for us to sit on the front porch. However, Ethel took us for a ride and we looked at all the new subdivisions going at around town. It seems like Murray is constantly gro ing and changing. We remember when there was nothing on the north side of sown but the landfill. We like ung on this side of town because we are close to WAL MART' Sometimes we have to shop there twice a day. Linda Orten spent her week in the great Smokey Mountains. Her granddaughter, Taylor went along with a friend. They visited Dollywood and rode all the rides

escheding the big roller coasters. Linda and Ron's vacation was even more special because they celebrated their 17th wedding anniversary. I was certainly relieve when she returned. Hopefully, I didn't mess up the mail delivery and all the other things she does around here. We ended the week with a Hawasian luon. Ethel and ourtney decorated the dining room with palm tree

and lights and everything colorful. We all certainly looked bright and colorful in our Hawaiian after including grass skirts. The only thing we didn't have was a pig rejusting in a big pit but our cooks made us a wonderful meal and we topped it off with a delicious Elvis Presley cake. Mr. Chuck Hamonns came and sermaded us with Hawasian music, Teresa Oakley, Diane Versot, Courtney Caviti-Pursley and Angie Daniel started the party off doing the bula. Ms. Ruby Suffill won the prize for the best woman's Hawaiian out'it and Mr. Ray Coel won the prize for the best male Hawaiian outlit. However, Jack Boaz was the highlight of the party doing the hela (in a new and different way) in his wole's box pank strench pants' Angie Dursiel, Gela Green and Linda Short completed in the bala boop contest. It was a difficult decision but Linda took home the top hala hoop prize.

We've had a good week and are looking forward to what Ethel's got planned for or next week. If you get bored, come out and visit us. We're not bome but we're the next best thing

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Transformers PG13 - 12:55 - 3:45 - 6:50 - 9:40

Harry Potter & The Order of the Phoenix PG13 - 1:10 - 3:55 - 7:10 - 9:55 Hairspray PG - 1:05 - 3:35 - 7:00 - 9:30

Live Free or Die Hard PG13 - 1:20 - 4:00 - 7:05 - 9:45

License To Wed PG13 - 1:30 - 3:30 - 7:20 - 9:25

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Ladiesof the Oaks

The Ladies of the Oaks Country Club will hold their regularly scheduled golf play on Wednesday at 9 a.m. with Janet Kirk and Shirley Wade as hostesses.

All members are encouraged to play. Sign-up is not necessary.

Jo Anne Auer, hostess for play on July 18 has announced the winners as follows:

Melva Hatcher, Shirley Wade and Patsy Woodall, first place; Kitty Steele, Janet Kirk and

A dinner was prepared and served by Joey Williams.

Dick, first place;

KenlakeLadiesGolf

on hole #6. The Kenlake Ladies Golf League met at the Bill Hamrick Memorial Golf Course at the pin on hole #8. Kenlake State Resort Park on

Wednesday. Winners were as follows: First place - Lisa Tonn; Kay Lockhart, second place; Helen Tucker, third place.

Betty Judah had a chip in

Ina Horton won closest to

Present were 16 ladies for

Mary Alice Smith, second place

and Bronda Parker, third place.;

the winners of the golf scram-

er, Patsy Neale and Debbie

ble on July 17 as follows:

Laura Perker, Irene Woods

Pam Williams has announced

Shirley Wade, Melva Hatch-

Pam Williams, Janice Thur-

mond and Deborah Boyle with

extra shot taken, second place.

golf play. Interested golf players are

invited to join the league for play Wednesday at 8:15 a.m.

GolfatSullivan's

The Ladies 4-Ball Scramble was held on Monday, July 16, at the Sullivan's Par 3 Golf Course.

In first place with a score of 52 was the team of Evelyn Blivin, Jamie Mullins, Louise Parker and Wanda Suiter. Parker had a chip-in on hole No. 17.

The second place score was 53 and the team consisted of Linda Demrow, Joanne Honefanger, Loretta Mann and Kathy

On Thursday, the Senior Couples held their play.

The first place team with score of 47 was Wes and Priscilla Holt, and Jerrell and Jerrell Mullins. Priscilla had a chip-in on hole No. 8 while Jerrell had one on hole No. 17.

The second-place team score was 46 and consisted of Evelyn Blivin, Norm Jordan, Jerry and Gayle Weaver. Jordan had a chip-in on hole No. 16.

Angels Attic lists its opening hours

Angels Attic is now open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

The attic is striving to make the donation process for all those who support the efforts on behalf of Angels Clinic eas-

Donations are accepted at the back door of Angels Attic from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

The access road off Arcadia has been re-opened.

Gentry House needs beds

The Gentry House, Inc., Emergency Homeless Shelter is in need of bunk beds. The beds are needed in order to provide a place for the children to sleep while in the shelter. Nancy Williams, case manager, said "At the present time,

we only have beds to accommodate families with two children. Therefore, the families with three or four children end up sleeping on the couch or floor."

For more information, call 761-6802.

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McCarty will be honored at reception on Wednesday



Judy McCarty will be honored at a reception in honor of her retirement at the Calloway County Health Center/Purchase District Health Department on Wednesday from 3 to 5 p.m.

McCarty has given 28 years of dedicated service as a clerk to the department.

The reception will be at the Health Center, located at 701 Olive St., Murray. The public is invited to attend. Persons may RSVP to 753-3381.

Jo's **Datebook** MES Board will meet today By Jo Burkeen Murray Electric System Board will meet today at 4 at the Murray City Council cham-Community

Editor bers on the second floor at the south end of the city hall building. MES is in the middle of reconstruction of their front offices which is the reason for the change of meeting place.

Veterans will be given assistance

Veterans and their families will be given free counseling and assistance in filing claims for state and federal benefits Wednesday from 9 a.m. to noon at the National Guard Armory, Highway 121 North, Murray. Ron McClure, regional field representative of Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs, will give the assistance. For information call 1-877-812-0840.

TOPS Chapter will meet

Murray Chapter of TOPS, #616 will meet Tuesday from 9 to 10 a.m. at University Church of Christ, near Wal-Mart. Persons are to enter on the side of the church where the carport is located. Visitors are welcome. For more information call Joyce at 753-9080 or Amy at 435-4054.

Al-Anon meeting Tuesday

Al-Anon will meet Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church. Please enter from the southside rear door located near the playground. The only requirement is that there be a problem of alcoholism or addiction in a relative or friend.

Bingo planned Tuesday

The Knights of Columbus sponsor Bingo Tuesday from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the building at 332 Squire Rd., Murray. Funds from the Bingo help support local, national and international charities. For more information call 293-7061.

TOPS Group will meet
TOPS # Ky. 623 Chapter will meet Tuesday at 5 p.m. at First Christian Church fellowship hall, 111 North Fifth St. Weigh-in will be from 5 to 5:30 p.m. For information call Tracey at 227-587.

Murray Singles will meet

Murray Singles (SOS) will meet Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Calloway County Public Library. For information call Pat at 489-2909 or Mike at 293-6043.

Lions Club to hear McGaughey

Murray Lions Club will meet Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Murray Woman's Club house. The guest speaker will be Dr. Robert (Doc) McGaughey from Murray State University.

Alzheimer's group to meet Tuesday

Alzheimer's Disease Education Support Group will meet Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. in the board room of Murray-Calloway County Hospital. For more information call Cindy Ragsdale, L.S.W., at 762-1108.

Breast Cancer Group to meet Tuesday

Breast Cancer Support Group will meet Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in the classroom of Center for Health & Wellness. For more information call Evelyn Wallis at 489-2462.

Adult and Family Education in new place

Calloway County Adult and Family Education has moved to a new location in the Murray Business Center, located north of Holiday Inn Express. The address is 1900 North 12th St., Suite G, and the phone number is still 759-5525. Anica Smith, coordinator, said "we help folks brush up on their basic skills so they can pass the GED, ACT, Compass, pre-employment tests, help the kids in school, and just to become better educated. We also offer English as a second language classes, and parenting classes, tips and tricks."

Adult Great Books will meet

Adult Great Books Discussion Group will meet tonight at 7 at the Calloway County Public Library. Emily Wolfson and Jane Trigg will be the leaders for the discussion on the selection, "Distributive Justice" from the book, "A Theory of Justice" by John Rawls. All those who have read the selection are invited to take part in the discussion.

Grief Recovery Group scheduled

Westside Baptist Church is offering a "Grief Recovery Group" to meet each Wednesday, starting this week, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. for eight weeks at the church. Dorothy Terry Rogers, grief recovery specialist, will lead the group. This includes grief from death, divorce, financial, etc. To enroll call the church at 753-8240.

CCMS plans softball tryouts

Calloway County Middle School Softball try-outs will be Aug. 9 and 10 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Calloway County High School softball field. For more information call Coach James Pigg a 759-2145.

Extension Council will meet

Calloway County Extension Service will have its quarterly meeting today at 7 at the extension office. All CEC members are encouraged to attend. A program about the Cooperative Extension Service will be presented. For information call 753-

Support group will meet Death of a Parent Support Group will meet tonight at 7. This is a support group for people who have lost one or both parents due to death and to help each other through the hard times. For information call Stephanie Cunningham at 753-7129.

Season pool passes available

Season pool passes at the Murray-Calloway County Central Park pool are now available at half price from the original price. For more information call Mike Sykes, aquatics director, at 762-0324. Regular hours of the pool are 1 to 6 p.m. on Sunday and noon to 7 p.m., Monday through Saturday,

FARM

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GREG TRAVIS/Ledger & Times STATE COMPETITION: FFA students from across Kentucky participated in the FFA State Horse Judging Contest Thursday at Murray State University's Bill Cherry Exposition Center. More than 60 students making up 14 teams took part in the competition. The local event qualifies students for the national competition to be held in Indianapolis, Ind., at the end of October. Pictured above, Bill Sampson, a Calloway County High School teacher, works with "Dexter" while students judge the confirmation of the horses.

Carter named director of UK Livestock Disease Diagnostic Center

By Laura Skillman

Craig Carter, a 26-year vetberan in diagnostic veterinary medicine, is the new director of the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture's Livestock Disease Diagnostic Center.

Carter, who currently serves that epidemiology professor and desection chief, will take over the helm on Aug. 1 replacing Lenn Harrison, who is retiring after serving 16 years as director.

"The appointment of a nationally distinguished successor to Dr. Harrison at LDDC continues our progress toward our goal for the LDDC – to become a world class center commensurate with Kentucky's world class animal enterprises," said Scott Smith, dean of the College of Agriculture.

Since coming to the state two years ago, Carter has spearheaded the development of Kentucky's first fully integrated animal health information and surveillance system which provides near real-time analysis of health events involving animals.

This analysis is currently conducted on information gathered at the LDDC but soon will capture health events at the farm level and will be integrated with information captured at the Breathitt Veterinary Center in Hopkinsville. Once validated, the system will generate automated alerts to the state veterinarian and other stakeholders when statistical thresholds are exceeded. These alerts will allow for rapid response to emerging diseases as well as providing early detection of possible agri-terrorist attacks. It also includes a sophisticated disease mapping application that will aid the State Veterinarian's Office in its emergency response to animal diseases. The system will become fully functional in 2008.

'We are fortunate to have Craig's experience and abilities with animals important to Kentucky, from cattle, poultry and other food animals, to horses, dogs and cats," said Nancy Cox, UK College of Agriculture associate dean for research and Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station director. "His information management skills have already brought Kentucky to a new day of animal health surveillance enhanced partnerships with the Office of the State Veterinarian and the Breathitt Veterinary

"I look forward to working with Dean Scott Smith and Associate Dean Nancy Cox, our clients and stakeholders, the Gluck Center, Veterinary Science faculty and staff and faculty and staff of the LDDC to take the next steps to better serve Kentucky animal agriculture and public health," Carter said. "We all salute Dr. Lenn Harrison for his many outstanding years as LDDC director and wish him and wife Sandra the very best in retire-

In his first 100 days, Carter said he plans to assess client

satisfaction in specific service areas as well as the quality of LDDC-client communications and build a consensus action plan for improvement. With the delay in funding of the LDDC facilities renovation and upgrade, Carter wants to review the budget to ensure adequate resources are available to complete it the project.

"During the last two years, I have gained a strong perspective of the many challenges that LDDC is facing," Carter said. "Veterinary diagnostic laboratories are being asked to do so much more with dwindling resources. We need to better communicate the importance of our mission. The work done at our laboratory, in concert with the Breathitt lab, is directly related to the marketability of Kentucky animal agricultural products. In addition, we are the only ones capable of diagnosing diseases transmissible from animals to humans, thereby providing a crucial public health service for the citizens of Kentucky."

Carter said he will work in collaboration with many partners to ensure that the lab provides the level and quality of diagnostic service that will enable Kentucky animal agriculture to grow and thrive in state, national and international markets. Significant additional resources must be committed to this, and he is committed to help find and secure these resources.

Additionally, he plans to review the budget for 2008 and identify any critical short-falls that will have to be addressed; propose and implement some fundamental organizational changes for LDDC to enhance overall operations; fill some critical positions such as the diagnostic services coordinator, virology lab supervisor, epidemiology research analyst and start a search for an equine extension veterinarian. Carter also hopes to quickly approve and fill the position of associate director of LDDC in-house and acquire critically needed instrumentation for toxicology, molecular biology, serology and other laboratory

Over the longer term, his goals are to complete a much needed facility expansion and upgrade, achieve full American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD) accreditation and join and participate in the National Animal Health Laboratory Network. He also plans to review and possibly restruc-ture the lab advisory committees to better serve LDDC stakeholders; complete a comprehensive strategic and operating plan with five-year planning projections; expand the pathology post-doctoral scholar program to enhance pathology service and to help resolve the national shortage of veterinary pathologists; and pursue private and foundation funding for endowed faculty chairs and endowed technician positions to help recruit and retain

the very best veterinary diag-

nosticians for the state.

Other goals are to fully implement the statewide animal health information network including web-based access to clinical reports and epidemiological animal health and zoonotic disease data. Carter also hopes to justify and add the necessary staffing and contingency funding to meet surge testing demand during emerging disease outbreaks like Mare Reproductive Loss Syndrome (MRLS), Avian Influenza and foreign animal diseases such as Foot & Mouth Disease. In addition, a solid contingency plan needs to be in place to deal with a possible agri-terrorist attack in the common-

Carter's skills as a communicator, his extensive laboratory experience and background in military administration make him a great choice to take over the helm at the LDDC, said David Switzer, executive director of the Kentucky Thoroughbred Association and the Kentucky Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association.

"It is very important to be able to communicate well with constituents – the livestock producers and veterinarians," said Switzer, who is a member of the LDDC advisory council and search committee member.

The diagnostic laboratory is very important to the growing cattle industry in the state and needs to be a first class facility, said Dave Maples, executive vice president of the Kentucky Cattlemen's Association.

"I'm very excited with Dr. Carter's selection," Maples said. "We need the LDDC to be a first class facility and we believe he has the leadership ability to bring this to fruition."

Carter holds several degrees, including a doctor of veterinary medicine and a doctorate in veterinary public health, from Texas A & M University. Before joining UK, he served in various capacities at Texas A & M including head of the Department of Epidemiology and Informatics. He also was co-founder and served as president from 1989 to 2005 of Texas Medical Informatics (TMI Inc.), a company that developed and marketed medical information systems which aid in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases for veterinary and human medicine.

Carter has had a military career spanning four decades and still serves as a colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves overseeing and coordinating activities surrounding training and readiness of Reserve Veterinary Corps soldiers for overseas deployment in support of the U.S. Army Reserve medical mission. He is a Vietnam veteran and led the first Army Reserve veterinary unit into Afghanistan after 9/11 and was awarded a Bronze Star for his leadership. Carter is currently part of a civilian advisory team that travels to Iraq and Central America to assist in improving animal agriculture. His hobbies are physical fitness, music and flying.

New facilities allow 4-H campers to experience horses

By Laura Skillman

DAWSON SPRINGS, Ky.,

New facilities at the West Kentucky 4-H Camp are allowing campers to enjoy the companionship of horses, as well as teaching campers the responsibilities of caring for them. This is the first year horses have been part of the camping program for the entire summer and this is the only 4-H camp to offer a horse program in Kentucky.

The new facilities include an outdoor working area, a covered arena and a large storage facility. The equine program is a cooperative effort between the equine program in Murray State University's School of Agriculture and the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service. 4-H volunteers along with staff from the two universities worked together to brainstorm ideas, write grants, secure donations and do physical labor to develop the program and facilities. The bulk of the funding came from a Kentucky 4-H Foundation Venture Grant along with the Kentucky Horse Council and the Kentucky Equine Education

"About a year and a half ago, the 4-H agents who camp at West Kentucky voted unanimously to develop a horse program at camp for the entire summer," said Donna Fox, UK extension specialist for 4-H camps. "We partnered with Murray State last summer for

a two-week pilot project and it was very successful. We knew then that we needed to make this a fulltime program."

Fox said she thinks the facilities have far exceeded most people's vision for the horse program. And this is just the beginning.

"There's already discussions on how we can take this further and expand on these facilities to offer new and better programming," she said. "Our partnership with Murray State has been wonderful."

Julie Harrison, the camp equine instructor and Murray State University student, said this was her first time at 4-H camp and she's enjoying it. There are six horses at the camp, five belong to Murray State University and the other is Harrison's.

"So much work and sweat has gone into this facility to get it ready and the campers are so excited to have it here," she said. "It will be used well into the future, and the kids will be excited every time they come out here. It can only get better."

Paula Jerrell, Ballard County 4-H youth development agent, has worked on the project since it was only a seed of an idea.

"Horses are going to be a big draw for camp," she said. "It was a natural thing for us to pursue. When you get people who are passionate about camp and passionate about horses working on a project, great things can happen. Of course all of us are involved to give the kids new opportunities and to promote the 4-H program as a whole."

In addition to being used for summer camp, the long term vision for the facilities are to have family trail rides at the camp and for county horse clubs to use them for workouts, she said.

Jerrell and her family have had a lifetime love affair with horses, and sharing that with young people is something she enjoys doing.

"I grew up in the 4-H horse program and now work with the 4-H horse program, and my son rides as well," she said. "This is a wonderful opportunity to bring horses to camp and share it with other kids who don't have the opportunity to have a horse in their backyard and ride whenever they want to. It teaches responsibility and appreciation of horses as recreation and exercise. There's also the fact that horses are one of our premiere industries in the state so it's important that we let people know about that."

The West Kentucky 4-H Camp held a ribbon cutting recently to thank the many people who worked to bring the idea to fruition. Among those attending was U.S. Rep. Ed Whitfield.

UK scientists research opportunities for Biomass and Hay Production

By Laura Skillman

PRINCETON, Ky. — For the next four years scientists with the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture will work with farmers in northeast Kentucky on biomass production using switchgrass, as well as continue their work on hay production in the region.

Changes have taken place that make tobacco, once an important crop in northeastern Kentucky, a less viable income source. As a result, farmers have looked to other crops. Many alternatives have been suggested, but most require high capital investments and have limited market opportunities. Biomass production switchgrass and similar crops provides a renewable fuel alternative that works well with existing hay production systems and equipment, said Ray Smith, UK forage specialist and principal investigator on the project. In other words, producers can produce biomass using their existing machinery.

Through a grant from the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board, the Kentucky Forage and Grasslands Council is funding UK's work. The bulk of the research will be on biomass, as they work to demonstrate the region is capable of producing sustainable and eco-

nomical biomass crops and at the same time, teaching production techniques to farmers and agents with UK's Cooperative Extension Service, and developing viable markets for these crops. The hay portion of the project will continue work Smith and Tom Keene, UK hay marketing specialist, have been doing with producers in the area for the past two years on improving hay quality and marketing opportunities.

"Biomass has huge potential for the future," Smith said.
"Our main focus on the biomass project is to find alternative energy markets for our producers in Kentucky. We are working with 20 farmers within a 60-mile radius of Maysville. We chose Maysville because East Kentucky Power has a cofired plant there that has the capability of burning biomass products."

There are numerous emerging options for biomass including electrical generation in cofired units (like the one at East Kentucky Power in Maysville), pellet production for pellet fueled home heaters, and cellulosic ethanol production. The dilemma is that energy companies want to be assured of an adequate supply while forage producers don't want to grow something until they have

a market for it, Smith said. This project is aimed at helping to solve those issues.

The 20 farms will each grow five acres of switchgrass, which Smith said is a proven biomass producer. Switchgrass will grow on poorer soils than typical crops and has lower nitrogen and fertility requirements while still producing high tonnage.

"The 20 farms with five acres will give us a supply of production to work with East Kentucky Power and do work at UK," Smith said. "It will also give us an impetus to attract companies who are interested in cellulosic ethanol production. A Canadian company is commercializing cellulosic ethanol production and is looking to locate plants in North America. But they want to know there's guaranteed supply.

"One hundred acres won't be that much supply, but it will be some initial feed stock," he said. "By working with 20 farms, however, we will be building up the production expertise in this area of the state through these farmers and county agents in the area. The project is for four years and hopefully by that time there will have been enough success shown that there will be someone ready to buy it."



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LookingBack

A temperature of 103 degrees was registered on a sign of a local business on July 21.

Twila A. Adams, teacher for Calloway County Schools, will receive an Outstanding Teacher Award by Dr. Kern Alexander, president of Murray State University, at the 1997 Harry M. Sparks Distinguished Lecturer Series in Education at MSU.

Jan Hough, registered and licensed dietitian, discussed "Diet and Good Health" at a meeting of the Murray/Kentucky Lake Chapter of AARP.

20 years ago

Published are pictures of members of Four Rivers Music Friends who gathered at the Murray-Calloway County Park for their second annual picnic. The group meets first and third Sundays of the month at the Calloway County Public Library. The photos were by Staff Photographer David Tuck.

Births reported include a boy to Gabrielle and Michael Roberts and a girl to Deborah and Marty Ivy, July 17; a girl to Evon and Michael Williams, July 19.

30 years ago Published is a picture of A.W. Simmons Jr., who was installed as president of the Murray Rotary Club, receiving the gavel from Dr. Ray Mofield, outgoing president. Also pictured is Forrest Pridy, new vice president of the Rotary

Murray Little League All-Stars lost 2-0 to Mayfield in the Little League All-Stars Baseball Tournament at Fulton, David McMillen was the Murray pitcher.

Dr. Bill Clark Thomas was the speaker at the annual homecoming at Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church, Buchanan, Tenn. 40 years ago

Dr. Henry H. Hill, president emeritus and currently acting pres-

ident of George Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville, Tenn., will deliver the summer commencement address at Murray State University on Aug. 4 at 3 p.m. in

the MSU auditorium. Kent McCuiston, a member of Calloway County High School Chapter of Future Farmers of America, showed the grand champion of Holstein Cattle 4-H and FFA Show at the Murray-Calloway County Jaycee Fair. Glen McCuiston's Holstein won in the fouryear old class at the show at the

Births reported include a boy to Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Henry and a boy to Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lyons Jr., July 17.

50 years ago

Airman Second Class Wallis Earl Perry has been assigned to the 7th Aviation Depot Squadron at Goose Air Base, Labrador. He is a graduate of Douglass High School, Murray.

Prof. Robert Hendon of the Agriculture Department of Murray State College, spoke about "Rural-Urban Relationships" at a meeting of the Murray Rotary Club held at the Murray Woman's Club house.

Recent births reported at Murray Hospital include a boy to Mr. and Mrs. James Pearce.

60 years ago

The Murray City Council completed negotiations for 140 parking meters to be installed in the business session area of Murray. City Clerk Charlie Grogan said the order for the meters has been placed.

Rev. R.G. Arterburn of Mayfield will be the speaker at the revival services to be held at West Fork Baptist Church. Rudolph Howard, director of music of First Baptist Church, Murray, will direct the music

questions about mental health

DEAR ABBY: I have recently begun using Internet dating sites to meet guys in my community. With my busy work and home schedules, I have found this to be a good alternative. The problem I'm having is that some of these sites allow

matches to

ask if you

are emotion-

ally and

mentally

case, I have

suffered

from depres-

sion in the

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In

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

talized for this issue and have received medication. At this point in my life, I manage my depression with non-drug-related therapies. I no longer need a counselor or a therapist, and have in place strategies for when I feel I'm cycling downward.

How should I respond to gentlemen who are looking for an "emotionally healthy" match? I consider myself "recovering" and do not take my mental health for granted. Your advice would be much appreciated. -- NOT SO BLUE IN EVERETT, WASH.

DEAR NOT SO BLUE: The men asking about an "emotionally healthy match" should be told that very few people today come without some sort of emotional baggage -- them

included. And, unlike some people who are carrying steamer trunks of baggage on their backs, yours is manageable. If a man gives you any argument on that, remind him that someone who has recognized he or she had a problem -and dealt with it -- is healthier than a person who has a problem, is afraid to own up to it and lets it fester.

DEAR ABBY: I am having a conflict with my granddaughter. My mother passed away a year ago. Years ago, she had become engaged to a guy in the Army who gave her an engagement ring. Mother married my father while her fiance was away on active

My granddaughter now says Mother told her she could have the ring. Abby, my mother said nothing to me about any such promise. My granddaughter has not spoken to me since the funeral. At this point, if I give her the ring I feel I would be buying her affection. What do you think? -- IN A BIND IN TEXAS

DEAR IN A BIND: You and your granddaughter are overdue for a frank chat. If your mother truly intended for her to have the ring, she should have put it in writing. What your granddaughter appears to be attempting is emotional blackmail. Giving her the ring will not guarantee her affection or her presence in your

If I were you, I'd sell the ring. It appears to bring bad luck to everyone connected with

DEAR ABBY: On Memorial Day, I attended the funeral of a respected member of our community. During the motorcade from the mortuary to the cemetery, I noticed a man who had been working in his garden. When he saw the hearse and the motorcade, he stood, bowed his head and held his cap over his heart.

I'm sure the man did not know-the deceased, but his respectful act of honoring the person who had passed was noticed by many and was deeply appreciated.

We could learn a lesson from this kind individual. A thoughtful gesture that takes but a few moments can mean a great deal to people who have suffered such a loss. CHARLES IN MINNEAPOLIS

DEAR CHARLES: I agree. Years ago, the gesture of respect you described was quite common. However, in the last seems to have or so, it been forgotten. I'm for reviving it. Even if the deceased is not known to us, taking a moment to dwell on the fact that none of us lives forever can spur us to better spend the time we are given.

Woman wonders how to answer | Pain in the neck deserves a doctor's advice

h e S

too

and does not

about going

to a doctor.

However, I

seem

it

DEAR DR. GOTT: My wife has had a crick in her neck for about four months. It isn't a persistent pain, but there is not a day that goes by when it doesn't bother her. It is on the right side, and if she makes sudden

move, really hurts. endures concerned

have begun to worry a bit about it Dr. Peter Gott not leaving.

I feel she may need medical help from a physician. Am I an alarmist? What do you sug-

DEAR READER: I assume your wife's symptom does not reflect the possibility that you are a pain in the neck. I won't go down that path!

Any persistent or recurring symptom should be investigated. Neck pain is no exception. The pain could be caused by a simple muscle spasm. But it also might reflect osteoarthritis of the cervical spine or, worse yet, disc disease in the neck. I strongly encourage your wife to meet with her primary care physician to resolve this issue.

You are not an alarmist. Rather, you seem to be a concerned and caring husband who probably doesn't want to promote unnecessary medical attention. In your wife's case, however, professional help is appropriate. Let me know what the doctor concludes.

To give you related information, I am sending you a

copy of my updated Health Report "Managing Chronic

DEAR DR. GOTT: Doesthe acidity in grapefruit con-tribute to bladder infections? I enjoy eating half a grapefruit every day, but I sometimes experience urges to urinate with burning sensations. My husband says this is probably due to the grapefruit. I have asked my doctor, and she says no.

DEAR READER: During digestion, your half grapefruit loses most of its acidity. Therefore, I do not believe that it is the cause of your symp-

Because low-grade urinary infections can lead to burning, I suggest that you have a simple urinary culture to identify the presence of bacteria. Meanwhile, continue to enjoy your grapefruit.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report Bladder and Urinary Tract Infections.

DEAR DR. GOTT: You asked readers about their experiences with ginger. Here's mine. I stopped my use of hormone-replacement therapy two years ago. I found eating two or three slices of crystallized ginger a day has reduced my hot flashes from a dozen a day to maybe one or two.

Some days I have none at all. DEAR READER: I have received several letters from readers who recommended ginger therapy for hot flashes. This therapy is simple, safe and cheap, so it meets my criteria as an effective alternative for hot flashes and, as I have written before, motion

TodayInHistory

By The Associated Press Today is Monday, July 23, the 204th day of 2007. There are 161 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History On July 23, 1967, a week of deadly race-related rioting that claimed 43 lives erupted in Detroit. On this date: In 1885, Ulysses S. Grant, the

died in Mount McGregor, N.Y. In 1886, New York saloon-

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18th president of the United States,

keeper Steve Brodie claimed to have made a daredevil plunge from the Brooklyn Bridge into the East River (however, few historians believe the jump actually occurred).

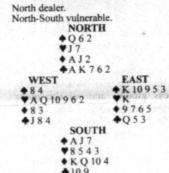
In 1914, Austria-Hungary issued an ultimatum to Serbia following the killing of Archduke Franz Ferdinand by a Serb assassin; the dispute led to World War I.

In 1945, French Marshal Henri Petain, who had headed the Vichy government during World War II, went on trial, charged with treason (He was condemned to death, but his sentence was commuted.) In 1951, Henri Petain died in

In 1952, Egyptian military officers led by Gamal Abdel Nasser launched a successful coup against King Farouk

In 1977, a jury in Washington D.C. convicted 12 Hanafi Muslims of charges stemming from the hostage siege at three buildings the previous March.

ContractBridge



The bidding: 1 **4** 3 NT

Opening lead eight of spades History does not record the

declarer on this hand played many years ago, so South will have to be remembered only by the name of East-West were playing weak jump-overcalls, and East's two-spade bid was designed only to

harass his vulnerable opponents. West's three-heart bid was more of the same. These tactics proved successful, though, because they jockeyed North-South into a poor threenotrump contract.

West led a spade, and South won

with the jack. Declarer could see only eight tricks, with little hope of a ninth. He knew that if he gave up a club trick early in the play to try to establish the suit, the defense would be in position to run five or six heart But South considered the matter

carefully and, after a while, came up with an ingenious scheme to steal the contract. At trick two, he led the three of hearts! This apparently suicidal play

worked out just as declarer had hoped. West did not go up with the ace of hearts, which would have settled South's hash immediately, but made the normal play of the queen. East, forced to win the trick with the king, returned a diamond.

Declarer took it in his hand, led the nine of clubs and ducked it to East's queen. The party was now over. East returned another diamond, and declarer finished with 10 tricks consisting of two spades, four dia-

monds and four clubs. South had realized that West's heart holding could not very well include the A-K-Q or he would have led the suit originally. Declarer there-fore placed East with a singleton honor, which he hoped was the king or ace

West could have saved the day, of course, but how many players do you know who would have gone up with the ace of hearts at trick two?

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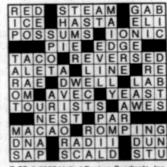
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Answer to Previous Puzzle



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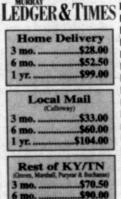
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NOTEBOOK

Football time is here!

BURGETT LEAVES MSU; RACERS IN RUNNING FOR TOP HOOPS TALENT

As another lazy summer day clicks off the calendar, the 2007 football season draws closer and closer.

Exactly one month from tomorrow, bitter crosstown counterparts Murray High and Calloway County will meet at Ty Holland Stadium to kick off the local high school campaign. Mere days later, the Murray State Racers will begin play at in-state rival and emerging Division I-A powerhouse Louisville.

> Local fans are already beginning to get their first sights of the pigskin, as

the Tigers and Lakers

kicked off

preseason



Sidelines By Scott

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Nanney Sports Editor

practice last week, and several Racers have been seen

recently conducting individual workouts on the new artificial surface at Roy Stewart Stadium.

Head coach Matt Griffin's second MSU squad will begin fall camp in earnest on Aug. 6, as the Racers try to improve on last season's 1-10 mark.

So get ready to put away those bathing suits and beach balls. Football's almost here! Burgett Out: One player

who won't be with the Racers when camp opens is senior free safety Jay Burgett, who recently informed the MSU coaching staff that he would forego his final year of eligibility to pursue other interests.

The 6-foot, 195-pound Mayfield product recorded three total tackles in 10 games as a junior last fall.

Burgett becomes the second player this month to leave the program, as rising sophomore receiver Shane McCleskey was dismissed last week after being charged with a felony for his involvement in an incident in an Atlanta suburb near his hometown of Woodstock, Ga.

Elite Company: If the news from one college sports website is correct, the Murray State men's basketball team is among a number of elite suitors for a top forward prospect.

Recruiting analyst Van Coleman of cstv.com and hoopmasters.com reported last week on the CSTV website that the Racers are pursuing 6-foot-7. 205-pound wing forward Justin Brownlee of Tifton, Ga.

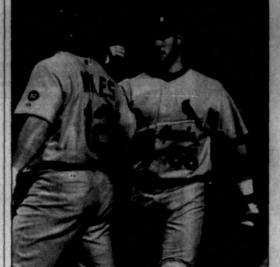
Brownlee, who will be attending Patterson School in Lenoir, N.C., this fall, also has Arizona, California, Florida State, Georgia, Kansas, Memphis and Minnesota listed among his favorites.

One In 300 Million: The hometown newspaper of firstyear Murray State women's head basketball coach Jody Adams - The Cleveland (Tenn.) Daily Banner - recently reported an interesting fact about the former Tennessee Lady Vol standout.

According to an article in the July 1 edition of the Daily Banner, Adams holds a unique distinction, being the only person among 300 million Americans who has played for both the winningest college basketball coach of all time and the winningest high school basketball coach in the United

Of course, Adams played for the legendary Pat Summitt at Tennessee, where she helped the Lady Vols to four SEC championships and the 1991 national title. After securing her

See ADAMS, 2B



Skip Schumaker (55) celebrates with Cardinals' teammate Aaron Miles (12) after hitting a two-run homer against the Braves during the 10th inning of Sunday night's game in Atlanta.

ST. LOUIS 7, ATLANTA 2, 10 INNINGS

Schumaker lifts Cards

LIGHT-HITTING OF HITS GAME-WINNING HOMER

ATLANTA (AP) - Skip Schumaker insists he's not a home run hitter. At least for one night

Schumaker hit a two-run home run and Scott Rolen added a threerun homer in the 10th inning to give the St. Louis Cardinals a 7-2 win over the Atlanta Braves on Sunday

Schumaker, who entered the game in the eighth inning as a pinch-hitter, drove an 0-1 pitch from Tyler Yates (2-2) over the right-field fence for his second homer. It came after Aaron

Miles singled to open the inning. Schumaker is 17-for-33 (.515) in July and increased his batting average to .315. "I'm definitely not a power hitter.

When I hit them, it's pretty much luck," Schumaker said.

"I was just happy it stayed fair. I

knew I hit it pretty good, but I was yelling at it to stay fair," he said of the high fly that just dropped into the stands at the 330-foot mark a couple of feet inside the foul pole.

"It was awesome," said Albert Pujols, who tied the game at 2 with his 22nd home run in the eighth, a solo shot off Rafael Soriano.

"We needed that. He (Schumaker) obviously came up big for us," he

"You can't make a mistake to a hitter the caliber of Albert Pujols and expect to get away with it," Atlanta's

Chipper Jones said. Pujols walked following Schumaker's homer and Juan Encarnacion followed with a single, knocking out Yates. Rolen hit his fifth homer off Oscar Villarreal, a drive over the left-field fence.

"It was a huge win for us," said

Pujols, who appeared to be favoring his right side (oblique) before hitting the home run.

"It's fine. It wasn't bothering me. You think I would be swinging like that (hit home run) if it was?" he

Jones drove in a run with a double and Kelly Johnson hit a solo home run to give Atlanta an early 2-0 lead.

St. Louis got within 2-1 in the sixth on an RBI groundout by Encarnacion.

"We blew too many games this homestand," said Atlanta manager Bobby Cox of the 5-5 run at Turner Field that ended Sunday night. "We could have had a dynamite

homestand. A couple of clutch hits here and there, a little better pitch location," he said.

Jason Isringhausen (4-0) picked up the win with four strikeouts.

BRITISH OPEN

Irishman takes title

HARRINGTON SURVIVES PLAYOFF TO TOP GARCIA

CARNOUSTIE, Scotland (AP) - As Padraig Harrington scampered around the 18th green, posing for pictures with the claret jug and wearing a bewildered smile, a tiny sliver of rainbow poked out from the clouds above the Scottish coast.

It was a magical bit of timing, considering the week of relent-less gloom, and all the more appropriate under the circumstances. Somehow, a guy who plopped not one, but two balls into a creek at the 72nd hole of the British Open was now reaping the glory.

By all rights, Harrington should have been another Jean Van de Velde

Instead, he'll go down as the Open champion.

"There were so many things going through my head," Harrington said after Sunday's gut-wrenching playoff victory, having endured enough ups and ns to fill amount of it was genuine shock.'

Harrington wasn't the only one trying to figure out what happened.

How about Sergio Garcia, denied of his first major title yet again after starting the day with a three-shot lead and going to the 18th hole merely needing a par to clinch it? How about Andres Romero, a little-known Argentine who sank an astonishing 10 birdies and had the lead with two holes to go, only to buckle under the intense pressure?

Seventy-two holes weren't enough. Not at Crazy Carnoustie. Four more were required before it was all sorted out, the prize going to a golfer who simply refused to believe he could lose, even after he knocked one shot into the Barry Burn, then another.

Irish stakes

Padraig Harrington became the first Irishmen in 60 years to win the claret jug by beating Sergio Garcia in a four-hole playoff.

Padraig Harrington

Rour	ds	Playo
1st	69	
2nd	73	Hole
3rd	68	Hole
4th	67	nanamana
Par	077	Hole
Total	277	Hole
Winn	inge-	\$850

Harr. Garcia 16 3(6) 5(8) 17 4(10) 4(12) 18 5(15) 4(16) illion; £6.2 million



Harrington's not sure he could have handled the alternative.

"The one thing I never, ever let in my head was that I'd lost," the Irishman said. "It would have been incredibly hard to take. To come so close and not to win ...

He surely recalls what happened to Van de Velde, who hasn't come close to contending in another major since he went to the last hole of the '99 Open with a three-stroke lead, facing this same diabolic course. He threw it all away with a triple bogey, which included a shot into the very stream that would gobble up Harrington twice.

The Frenchman also got a second-chance playoff, but he was merely a spectator his next time through the 18th hole, clapping forlornly as Paul Lawrie claimed a win that should have been Van de Velde's.

Eight years later, Harrington

Padraig Harrington of Ireland holds the British Open trophy after beating Spain's Sergio Garcia in a playoff on Sunday in Carnoustie, Scotland.

birdied the first playoff hole to take a two-stroke lead over Garcia that endured the rest of

Neither of them had to worry

wrote a different script. He Carnoustie seeking his third straight Open title but never seriously challenged on the final day. He finished five strokes back, in a tie for 12th.

When Harrington came to about Tiger Woods, who came to No. 18 in the playoff, still up by

two strokes, he didn't attack with a driver as Van de Velde foolishly did. He played it safe off the tee, laid up in front of the burn, got it onto the green, sent a long putt 3 feet past the cup, and rolled that one in for a bogey.

MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

Coach dies after begin struck by line drive

FORMER CARDINAL COOLBAUGH VICTIM OF TRAGIC ACCIDENT

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) Tulsa Drillers coach Mike Coolbaugh died after being struck in the head by a line drive as he stood in the first-base coach's box during a game.

The Texas League game was suspended in the ninth inning Sunday after the 35-year-old former major leaguer was hit by a foul ball off the bat of Tino Sanchez of the Arkansas Travelers. Coolbaugh was taken to Baptist Medical Center-North Little Rock, where he was pronounced dead.

"It's a tragedy for all of baseball," Drillers president Chuck Lamson told the

Tulsa World in a story posted on the newspaper's Web site early Monday. "He just joined the staff and was a former Driller player. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family."

Travelers spokesman Phil Elson said Coolbaugh was either hit on the right side of his head or on the forehead and fell to the ground immediately. According to a report on the Drillers' Web site late Sunday, Coolbaugh was knocked unconscious and CPR was administered to him

Sgt. Terry Kuykendall, spokesman for North Little Rock police, said Coolbaugh was still alive when he was put in an ambulance, but stopped breathing as the ambulance arrived at the hospital.

They tried to resuscitate him, but he was pronounced dead at 9:47 p.m.," Kuykendall said.

Coolbaugh played 44 games in the major leagues for the St. Louis Cardinals and Milwaukee Brewers over two seasons. Coolbaugh joined the Tulsa staff on July 3 as a batting coach. He played for the team briefly in 1996.

Tulsa is the Colorado Rockies' Double-A affiliate.

Drillers first basemen Aaron Rifkin said recently that Coolbaugh's coaching style had already helped the team.

"He came in and didn't try to change guys, just fine-tune what they were doing. He's been great for me," Rifkin told the Tulsa World.

A native of Binghamton, N.Y., Coolbaugh went to high school in San Antonio and was drafted in 1990 by the Toronto Blue Jays in the 16th round.

He played third base and bounced around the minors for a decade, before

reaching the major leagues for the first time with in 2001 with the Brewers. He played 39 big league games that season and five for the Cardinals in 2002. He hit two home runs in 70 major league at-

Coolbaugh's older brother, Scott, also played 167 major league games over parts of four seasons with Texas, San Diego and St. Louis in the early 1990s.

The Travelers, an Angels affiliate, led 7-3 at the time the game was suspended with no outs and a runner on first in the top of the ninth inning. Officials said a date and time for finishing the game had not vet been chosen.

Coolbaugh is survived by his wife, Mandy, and two young sons, Joseph and Jacob, all of San Antonio. Mandy Coolbaugh is expecting another child in October.

BASEBALL

Bonds out of lineup Sunday

MILWAUKEE (AP) Barry Bonds' pursuit of the home run record will resume back in San Francisco on Monday night.

Bonds has 753 home runs, two from tying Hank Aaron's record, and will have the chance to make history back home in the Bay Area where he's hit so many of his milestone home

Bonds' teammates are eager for him to break the record not only for the slugger's sanity, but so everybody will have a semblance of normalcy again. The media horde was huge at Miller Park this weekend, and it will just get bigger back home.

With the group of guys we have and guys who have been around, I don't see it making a big change," right fielder Randy Winn said of the added attention. "It's always fun to play in that kind of atmosphere.

Bonds was held out of the Giants' 7-5 loss Sunday in the series finale against the Milwaukee Brewers, though manager Bruce Bochy almost used his slugger to pinch hit.

Bonds started just three of seven games during San Francisco's trip. Bonds went a 0-for-6 with three walks — one intentional - and two strikeouts in the first two games of the series in the city where Aaron started and finished his 23-year

Bonds, who turns 43 Tuesday, will likely play five or games during San Francisco's upcoming sevengame homestand - including Monday night's series opener against the Atlanta Braves.

In his first season as San Francisco's skipper after 12 years with the NL West rival Padres, Bochy spoke to Bonds in the batting cage this weekend and realized just how thrilling the record will be

"Sometimes you have to remind yourself you're standing by who is going to be the alltime home run leader," Bochy said. "Sure, that is something you not only think about but appreciate. ... It's going to be pretty special when it happens. should he's getting.'

The Braves are another one of the Hammer's former teams. The first three games with Atlanta are night games, followed by a 4 p.m. PDT start Thursday. Sunday's finale with the Florida Marlins is the only early afternoon contest

Bochy said at the beginning of this trip that he no longer planned to play Bonds in day games following night games, but the seven-time MVP appeared in the Giants' victories both Friday night and Saturday

"We'll see how the games Bochy said of the homestand



TV Schedule

Today
MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL 6 p.m. ESPN2 - Boston at Cleveland 9 p.m. ESPN2 — Atlanta at San Francisco



THE CHAMPSI: Ramey All-State Insurance recenity captured the 2007 Bronco League's regular-season and postseason tournament championships. Team members and coaches pictured include (front row, from left) Jordan Kendall, Jay Roth, Logan Foster, Jackson Willie, (middle row) Wyatt Frame, Joe Farley, Eric Wann, Daniel Costello, Adam Melton, Hogan Sullivan, John Ramey and (back row) coaches Dan Wann, Rick Melton and David

AL ROUNDUP

Yankees keep scoring against Rays in rout

By The Associated Press

The New York Yankees spent the weekend taking what appeared to be extended batting practice against Tampa Bay pitchers.

The Yankees had 25 hits, reaching 20 in consecutive games for the first time in more than 100 years in a 21-4 rout of the Devil Rays on Sunday. On Saturday, the Yankees had 20 hits in a 17-5 win that finished off a day-night doubleheader

"I've never seen anything like it," Yankees manager Joe Torre said, "Even in batting practice you don't get hits every time you swing the bat."

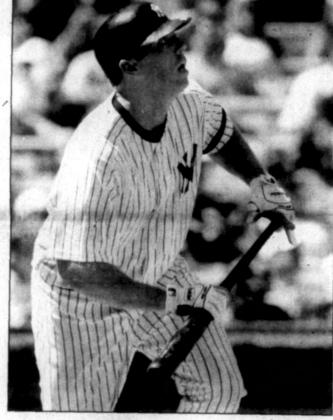
Recently called up rookie Shelley Duncan homered twice, including a three-run drive that capped a 10-run fourth inning, and Alex Rodriguez, batting with sunglasses on a sunny afternoon, hit his major leagueleading 34th homer and No. 498 of his career

Hideki Matsui, Bobby Abreu and Robinson Cano also homered to give the Yankees six home runs in a game for the first time in two years

Matsui tied his regular-season high with five hits, and every Yankees starter had a hit, a run and an RBI

"I think after a doubleheader it was impressive," Rodriguez said. "After a doubleheader, I was wondering how we were going to respond."

The Yankees, a season-best five games over .500 and 7 1/2 games behind AL East-leading Boston, took three of four from the Devil Rays, hitting .408 in the series with 49 runs, 62 hits and 11 homers. According to the Sports Bureau, the



Shelly Duncan, brother of St. Louis Cardinals outfielder Chris Duncan, hits a solo home run against Tampa Bay during the sixth inning of Sunday's game at Yankee Stadium. It was the rookie Duncan's third homer in two days since being called up from the minor leagues.

Yankees franchise last had backto-back 20-hit games on Aug. 23 and 25, 1902, when the team was playing in Baltimore.

When you have a big day like this, you can't feel content,' Duncan said.

New York is 9-3 since the All-Star break, playing two series with Tampa Bay around one with Toronto, and is scheduled for 16 more games against teams with losing records before a trip to Cleveland on Aug. 10.

In other AL games, it was: Kansas City 5, Detroit 2; Toronto 8, Seattle 0; Boston 8, Chicago 5; Los Angeles 7, Minnesota 2; Baltimore 2, Oakland 0; and Cleveland 8, Texas 3.

SOCCER

Beckhams welcomed at L.A. party

LOS ANGELES (AP) Beckham David attracts Hollywood stars the same way he draws defenders on the soccer field. In large numbers.

A glittery array of actors and entertainment world luminaries turned out Sunday for what was billed as an official welcome-to-Los Angeles party for the international soccer icon and his wife, Victoria Beckham.

With Tom Cruise and Will

Smith playing co-hosts for the invitation-only bash at the Museum of Contemporary Art's Geffen Contemporary gallery, the guest list was long and deep.

Ron Howard and producer Brian Grazer were among the first to arrive. Brooke Shields was there. Eva Longoria showed up, followed by "American Idol" creator Simon Fuller, who managed the Spice Girls pop group that made Victoria Beckham famous.

Wesley Snipes and Quincy Jones came to welcome the soccer star, as did Bruce Willis, Demi Moore and Ashton

Kutcher. Jim Carrey and Jenny McCarthy stopped to pose for the throng of international paparazzi.

The Beckhams arrived with Cruise, accompanied by his wife, Katie Holmes, and Smith, with his wife, Jada Pinkett Smith. Cruise flew in from Germany, where he is shooting his newest film, "Valkyrie."

For the British Beckhams, it was a taste of classic Hollywood. A red carpet was rolled out at the entrance. A small army of police patrolled streets for blocks, keeping gawkers at a distance.

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MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

East Division				East Division										
	W	L	GB		W	L	GB							
Boston	59	39		New York	55	43	GD							
New York	51	46	7 1/2	Atlanta	52	47	3 1/2							
Toronto	48	50	11	Philadelphia	50	48	5							
Baltimore	44	53	14 1/2	Florida	48	51	7 1/2							
Tampa Bay	38	60	'21	Washington	42	56	13							
Cen	tral Divis	sion		Cen	tral Div	ision								
	W	L	GB		W	L	GB							
Detroit	58	38	-	Milwaukee	55	43	_							
Cleveland	58	40	1	Chicago	51	46	3 1/2							
Minnesota	51	47	8	St. Louis	45	50	8 1/2							
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Boston 8, Chica			5	Houston 1, Pitts!										
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Baltimore 2, Oakland 0			Milwaukee 7, San Francisco 5											
Cleveland 8, Tex				Arizona 3, Chicago Cubs 0										
Today's Games				Philadelphia 9, S										
Boston (Lester 0			nd	N.Y. Mets 5, L.A										
(Westbrook 1-5), 6:05 p.m. Minnesota (J.Santana 11-7) at Toronto (Marcum 5-4), 6:07 p.m. N.Y. Yankees (Clemens 2-4) at Kansas City (Perez 5-8), 7:10 p.m.			St. Louis 7, Atlanta 2, 10 innings											
			Today's Games Milwaukee (Capuano 5-6) at Cincinnati- (Harang 10-2), 6:40 p.m. L.A. Dodgers (Billingsley 6-0) at											
							Detroit (Miller 5-3) at Chicago White Sox (Buehrle 7-5), 7:11 p.m.							
											Houston (Sampson 7-6), 7:05 p.m. San Diego (Maddux 7-7) at Colorado			
Seattle (Ramirez				(Francis 10-5), 8:05 p.m.										
(Millwood 6-8), 7:35 p.m.			Florida (Willis 7-9	at Ari	zona (Davis 6.								
Oakland (Gaudin	8-5) at t	A. A	ngels	10), 8:40 p.m.	,		Davis o-							
(Colon 6-5), 9:05	p.m.			Atlanta (Smoltz 9	1-5) at S	an Fr	ancisco							
Tuesday's Game				(Cain 3-11), 9:15										
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White Sox (Vazq	uez 7-5),	1:05	p.m., 1st	Washington (Ber	gmann :	2-5) a	t							
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(Haeger 0-1), 7:11 p.m., 2nd game			(Maine 10-5), 6:1											
Seattle (Feierabend 1-3) at Texas (Loe 5-8), 4:05 p.m., 1st game			Milwaukee (Galla) at C	ncinnati								
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Seattle (Washburn 8-7) at Texas Rheinecker 0-0), 7:35 p.m., 2nd game			L.A. Dodgers (Hendrickson 4-5) at Houston (Jennings 1-6), 7:05 p.m.											
Boston (Matsuzaka 11-7) at Cleveland			Chicago Cube (7	JS 1-6),	7:05	o.m.								
Sabathia 13-4), 6:05 p.m.			Chicago Cubs (Zambrano 12-7) at St. Louis (K.Wells 4-12), 7:10 p.m.											
Tampa Bay (Kazmir 7-6) at Baltimore				San Diego (Young 9-3) at Colorado										
D.Cabrera 6-10), 6:05 p.m.				(Jimenez 0-0), 8:05 p.m.										
Minnesota (Baker 4-3) at Toronto				Florida (Mitre 4-4) at Arizona										
McGowan 6-5), 6:07 p.m.				(L.Hernandez 5-6), 8:40 p.m.										
N.Y. Yankees (Wang 10-5) at Kansas				Atlanta (T.Hudson	10-5)	at San								
City (Elarton 2-3), 7:10 p.m.				Francisco (Morris	7-6), 9	15 p.	m.							
Dakland (DiNardo 4-6) at L.A. Angels														
Escobar 11-3), 9	:05 p.m.													
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SportsBriefs

■ Calloway County Middle School's softball team will hold tryouts Aug. 9-10 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. both days at Lady Laker Field. For more information, contact James Pigg at 759-2145.

■ The Calloway County Middle School football team will begin preseason practice on Thursday. A meeting for parents will be held in the CCMS gymnasium at 6 p.m., followed by the first practice session from 6:30 to 8. Schedules and other information will be provided at the meeting. Free sports physicals for the team will be available on July 21 and July 28 at Murray-Calloway County Hospital. For more information, contact Laker coach Troy Webb at 293-3623.

■ The first Eagle Open non-sanctioned tennis tournament will be held, beginning Aug. 17, at the Graves County High School courts in Mayfield. The tournament will be played on Aug. 17 & 18, with possible extended play on the afternoon of Aug. 19.

Divisions will be open for boy youth and adult players. The participation cost is \$20 for singles players and \$30 for doubles teams. A sign-In will be held on tournament day at the GCHS courts. For more information, contact Kim Simmons at 247-2515 or preskate@wk.net.

TOUR DE FRANCE

Contador's stage win resembles Armstrong

PLATEAU DE BEILLE. France (AP) Alberto Contador looked a lot like Lance Armstrong, tearing away in a mountaintop finish and outsprinting his chief rival to win the 14th stage of the Tour de France.

In Contador, the Discovery Channel team may have found a successor to the seven-time Tour winner in the year the team's sponsorship deal runs out.

"I'm certain Contador will win the Tour in the future,' Discovery's sporting director Johan Bruyneel said.

Contador was toe-to-toe with race leader Michael Rasmussen when the pair neared the summit of the 122-mile ride from Mazamet to Plateau de Beille on Sunday, having distanced themselves from rivals Cadel Evans, Levi Leipheimer and Andreas Kloedenthe in the first of three tortuous Pyrenees stages.

Then, with 200 meters left, Contador sized up Rasmussen, made his move down the right, boxed the Dane in next to the barriers, and left him behind.

It seemed like a replay of Armstrong's winning ride up to Le Grand Bornand in 2004 in the Alps.

Armstrong had dropped his teammate Floyd Landis after he'd slogged for him up the hills, and then the American overtook Kloeden at the top of the final ascent just as the two turned into a corner. Armstrong stormed past him and fist-pumped gleefully at the line.

Contador pounded his fist twice on his heart after winning in 5 hours, 25 seconds, 48 seconds, and closing to within 2:23 of Rasmussen.

"This is the Tour de France. You don't give any presents,' Rasmussen said. "The Plateau de Beille is not something you give away."

Even Bruyneel Contador has exceeded expectations. Bruyneel once sent Armstrong an e-mail shortly before the 1999 Tour predicting that Armstrong would be on the Tour podium.

Adams

From Page 1B

record seventh national championship in the spring, Summitt's all-time record now stands at an unbelievable 947-180.

Before taking the floor for Summitt, Adams spent her prep career under the tutelage of former Bradley Central coaching great Jim Smiddy, who finished a 45-year coaching resume with

1,217 wins and just 206 losses. He guided the Cleveland, Tenn., school to five state championships and two unofficial national crowns.

Basketball Crazy: The southeast, which has traditionally been known as football country, is also a Mecca for college basketball.

In data recently released by the NCAA, four of the top five attendance figures in college basketball for the 2006-07 season were posted by schools located in the southeast region.

Of course, Kentucky topped the list, leading the nation in attendance for the 11th time in 12 years with an average crowd of 23,421 fans per game. Fellow hoops blueblood North Carolina was third (20,693), Tennessee - riding the wave

of emotion created by coach Bruce Pearl - was fourth (19,661) and Louisville was fifth (18,488).

The only non-southeastern school in the top five was Syracuse, which ranked second (21,516) while playing in the cavernous Carrier Dome - the largest on-campus facility in the nation.



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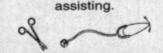
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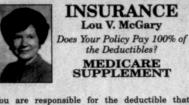
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Horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Tuesday, July 24, 2007: You have the wherewithal to create much more for yourself. Your home life could be an issue, as much frustration surrounds home, real estate and other domestic matters. Create much more of your desires with your endless creativity. If you can apply this talent to your problems, dynamic changes will occur. You have unusual gifts; use them. If you are single, you will have to fight to keep that status, or you might even decide to dot the horizon with your many suitors. If you are attached, you might opt to add to your bond through a child, new pet or whatever fits the bill. SAGITTARIUS reads you cold.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19) *** You might have a difficult time sorting through what is relevant and what is not. How you deal with others could comple ly change as a result of confusing information. Be a skeptic; be smart right now. Tonight: Distance yourself before you judge. Decide based on facts;

ignore fiction. TAURUS (April 20-May 20) *** Others throw a tantrum, if it is their style; otherwise, they could be difficult. You might want to define a situation, but clearly someone you answer to will not. The unexpected occurs with an emotional situation. Tonight:

Touch base with a loved one. GEMINI (May 21-June 20) *** How you deal with others could change considerably. Your ability to get past the obvious might emerge. However, the only person who is likely to see eye to eye with you is someone at a distance. Tonight: Sort through the possibilities

CANCER (June 21-July 22) *** Understanding evolves to a new level. You need to get to the bottom of a problem. Understand what makes you tick in this situation. Your sense of direction and your ability to sort through what is unfathomable for many emerges. Tonight: Slow down; go for quiet and relaxing.

LEO (July 23-August 22) *** You might get stuck, but the answer is close to the surface. You could find another's vagueness disconcerting, and whether you like it or not, it impacts you. Know when to say "enough." Your creativity spins into a problem. Tonight: Happy as can be.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) *** Handle the basics, yet keep reaching out for others. You find a brisk wind of confusion blows through even the best of ideas. You'll discover the problem. Allow creativity and

by Jacqueline Bigar

centering to sort everything out, Tonight: Order in LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

*** Yes, expenses could be out of whack, and for good reason. You might not have followthrough on some research. You also might not care, as you want what you want. Stop. There is a tomorrow. Regroup and ask key questions. Tonight: In the whirlwind of life

ers is more important than you realize. What comes around can

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

**** How you deal with oth-

make a difference, if you allow it to. Much that happens is tied into another's defiance or hard stance. Know what is important. Tonight: Balance your check-SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. *** What seems to be unre-

back and relax with others. You might want to understand what makes some of your associates or those in your daily life act the way they do. Trust that soon you won't even care. Tonight: In the whirlwind of life.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) *** How you deal with a friend or group of associates depends on how much you can tolerate ineptitude. Recognizing their lack helps you realize more. Understanding helps you make headway. Tonight: Take needed time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) **** Reach for the stars with the knowledge that you can change what is going on by assuming more responsibility. The real question lies in whether really want Understanding evolves. Tonight: Find your pals.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) **** Use your imagination to find the right answer. How you deal with someone could change your choices and direction. Extremes could create caustic comments or irritation. Let go of an issue. Tonight: Out late.

BORN TODAY Actress, singer Jennifer Lopez (1970), baseball player Barry Bonds (1964), "El Libertador"

Simon Bolivar (1783)

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