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Murray Ledger and Times, December 1, 2004

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Wednesday, December 1, 2004

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Vol. 125, No. 267

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Planting Their Tree



Workers with Murray Electric Systems position a tree that will serve as the community Christmas tree along the northwest corner of the Calloway County Courthouse. The tree was scheduled to be decorated today. The lighting ceremony will take place at 5 p.m. Friday to kick off Main Street Merriment downtown.

ERIC WALKER/Ledger & Times photo

Committee formed to study MCCH charity policy

By KRISTIN TAYLOR
Staff Writer

Two community health care organizations have spent the last two months negotiating a policy addressing charitable giving. Murray-Calloway County Hospital Board of Trustees clarified a charity policy specifically for the Angel's Community Clinic at its Sept. 22 meeting. But since then, Angel's Clinic representatives have wanted the hospital's poverty guidelines expanded to include a greater discount for more of their low-income patients.

Angel's Clinic board chair Dennis Norvell presented their proposal, as well as charity policies from other hospitals in the region, during the MCCH Board of Trustees meeting Tuesday afternoon.

MCCH board chair Sharon Furches appointed an ad-hoc committee to discuss the policy and bring a recommendation to the December meeting. Jack

Rose will chair the committee, which also includes Sandra Parks and Charles Walstrom.

The policy approved at the September board meeting said the hospital will offer free first-level radiological testing and routine in-house laboratory tests services to the clinic's patients based on poverty guidelines. Other services will be performed at reduce costs based on different income guidelines. And that's where the concern lays for the Angel's Clinic board.

The earlier agreement said clients at 100 percent poverty, which is income of \$9,310 for one person, according to federal poverty guidelines, will receive particular services for free. Services will be provided at a 50 percent discount for people between 101 and 150 percent poverty, and one-fourth of the actual cost for clients between 151 and 300 percent poverty.

"What you're doing here with the 101 to 150 with a 50

percent discount is covering your cost. You're not making what you want to make," Norvell said during the meeting. "What do you want to give this community?"

Norvell included information about discounts given at nine other hospitals in the region during his presentation. Of those, MCCH, a non-profit, community-owned facility, and for-profit Jackson Purchase Medical Center were the only organizations that had a 100 percent discount for patients at 100 percent of the poverty level. The other eight hospitals have a charity policy with a full discount for people at 150 and 200 percent poverty.

Having to debate a charity policy is "ridiculous," Norvell said. "I am more concerned with your general charity policy. I am with you, nobody needs to be treated differently. But you all aren't giving the community

■ See Page 2A

Another bomb threat at Pella

By KRISTIN TAYLOR
Staff Writer

A third bomb threat in nearly as many months was called into Pella Corp. Tuesday night.

Pella received the threat about 10:15 p.m. Tuesday and the Calloway County Sheriff's Department learned of it about 15 minutes later when a Calloway County Rescue Squad member who also works at Pella informed the department, Sheriff Larry Roberts said.

Nothing was found in relation to the threat upon investigation.

Roberts said Kentucky State Police agreed to take the lead in bomb threat investigations.

"They are taking the lead because they do have a bomb-sniffing dog and a bomb squad — resources we don't have," he said.

Disaster Emergency Services, CCFR, Rescue Squad and Murray Police Department also responded.

This was the third bomb threat in just a few months. One was made in August and another on Nov. 14.

The November threat came from a payphone in Murray just after 10 p.m. and the caller said there was a bomb inside the building that was to go off at 2 a.m. Nothing suspicious was found in relation to either of the earlier threats.

Roberts does not know whether the threats are coming from the same person, but the company evacuates its employees with such incidents.

"I don't have any way of knowing that," he said. "This is a problem. It costs a company like that a lot of money to have something like this happen."

Father swears in son as new New Concord postmaster

By JOHN WRIGHT
Staff Writer

NEW CONCORD, Ky. — One small framed photograph is all one needed to understand why the noon hour Tuesday marked such a special occasion at the United States Post Office in this southeast Calloway County community.

It showed a little boy sitting on the lap of his dad, who was dressed in his U.S. Postal Service uniform. Not that anything was too dramatic about that, except for the fact that the two people in that photograph, Ronn Hubbard Jr., and Ronn Hubbard, Sr., were the reason a large crowd had gathered for the swearing in of the younger Hubbard as New Concord's new postmaster.

And the man performing the ceremony was the proud father, a postmaster in three different locations, including Murray, where he retired 13 years ago.

"All of his life, the postal service has really been all that he has known, so I'm real glad to see this happening," said the older Hubbard, who admitted to having flashes of earlier times in his mind as he officiated the reciting of the oath of office to his son, who comes to New Concord after nearly nine years at the Murray office.

"I was remembering back to

when I had (his oath at Lewisburg in Warren County in 1981). I also could remember back to when he was a boy and needed his hiking merit badge in the Boy Scouts when he needed to make a 10-mile hike to get it. In those days, I was walking a 12-mile route, so he walked with me one day and earned it that way.

"Plus, an interesting thing to this is that he is the same age I was when I got my first postmaster position — 35 — so this is more than just about family," the elder Hubbard said. "Yeah, I'd say it was destined."

Interestingly, though, while the younger Hubbard's path to the postal service did seem predetermined, he did actually have other aspirations, namely physical therapy. However, that door began closing and led him to take a chance on something he knew could lead to a steady career by taking the entrance exam to the postal service in 1992.

"And I finished 17th out of 500 people who took it," said Hubbard, Jr., whose first job was as a clerk in Hardin in southern Marshall County, thus allowing his family's tree with the postal service to form another branch. "That's because my great-grandfather, Warner Willoughby from Allen County, was a postmaster

“The first day I was in Hardin, the postmaster there just happened to ask me what my goal was for on down the line. And I told him I wanted to be a postmaster and I wanted my dad to swear me in.”

— Ronn Hubbard Jr.
New Concord Postmaster

there. So, yeah, it was right in front of me all along.

"And it's funny, because the first day I was in Hardin, the postmaster there (Brent Armstrong) just happened to ask me what my goal was for on down the line. And I told him I wanted to be a postmaster and I wanted my dad to swear me in." With at least eight postmasters from surrounding communities, including his former boss, Murray chief Jennifer Doom, and several family members and friends watching at a crowded lobby, that is exactly what happened Tuesday.

"I think the population of



JOHN WRIGHT/Ledger & Times photo

Ronn Hubbard, Sr., a former postmaster at three locations in western Kentucky, swears in his son, Ronn Hubbard, Jr., right, to his first postmaster's position at New Concord Tuesday afternoon.

New Concord doubled today," joked Hubbard, Jr., who said things are a bit different in that rural community as compared to the office in Murray. "For one thing, I was one of 50 employees there. We've only got four

here, so that right there is a big change. And I had to wait a little bit before getting to come here. Because I had a primary window position at Murray, they needed to get somebody in there to replace me before I could come

here, and that took six weeks.

"But it's working well now. I like it here and, now, I think I'm going to be able to settle in and what I'd really like to try is to obtain some services that maybe they haven't had here before."

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MCCH addresses Trigg hospital issues

By KRISTIN TAYLOR
Staff Writer

Accountability is the theme at a nearby hospital that Murray-Calloway County Hospital manages.

Trigg County Hospital has a correction plan in place to address its failure to prevent the spread of a deadly infection last month. Meanwhile, Murray-Calloway County Hospital outlined a payment plan for Trigg County Hospital to settle about \$600,000 in outstanding management fees and other expenses it owes MCCH.

A medical tray used to carry supplies necessary for injections was recently linked to a deadly infection at the Trigg County Primary Care Clinic, which the Trigg County Hospital owns, according to a report from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. A Trigg doctor, who has not been identified, "used the same tray for patients with dirty procedures, such as an incision and drainage of an area that was infected, and also used the tray for a sterile procedure such as joint injections without any cleaning measures in place between cases," according to the report.

The doctor administered deep joint injections to two patients Oct. 22 who were complaining

of lower back pain. Both patients were diagnosed with a bacterial staph infection. One patient — 60-year-old Creta Fay Cooper Mitchell — later died. The other patient is recovering at Jennie Stuart Medical Center in Hopkinsville.

CMS approved Trigg's correction plan Nov. 24 after the hospital outlined its deficiencies Nov. 10. The State Office of the Inspector General conducted a survey Monday and found the primary care clinic in compliance with Medicare conditions. Federal and state officials could have cut off Medicare and Medicaid payments if they were not satisfied with the changes.

The correction plan outlined measures taken to assure compliance with federal and state laws and included no longer using the tray for procedural medical supplies, having exam rooms restocked with new supplies, cleaning and disinfecting the clinic on a daily basis, removing medications with the same lot numbers as those used in the October incident, placing alcohol-based hand-sanitizing dispensers in the hallway and lab area, using only sterile disposable supplies for minor incision procedures, disposing of possibly contaminated materials in red-bag trash, using only single-dose medication vials, having staff attend in-service training, and revising policies related

to infection control, incision and drainage and minor procedures.

Murray-Calloway County Hospital CEO Jon O'Shaughnessy



sent some of his staff members to Trigg County to help develop and implement the correction plan. Some of those people were recognized Tuesday during the MCCH Board of Trustees meeting. Social worker Cindy Stober, Director of Critical Care Jeanie Mathis, Director of Educational Services Carol Perlow and chaplain Kerry Lambert received certificates of appreciation. Although unable to attend Tuesday's meeting, Director of Patient Case Management Lisa Ray, Kathy Howard, performance improvement and infection control coordinator and risk manager, also were involved in assisting Trigg County.

Trigg County Hospital Administrator Terry Powers expressed his appreciation to the hospital staff, clinic patients and the community for their support. "I personally appreciate those who worked with us to make

these corrections and I am very pleased that we can now move forward with the clinic as a viable health care provider," Powers said in a release.

Regarding a separate matter, O'Shaughnessy sent a demand letter earlier this month to Trigg County Hospital addressing outstanding money owed to MCCH. The letter outlined a 90-day pay structure for Trigg County to address nearly \$600,000 in delinquent management fees and other accounts.

O'Shaughnessy said just because Trigg's accounts receivable were building up doesn't make it right to have such money outstanding. Having the unpaid fees should have been addressed earlier, he said.

"It was a board decision, and it should have been brought to the board and it wasn't," O'Shaughnessy told the Board of Trustees on Tuesday. "It shouldn't have happened and I'm not sure why it did. Terry Powers has been made well aware of the situation."

MCCH finance committee chair Chris Wooldridge said accountability is necessary.

"That's a pretty large amount of money to be unsecured. That's a lot of risk for the hospital," he said after the board meeting. "There's a due diligence there and it needs to be secured."

Infant missing after being swept away

PADUCAH, Ky. (AP) — Searchers resumed hunting today for a 10-month-old girl who was swept away when her parents' vehicle stalled in flooded Massac Creek.

Crews on horseback and in boats were used in Tuesday's search for Katie Michelle Gray, Chief Deputy Sheriff Terry Long said.

A diaper bag and bottle belonging to the baby were found alongside the creek, WPSD-TV reported.

Johnnie and Sandy Gray were traveling on a gravel road off Mayfield Metropolis Road about three miles west of Paducah late Monday night, Long said. Johnnie Gray told deputies the sport-utility vehicle stalled as he crossed the creek and about three-quarters of it went under water.

"The water was so swift it took my feet out from under me, and we went down in the water," Gray told WPSD.

The couple tried to exit the vehicle. Sandy Gray was swept away by the current with the baby in a car seat, the station reported.

Accident sends 2 to hospital

Staff Report
Murray Ledger & Times

Two people were transported to Murray-Calloway County Hospital after a two-vehicle collision Tuesday afternoon.

Eric Griffy, 33, of Murray, was traveling southbound on Doran Road when another vehicle pulled into his path, according to a release from the Murray Police Department. The second vehicle was driven by Francis Burke, 42, of Murray. Burke was on Holiday Drive.

MPD received the call for the injury accident at 12:48 p.m. Tuesday. Murray Fire Department also responded.

EMS transported both people to MCCH. Griffy was treated and released and Burke was not admitted, a hospital spokeswoman said this morning.

Policy ...

From Front

anything."

CEO Jon O'Shaughnessy said Murray-Calloway County Hospital increased its charitable giving in the most recent fiscal year, which ended Sept. 30. That amount increased \$724,713 from about \$1.7 million to more than \$2.4 million, according to the hospital's financial statements.

"It's a significant commitment we have to the community," O'Shaughnessy said.

The hospital is reimbursed for some of its charitable giving, but it also has to pay into a state tax provider that is used to match federal funding.

In recent years, health care

organizations pay out more than comes back, a reverse from earlier years, according to MCCH consultant Todd Dougan. MCCH paid \$1,627,471 during the most recent fiscal year while receiving only about \$650,000, according to financial statements.

The Angel's Clinic was established in February 2000 to provide health care to the low-income working class. Clients can not be eligible for health insurance and at least one family member must be working. Physicians and dentists, including their medical support staffs, as well as nurse practitioners, pharmacists and lay workers, volunteer their time to provide the necessary services.

Since opening, the clinic has had 2,634 labs performed for the 2,996 medical and 208 dental patient visits, according to information provided by the clinic in September.

The clinic is housed in hospital-owned property at 1005 Poplar St. The Angel's Clinic board pays \$1 annually in its rent agreement with MCCH, which also provides basic yard maintenance and most utilities.

Angel's Clinic volunteers renovated the facility. That effort included designing and creating four exam rooms, replacing floors, installing plumbing, wiring, installing new plumbing, replacing the heating and cooling system and equipping the clinic.

Angel's Clinic representatives said free services had been provided based on a 1999 agreement. A letter co-signed by the clinic's founding chair, Donna Herndon, and the hospital's then-CEO, Stuart Poston, was included in Norvell's presentation Tuesday.

Herndon said patients were first billed in July.

"I know there was something in place that didn't make our patients pay," said Herndon, who now serves as the Angel's Clinic board vice chair. "I know this because our patients weren't billed. Now they are billed."

O'Shaughnessy said he searched through MCCH board meeting minutes dating back

through 1999 and could not find any evidence of an agreement. He said when he came to MCCH earlier this year, charity giving was evaluated on a case-by-case basis. He and the board wanted a general protocol with the intentions of treating all patients the same.

"I don't think it is ethical to approve one and deny another," he said. "A policy should take care of that."

The lack of record is another in a growing list of unwritten policies at the hospital. "This may reflect on difficulties we are having in other areas of the hospital because of prior administrations," Rose said.

The board approved Tuesday several personnel policies in order to document current practices at the hospital. One policy allows the hospital's active retirees to receive a discount for medications purchased from the Medical Arts Pharmacy. The discount applies to retirees and their spouses and will remain in effect unless altered by the board.

"We were implementing a benefit without documentation," said the board's personnel com-

mittee chair, Dave Garrison. "It was another one of those things that just evolved over time."

The pharmacy discount benefit would terminate should the Medical Arts Pharmacy transfer to another entity. O'Shaughnessy said he had four written responses to the hospital's request for proposal for a third party to lease the Medical Arts Pharmacy. The board approved allowing hospital management to evaluate the offers, which all make a three-to five-year commitment in their lease proposals.

"You don't want to be rolling in and out of tenant relationships," O'Shaughnessy said.

A policy addressing on-call and call-back compensation also was approved Tuesday. On-call employees must be available to work within 30 minutes and are given a flat \$2 hourly rate, regardless of day of week or time of day, according to the policy. Any employee who responds to a call back will receive a minimum of two hours on-call pay regardless of the time actually worked.

Garrison said this policy, as well as the others, allows for more accountability. A third policy allows increased starting compensation for skilled experience

"It's not a change in practice, it's just documentation," he said.

WEATHER

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Obituaries

Charles Roehrig Hopkins

Charles Roehrig Hopkins, 25, Highland Lake Drive, Richmond, died Monday, Nov. 29, 2004, at his home.



Hopkins

He was a member of the White Oak Pond Christian Church, where he was a member of the White Oak Pond Youth Group, and was involved with the Special Olympics as a volunteer.

Survivors include his parents, Ronald L. Hopkins and Sharon S. Hopkins, both of Richmond; two brothers, Stephen Edward Hopkins, Atlanta, Ga., and David Laurence Hopkins, Richmond; his paternal grandfather, Robert S. Hopkins, and a special niece, Andrea L. Ballard, both of Richmond.

Other survivors include maternal uncles and aunts, Terry Joe Sledd and Joette Sledd Shields, both of Murray, Greg and Dawn Hollamon, Crittenden County, and Bruce and Renee Turnbow, Henderson, Tenn.; maternal cousins, Jessica Norwood, California, Ralph Norwood, Marshall County, Mary and Micah Hollamon, Crittenden County, and Chris, Ruth Ann, Paige, Emily and Maggie Drew, Murray; paternal uncles and aunts, Robert W. Hopkins, Hilton Head, Richard and Marty Hopkins, Knoxville; and paternal cousins, Robert H. Hopkins and Michael Hopkins, North Carolina, Matthew and Heather Hopkins, Knoxville, and Nathan Hopkins, New Mexico.

He was born Oct. 16, 1979, in Richmond. Preceding him in death were his grandparents, Isabelle R. Hopkins and Joseph and Larue Sledd.

The funeral was at 11 a.m. today (Wednesday) at White Oak Pond Christian Church with the Rev. Dr. Russell Rechenbach and the Rev. Nancy Long officiating.

Pallbearers were Joe Rucker, Charles (Nicky) Rucker, Kyle Purvis, Patrick Eidson, Ryan Eidson, Justin Nelson, Richard Hopkins, Michael Hopkins and Chris Drew.

Oldham, Roberts & Powell Funeral Home, Richmond, was in charge of arrangements.

Expressions of sympathy may be made to White Oak Pond Christian Church Building Fund, 1238 Barnes Mill Road, Richmond, Ky., 40475.

Lloyd Smith

The funeral for Lloyd Smith is today (Wednesday) at 1 p.m. in the chapel of Collier Funeral Home, Benton. Bill McCormick and Andy Walker will officiate. Burial will follow in the Edwards Cemetery.

Visitation is now at the funeral home. Mr. Smith, 86, Golf Course Road, Benton, died Monday, Nov. 29, 2004, in the long-term care unit of Marshall County Hospital.

Retired from Standard Oil, he was owner of Smith Radiator. An Army Air Corps veteran of World War II, he was a member of Mayfield Post of Disabled American Veterans and of Union Hill Church of Christ, Hardin.

He was the son of the late Cleavie and Ersy Crouse Smith. One brother, Noble Smith, and wife, Charlene, also preceded him in death.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Cora Mae Smith, to whom he was married for 58 years; one daughter, Mrs. Cheryl Walker and husband, Joe, Kuttawa; one son Dennis Smith and wife, Kim, Benton; two sisters, Mrs. Odellé Norsworthy, Allen Park, Mich., and Mrs. Mary Nell Colvin, Athens, Ala.; one brother, Henry T. (Curly) Smith, Taylor, Mich.; four grandchildren, Lindsey Smith, Jana Smith, Andy Walker and wife, Stephanie, and Lana Walker.

Jimmy D. Downing

The funeral for Jimmy D. Downing will be today (Wednesday) at 1 p.m. in the chapel of J.H. Churchill Funeral Home. Officiating will be the Rev. Robert McKinney and the Rev. Deborah Webb. Music will be by the Gospel Echoes.

Active pallbearers will be Eric Ramsey, Max Gore, Dale Woodall, Ricky Woodall, Keith Mitchell, Joey Ramsey, Jeff Ramsey and Ronnie Conner, all nephews. Honorary pallbearers will be his former coworkers of Marshall County refuse and road departments. Burial will follow in the Brooks Chapel Cemetery.

Visitation is now at the funeral home. Mr. Downing, 62, Trout Road, Hardin, died Sunday, Nov. 28, 2004, at 7 a.m. at his home.

A member of Brooks Chapel United Methodist Church, he was a former used car dealer. He was born Oct. 25, 1942, in Calloway County. His father, Lonnie Downing, preceded him in death.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Donna Ramsey Downing, to whom he was married Dec. 30, 1960; his mother, Mrs. Earline Smith Downing, Hardin; one sister, Mrs. Betty Hottell and husband, Dave, Loxley, Ala.; aunt, Mrs. Evelyn Jordan, Hardin; uncle, Minus Smith and wife, Verdean, Paducah; several nieces and nephews.

Peterson hears mother-in-law's wrath

REDWOOD CITY, Calif. (AP) — Scott Peterson simply watched as his former mother-in-law rose out of the witness chair and screamed at him for killing his pregnant wife, Laci.

Sharon Rocha, wearing a gold heart-shaped pendant with a picture of her daughter in it, took the stand Tuesday in the penalty phase of Peterson's murder trial. She wrapped up the state's case the same day it began, giving the most emotional testimony of four family members called to the stand. Laci's older brother, younger sister and stepfather also spoke.

"She wanted to be a mother. That was taken away from her," Rocha said to Peterson, who was convicted Nov. 12 for the 2002 murders of his wife and the 8-month-old fetus she was carrying.

Rocha went on, her voice cracking.

"Divorce was always an option — not murder," Rocha said in a voice so loud that some jurors jumped.

At one point, Peterson dabbed his eyes with a tissue. Jurors will recommend whether

the 32-year-old former fertilizer salesman should be executed or get life in prison without the possibility of parole for the 2002 murders.

Throughout the testimony, prosecutors displayed photographs of Laci, including one from Mother's Day 2002. Taken a week after Laci's 27th birthday, the picture showed Laci, her mother and her grandmother.

Mother's Day, Rocha told the jury, would never be the same.

"The first Mother's Day (after her death) I laid on the floor and I cried most of the day because she should have been there," she sobbed, her chest heaving.

"I can hear her giggling," Rocha said, gazing at a larger-than-life image of her daughter displayed on a white wall screen. "She didn't just smile, she would giggle. She would kind of bend over when she would laugh."

Earlier, prosecutor Dave Harris said Laci's death left a hole in her family's hearts "that can never be repaired."

"When the defendant dumped the bodies of his wife



Peterson



Rocha

and unborn son into the bay, those ripples spread out and they touched many, many lives," Harris told jurors.

The only appropriate punishment, he said, is death.

Prosecutors had argued at trial that Peterson strangled or smothered his wife in their Modesto home on or around Christmas Eve 2002, then dumped her body into San Francisco Bay. The remains were discovered four months later a few miles from where Scott Peterson claims to have been fishing the day his wife vanished.

"It was just the worst thing you could think about, like a

nightmare," Amy Rocha, Laci's younger sister, said, describing how she felt as she helped search for her sister.

Brent Rocha, Laci's older brother, said he tries to remember the good times they shared, but those memories are "overshadowed all the time by how she died ... and maybe her knowing who did it."

"I don't think I've ever heard her be more excited than the day she called me up to tell me she was pregnant," he said. "She was going to be a great mother."

The defense was expected to begin presenting its case Wednesday. Witnesses testifying on Peterson's behalf can speak about anything that might show him in a favorable light as his attorneys try to convince jurors his life is worth sparing.

Town Crier

NOTICE

■ The Calloway County Fiscal Court will meet in special session Thursday at 3 p.m. in the courthouse to consider options for health insurance.

■ The Murray Independent Schools Board of Education will meet in special session Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Administration Building. An executive session about possible litigation is planned.

■ The Calloway County Local Emergency Planning Committee will meet at 2 p.m. Dec. 20 in room 146 of the I&T Building at Murray State. Possible discussion will center on interoperability radio systems.

■ To report a Town Crier item, call 753-1916.

Ukraine parliament brings down government

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukraine's parliament brought down the government today, approving a no-confidence motion as international mediators gathered in the capital to try to bring the spiraling political crisis to a peaceful resolution.

The dramatic vote came only days after the Election Commission certified Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich as winner of Ukraine's disputed presidential run-off, though opposition leader Victor Yushchenko has said the vote was fraudulent — an allegation backed by Western governments.

The vote with 229 in favor came minutes after the 450-member chamber initially turned down the motion by a vote of 222-1, and after outgoing President Leonid Kuchma announced he supported holding an entire new presidential election, not just a revote of the disputed second round.

Ukraine had a first round of voting in which no one candidate received more than half the votes, setting up a runoff between the top two candidates. The results from the Nov. 21 runoff provoked a national standoff when the opposition refused to accept them, citing vote fraud — a charge backed by many international monitors.

"Where in the world do they have a third round of elections? A revote — it's a farce," Kuchma said at a government meeting. "I never supported it because it is unconstitutional."

The opposition has sought a revote, claiming victory was stolen from its candidate, Viktor Yushchenko.

Kuchma's proposal seemed to be an attempt to buy the government time in the face of mass protests that have paralyzed the capital for 10 days and blocked government business. It also opened up the possibility of bringing new candidates into the race — which the government has appeared to favor and the opposition fiercely opposes.

But following parliament's no-confidence vote, Kuchma must dismiss his government,

said Kiev-based analyst Markian Bilynskyj. Pro-communist parliamentary groups used a similar move in 2001 to oust Yushchenko from the prime minister's post, Bilynskyj said.

As Ukraine's politicians staked out their positions, international mediators renewed efforts to defuse the crisis and the Supreme Court considered whether the election results were valid.

The last internationally brokered negotiations broke down over opposition accusations that the government was trying to consolidate its flagging authority by dragging out the talks. Yushchenko is pushing to be declared the outright winner — or for a fast revote to capitalize on the momentum generated by the protests.

European Union foreign policy chief Javier Solana arrived in Kiev Tuesday and was to be followed by Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski and the secretary general of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Jan Kubis. The speaker of the Russian parliament, Boris Gryzlov, and Lithuanian President Valdas Adamkus were also expected to participate.

Mediators helped arrange talks between Yanukovich and Yushchenko last Friday, but the opposition pulled out of those talks on Tuesday.

Progress made in Currin case

MAYFIELD, Ky. (AP) — Graves County Commonwealth's Attorney David Hargrave said he's presented some information to a grand jury about the unsolved death of Jessica Currin.

Currin's beaten, burned body was found behind Mayfield Middle School on Aug. 1, 2000.

Hargrave said he's held discussions with the office of Kentucky Attorney General Greg Stumbo about possible state research or prosecutorial help.

"We are still not at the point of issuing any arrest warrants," Hargrave said.

Mayfield police arrested a suspect and charged him with the slaying, but a judge dismissed the case in 2003 after finding that a detective failed to turn over evidence in a timely manner.

Joe Currin, Jessica's father, said living with his daughter's murder doesn't get easier. "It won't until we get some answers," he said Monday, Jessica's 23rd birthday. "We miss her badly on the holidays."

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MURRAY LEDGER & TIMES

ALICE ROUSE

ERIC WALKER

Publisher

Managing Editor

Where there is no vision, the people perish.

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Opportunity for red-state Democrats

If Democrats want to get back in the "values" game and change the perception of their party as being full of secularists intent on removing any reference to God from culture and even the history of America,



Cal's Thoughts
By Cal Thomas
Syndicated Columnist

they can start in the government schools. That's where reverent or favorable mentions of God are often prohibited, but using His name as a curse word is protected by the same First Amendment that supposedly pro-

hibits the favorable mention of His name.

Democrats have an ideal case that they could make their own in the San Francisco suburb of Cupertino, where a fifth-grade public school teacher has filed a discrimination lawsuit against his school. The teacher, Steven Williams, says he has been prohibited by the school principal, Patricia Vidmar, from teaching the Declaration of Independence and other founding documents of the United States because they often refer to God.

It's one thing to ban contemporary attempts to use the schools to proselytize. It is quite another to censor history. It is a fact beyond dispute that the Founders often referred to God or "Divine Providence" or "the Almighty" in their public lives. Ignoring or censoring such facts presents a false history of our nation and denies students their right to know the truth.

According to Williams' lawsuit, among the other materials rejected by the principal were George Washington's journal, John Adams' diary, Samuel Adams' "The Rights of the Colonists" and William Penn's "The Frame of Government of Pennsylvania."

Democrats could make political hay for their party and do a good deed for public school students by opposing the extension of political correctness to history books and historical documents.

Attempts to expunge references to God, past or present, are not limited to one California school. In Maryland, there is a dispute concerning what may and may not be properly taught in that state's public schools.

The Washington Times carried a Capital News Service (CNS) story Nov. 23 that reported that when teachers instruct about the 17th-century

origins of Thanksgiving, they can only say the Pilgrims thanked the Indians and cannot say they also thanked God for their safe journey and for the bounty set before them.

The story quoted Charles Ridgell, the director of curriculum and instruction for St. Mary's County Public Schools (they had better change the county's name to something other than "St. Mary's" to be consistent): "We teach about Thanksgiving from a purely historical perspective, not from a religious perspective." It is impossible to accurately teach about Thanksgiving without including the "religious perspective." The Pilgrims believed they were directed by God to make their journey to America and owed thanks to Him for a safe trip and good crops.

Maryland Gov. Robert L. Ehrlich Jr., a Republican, disputes the CNS report. He says the state does not bar teachers from addressing the religious aspects of Thanksgiving. But school administrators from several Maryland counties said they don't include religious materials in their curriculums. So while the state may not ban religious historical references, local officials apparently are doing so on their own authority.

This is a ready-made issue for Democrats to jump on and save the history of our country. While they're at it, they might also want to look at efforts by certain Islamists to infiltrate public schools with teachings about their religion.

As Daniel Pipes detailed in the Nov. 24 issue of FrontPageMagazine.com, the 15th tip in a list of "18 tips for Imams and Community Leaders" from the Islamic Web site www.SoundVision.com is "Establish a parents' committee to monitor public schools." The committee, Pipes writes, is to "arrange for Muslims to deliver talks about Islam and Muslims" in the schools.

Pipes summarizes other suggestions from www.DawaNet.com, including: "Lobby to include Islamic dates on the school calendar;" "Add books and magazines about Islam . . . to the school library;" and "Incorporate Islam into class projects. For example, if students are required to give a speech in class and they can choose any topic, an Islamic subject should be selected. Similar opportunities can be created in history, social science, writing and other classes."

So, while the history and faith of our own country is being erased and a spiritual vacuum created, Islamists are rushing to fill that vacuum with the history and faith of another country. Will Democrats ride to the rescue?



That's not Bush's mandate

The Christian right has sought to portray the president's re-election as a victory for their moral agenda, claiming that it was a mandate to legislate further curbs on abortion and to approve draconian Supreme Court nominees.



Morris Advisory
By Dick Morris
Syndicated Columnist

In fact, the president's victory was about terrorism, terrorism and terrorism. It was his steady hand in Iraq and his commitment to battle the "axis of evil" that won him a second term.

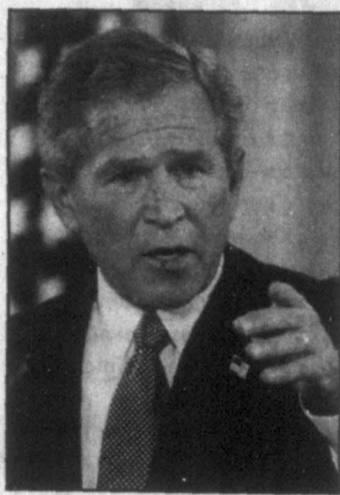
The only basis for the assertions tying President Bush's win to his embrace of their social agenda is exit-polling data indicating that 22 percent of the voters cited "moral" issues as the basis for their vote. But to tie their comments to abortion, which was not an issue, rather than to gay marriage, which was a huge issue, is a misinterpretation of the information.

The election had nothing to do with abortion. To the extent that moral issues played a part, it was the left's overreaching on the gay-marriage issue that kindled a massive rebuttal from the right and the center.

The true moral message of this election was not to use the judicial or the legislative process to enact a moral agenda — left or right — which is out of step with the national consensus. Those voters who opposed a Massachusetts judge and a San Francisco mayor ratifying gay marriage are also likely to oppose a president and a Senate trying to jam doctrinaire pro-life justices down our national throat.

Second-term presidents frequently fail by misinterpreting their victories as a mandate for extreme policies. Most famously, FDR used his heavy 1936 majority to try to pack the Supreme Court, a move that cost him such national credibility that he was unable to implement his second term despite huge majorities in Congress.

Bush can and should use his "political capital" to press his domestic agenda of tax reform



AP File Photo

and Social Security changes. He is courageous to tackle these issues and, if his proposals are wisely designed, will succeed.

But he will not prevail if he plunges himself into a battle for the pro-life agenda. Fewer than a quarter of all Americans want abortion to be illegal. If Bush squanders his capital on this battle, he will not be able again to capture a national mandate. Second-term presidents who lose their popularity also lose their power. Very quickly.

On another front, Bush has

moved wisely to replace his Cabinet with veteran White House staffers. Most presidents restock their Cabinet with deputy or assistant or under secretaries from these same agencies, or just reshuffle the deck of Cabinet members, giving them new portfolios.

Both strategies are a recipe for losing control. But by replacing the Cabinet with his staff, Bush has moved to hold in check these centrifugal tendencies and keep all of the executive branch in his domain, not just the White House itself.

Bush is also wisely interpreting his re-election as a mandate to win in Iraq and to increase pressure on North Korea and Iran. He is doing well in using his mandate to reshuffle the intelligence community — and should not take a military or a congressional "no" for an answer.

But the abortion debate is a swamp in which a Republican president can lose his way and eviscerate his power while failing to accomplish his agenda. Beware.

Dick Morris was an adviser to Bill Clinton for 20 years.

The commander who refused to command

The biographer of Confederate General Braxton Bragg, writing a two-volume work, allegedly took such a dislike to Bragg that he gave up the project at the end of the first volume. Perhaps that sheds light on why there has never been a biography of the equally unlikable Union General Henry W. Halleck.



Southern Seen
By Larry McGehee
Syndicated Columnist

John F. Marszalek, a seasoned Civil War historian, has filled that void with "Commander of All Lincoln's Armies: A Life of General Henry W. Halleck" (Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2004, 324 pp.).

Halleck gets prominent play in most Civil War histories, in both the general histories and histories of specific commanders, but except for a one-sided essay published long after

Halleck died by Halleck's best friend, General George W. Cullum, who inherited Halleck's extensive wealth by marrying Halleck's widow and outliving her, very little has been published about Halleck himself.

The first part of Marszalek's book makes one wonder why Halleck was ignored by history. He was a New Yorker, a graduate of Union College and then of West Point, so brilliant that he was already teaching at West Point before he graduated.

He wrote several books, including one that became a textbook at West Point, translated the military volumes of the famous French military genius, Andre Henry Jomini, that influenced a generation of West Pointers and the conduct of the Civil War, studied military fortifications in Germany, served in California where he made a fortune on the side as a legal arbi-

trator of law claims and as one of the founders of the state of California, claimed southern California for the United States during the Mexican War, and by the time that war came in 1861, was hailed (along with Robert E. Lee and George B. McClellan) as one of the "most-likely-to-succeed" from Old Army ranks.

Appointed major general of the California militia, Halleck was soon summoned East to the Union army. Assigned to Missouri, he succeeded the incompetent General Fremont, and rose to national attention when one of his officers, a hard-drinking Ulysses Grant, took Forts Henry and Donelson and then turned defeat into victory at Shiloh.

Then Halleck assigned Grant to invisible menial roles and took charge of the western army himself, spending months inching from Shiloh to Corinth which was finally evacuated with little loss to the Union troops.

Like McClellan who tried to do the same thing at Richmond on the Peninsula, Halleck seemed to think the war could be won by maneuvers instead of battles.

When McClellan vacillated and Lincoln's patience with him finally was exhausted, Halleck replaced McClellan as general of the Union armies by calling Halleck to Washington to take the office Winfield Scott (Halleck's mentor) had occupied for decades before surrendering it to McClellan.

Halleck proved to be an awful disappointment. The commander refused to command. He kept paperwork flowing and provided supplies and reinforcements to the various armies of the North, but he would not leave his office to inspect front-line conditions nor to give orders to his generals.

Occasionally he would make suggestions-when not chastising generals for failing to follow records-keeping procedures-

but always made it clear that all decisions of when and where and how to fight were those of generals in the field, and certainly not his.

As his star faded, his stressfulness increased; he was sickly and probably an opium addict (from using opium to relieve his hemorrhoids), and he had only one friend. Lincoln tolerated him because of his past reputation as a great military genius, but finally even Lincoln gave up on him.

After Grant's victories at Vicksburg and Chattanooga, Grant was made commander of all Union armies, and Halleck was demoted to chief of staff, the first time for such a structure in the American military command and one that proved useful in wars yet ahead.

After the war, Halleck was assigned to command Richmond, then California (where he proved useful when Alaska was acquired from Russia), and then was assigned to Louisville in charge of all U.S. troops in the entire South, where-much evidence to the contrary-he blithely reported to Washington that there was no such organization as the Ku Klux Klan in the South.

Self-deluded, shielded by his self-constructed superiority complex, refusing after age 16 to ever speak to his father (but buying his farm when the father died), arrogant and insolent, Halleck died in 1871.

His friend and beneficiary, Cullum, later arranged for a statue of him in California and a bust of him at West Point, but when he was buried in Brooklyn, New York newspapers ignored his funeral. It was a scene of public disdain reminiscent of the neglected grave of Ebenezer Scrooge in the visitation of the final Christmas spirit.

Larry McGehee, professor and vice president at Wofford, may be reached by e-mail at mcgeheel@wofford.edu.
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Letters to the Editor Policy

✓ Letters may be sent to P.O. Box 1040, Murray, KY 42071, faxed to 270-753-1927, or e-mailed to editor@murrayledger.com.

✓ Letters mailed or faxed must be signed and have address and phone number. E-mailed letters must have address and phone number.

✓ Letters should be kept between 300-400 words and must be typed. Handwritten letters will not be published.

✓ The Murray Ledger & Times reserves the right to edit or reject any letter on the basis of length, style, spelling, grammar, libel, good taste and frequent contributors to the Forum page. Letters of a "thank you" nature that single out sponsors, businesses or individuals by name, except those directed toward the community as a whole, will not be accepted.

COMMUNITY

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Character Counts Team plans meeting on Thursday



Jo's Datebook
By Jo Burkeen
Community
Editor

Join the Character Counts Team of Trustworthiness, Responsibility, Respect, Fairness, Caring and Citizenship.

Team members say it's terrific to be a participant in the recognition of the good character traits in our youth and our community!

Citizens who are interested in being a part of the team are invited to attend the Character Counts Coalition meeting Thursday at 1 p.m. in the meeting room of Calloway County Board of Education.

For more information call Doris Clark Parham at 762-5429, Jan Wilson at 762-7410 or Trish Barton at 762-7333.

Health Express lists stop

Health Express of Murray-Calloway County Hospital will offer blood pressure checks, pulse checks and osteoporosis health scans on Thursday from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 to 3 p.m. at Cheri Theaters in Murray.

Donated items needed for families

Angel Alerts have been issued by the Calloway County Family Resource Center. A standard washing machine is needed by a single mother. A reliable transportation van is needed for a large family. Anyone having either one to donate call the center at 762-7333.

Compassionate Friends plan service

Compassionate Friends will have a memorial candlelighting service on Thursday at 7 p.m. at University Church of Christ. For more information contact MCCH Chaplain Kerry Lambert at 762-1274 or Hilda Bennett at 498-8324.

Glory Bound will be on Thursday

Two groups, Lifeline and Messengers, will be featured at Glory Bound Entertainment on Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Weaks Community Center. Open Mic Time is featured in the second hour. This is sponsored by Goshen United Methodist Church. The public is invited and there is no charge. Items for Need Line will be taken. For more information call Joe Lawrence at 753-5643, Renee Taylor at 753-8124 or Jill Alton at 753-1592.

Clothes Closet open on Thursday

Dexter Baptist Church Clothes Closet will be open on Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon at the church at Dexter. For information call Linda Young, coordinator, at 437-4890.

MHS Backboard Club will meet

Murray High School Backboard Club will meet today at 5:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

MCMA concert will be Thursday

Murray Civic Music Association will have its "Holiday Pops Concert" featuring the Louisville Orchestra on Thursday at 7 p.m. at Murray State University Lovett Auditorium. Tickets will be available at the door. For information call 753-4446.

Federation of Blind plans fundraiser

The National Federation of the Blind Murray Chapter will have its annual fundraiser auction Saturday at 11 a.m. at the Weaks Community Center. Area businesses have donated various items for the auction along with donations from individuals in the community. For more information on the auction or to make a donation, call Danny Perry, president, at 753-0911.

Live Nativity Scene starts Friday

Live Nativity Scene will be shown Friday and Saturday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Coles Camp Ground United Methodist Church. This includes six scenes to walk through including live camels. Refreshments will be served. Also assisting will be Independence, Kirksey, Palestine and Temple Hill churches.

Singles plan Christmas Dance Friday

Murray Singles Organization will have its Christmas Dance 2004 on Friday from 7 to 11 p.m. at Gibson building, 715 East Broadway, Mayfield. DJ Gary Long will provide the music. The cost will be \$6 per person. Each is asked to bring a snack to share. Coffee and soft drinks will be provided. All singles are invited. For information call Jackie at 1-270-247-7754 or Helen at 761-3141.

Santa will be at Kroger Saturday

Santa will be at the Kroger Store in Murray on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. as a promotion for Relay for Life. Persons are urged to come by and have their pictures made with Santa.

MHS Fastpitch Club will meet

Murray High School Fastpitch Club will meet tonight at 6:15 p.m. at the school.

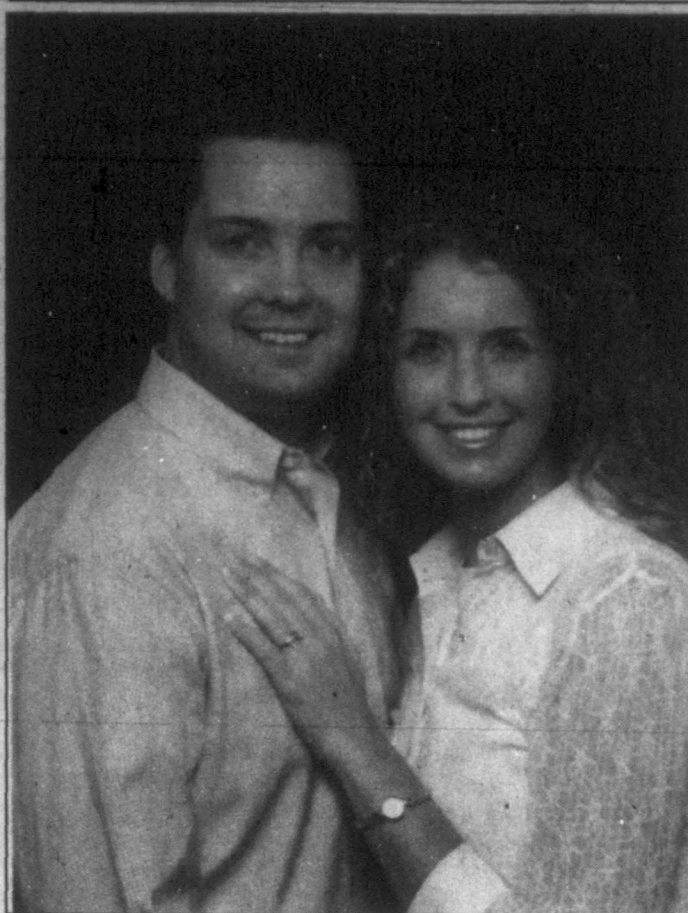
Music Chorus practice Saturday

The Chorus of the Music Department of the Murray Woman's Club will have a practice Saturday at 11:15 a.m. in preparation for the Holiday Open House on Sunday at 2 p.m.

Garden Department will meet

Garden Department of the Murray Woman's Club will have a Christmas potluck luncheon Thursday at noon at the club house. Each one should bring a \$5 wrapped gift for the Chinese auction, and items for Need Line. Hostesses will be Marlene Beach, Martha Crafton, Cathy Mathis and Sally Leedom.

Engagement



Henson and Singleton

Linda King of Paducah and Michael Henson of Mayfield announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Aimee Renee Henson, to Patrick Wayne Singleton, son of James and Jean Singleton of Lexington.

Miss Henson is the granddaughter of Bob and Laura McDougal of Nashville, Tenn., Carl Jr. and Ann Sarten of Clinton, and Gerry Scott and Rollie Henson of Benton.

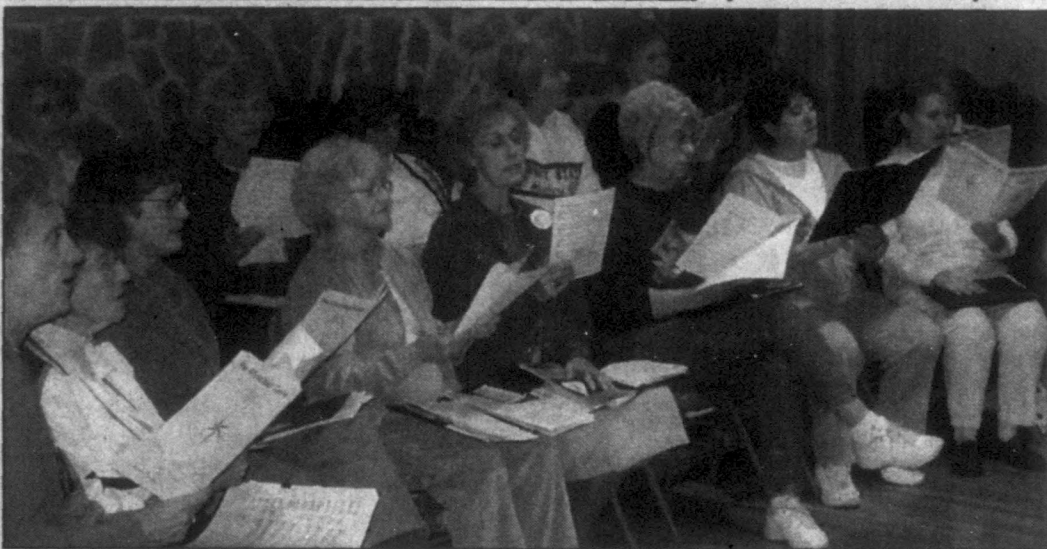
Mr. Singleton is the grandson of the late Claud and Mabel Montgomery of New Salem and the late Oris and Mayme Singleton of Eubank.

The bride-elect is a 1999 graduate of Calloway County High School and a 2004 graduate of the University of Kentucky with a bachelor of business administration degree. She is employed in the Human Resources department of LINPAC Materials Handling in Georgetown.

The groom-elect is a 1995 graduate of Lafayette High School and a 1999 graduate of the University of Kentucky with a bachelor's degree in accounting. He is employed by Crowe Chizek and Company of Lexington.

The wedding will be Saturday, Dec. 11, 2004, at 3:30 p.m. at Gardenside Baptist Church, Lexington.

All relatives and friends are invited.



Pictured are some of the members of the Chorus of the Music Department of the Murray Woman's Club rehearsing for the annual Holiday Open House to be Sunday at 2 p.m. at the club house.

Woman's Club hosts open house

For many years, the Murray Woman's Club has helped to open the holiday season in Murray with a program of festive holiday music presented by members of the community.

This year, the club will have its annual holiday open house on Sunday at 2 p.m. at the club house at Vine and South Seventh Streets, Murray.

The Music Department Chorus of the Woman's Club will

perform "Happy Holiday/White Christmas Medley," "Candlelight Carol," "Let the Bright Red Berries glow," "Some Children See Him" and "The Most Wonderful Time of the Year."

Kathy Mowery is director and Oneida White is accompanist for the chorus.

The program will also include musical selections performed by the Murray High School Choir under the direction of Dr. Bradley Almquist,

Kramer commissioned as Kentucky Colonel

Calloway County resident, Arnold Kramer, was commissioned a Kentucky Colonel, Nov. 17, 2004. The highest honor awarded by the Commonwealth, Kentucky Colonels serve as state ambassadors of good will and fellowship around the world.

Gov. Ernie Fletcher and Lt. Gov. Steve Pence serve as Commander-in-Chief and Deputy Commander-in-Chief, respectively, of the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels. Once a year Kentucky Colonels from all over the world gather for a celebration of fellowship in the true spirit of Kentucky hospitality.

Commissions are presented for contributions to the community, state or nation and for special achievements of all kinds. Many distinguished people such as President Lyndon B. Johnson, English Prime Minister Winston Churchill, Tiger Woods, Dwight Yoakam and Jeff Foxworthy have the honor of bearing the Great Seal of Kentucky on their walls.

Kramer hails from Beloit, Wis. Before moving to Murray, he retired after 30 years of service at Taylor Freezer Co. in Rockton, Ill. He is the son of the late Wallace Kramer of Roscoe, Ill. He was an active member of the South Beloit American Legion Post 288 and the Legion's evening horseshoe league. He was also an active member of the Rock River Threshere in Edgerton, Wis.

Kramer moved to Murray with wife Donna in July of 1998. Both joined the US Coast Guard Auxiliary, Kentucky Lake Flotilla 8-5, in 1999. He serves as a staff officer for Aids to Navigation and is involved in Operations on Kentucky Lake. He participates in setting up and working Auxiliary Booths at area boat shows and other public events. He freely offers

a helping hand to others.

Recently, Kramer was active in area voter registration, phoning and working at Campaign Headquarters for the Democratic Party of Calloway County.

"I take great honor in this award" says Kramer. "There is always good-will in what I can do for my community. Other Colonels whom I respect and admire include Buddy Buckingham and the Honorable Larry Elkins, Calloway County Judge/Executive."

FUN & FASHION

By D.K. Kelley



Christmas can bring out the best or the worst in all of us. If we let ourselves get caught up in the "too much to do syndrome," and over spending on gifts that someone won't even remember next year, we will miss the magic of the season.

The holidays should bring out the best in all of us. Christmas is a time of joy, love and hopefully, peace. As we get together with our friends and families take the time to cherish these memories. It could be different for some reason next year and we wouldn't be able to all be together. Instead of griping about "Uncle Fred," look at his actions with amusement; and realize what a great story it will be some day.

As we come together to think of the deeper meaning of Christmas let's remember it is about love. Let's show our love for others in small ways, even a smile or a compliment to a stranger can make a difference.

Gift giving is great, however, the gift of one's time and one self is much more special and will be remembered longer.

I love the sign "I Believe," it has a variety of meanings depending on how you want to take it. I choose to "believe in the magic of Christmas, and that miracles can happen."

Share the magic of the season with everyone, give generously and receive generously, go about spreading joy and good tidings.

Whether you're looking for yourself something special or someone else, we have it.

We have just received new beautiful brooches, flower pins, headbands, and fabulous shoes for holiday wear.

We also have great evening bags, beautiful shawls and shirtings for your holiday gatherings.

The great thing about all the holiday glamour is that it also pairs perfectly with jeans or casual attire as well.

The Balm is on Oprah's O list, it feels great on your lips and plumps them up to a pretty pout. They smell great too. Everyone loves it. You'll want several colors.

For all your backless and strapless dresses and tops, don't forget about the Nu Bra - that sticks on and is so comfortable.

Also for smoothing and shaping under pants and dresses get your Power Panties.

Our secret sale last week was 20% off handbags, come in this week to see what it will be. Congratulations to Ann Williams who won the pearl brooch and bracelet at Friday's sale.

Quote of the Week: "We cannot live better than in seeking to become better. — Socrates"

Stay tuned to next week's Fun & Fashion report....

P.S. Don't forget to come in and fill out your wish list - so we can call your Santa!

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AP
Notre Dame coach Tyrone Willingham yells at his players during the second quarter against Stanford in South Bend, Ind., in this Oct. 9 photo. Notre Dame fired Willingham after three seasons. Willingham had a record of 21-15, including 6-5 this season.

Willingham ousted at Notre Dame after 3 years

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (AP) — Tyrone Willingham often used the word "more" to describe what it was like to coach at Notre Dame. More pressure. More scrutiny. More urgency.

In the end, though, he got less.

He was fired Tuesday after just three seasons, receiving less time than Bob Davie, Gerry Faust or even Joe Kuharich to turn around Notre Dame's fortunes. He served the shortest tenure of any non-interim coach since Hunk Anderson was there from 1931-33.

Athletic director Kevin White said he doesn't think firing Willingham so quickly, after most Irish coaches received five years, is the sign of a new era.

"If it says anything, it's an underscore of the notion that football is very important at Notre Dame and the competitive expectations are not downwardly negotiable," White said.

Willingham knew that. The school said Willingham didn't wish to speak to the media on Tuesday, but in the past he frequently said no one had higher expectations for Notre Dame than he did.

He said the biggest problem for the Irish was the inability to play well on a regular basis, particularly on offense.

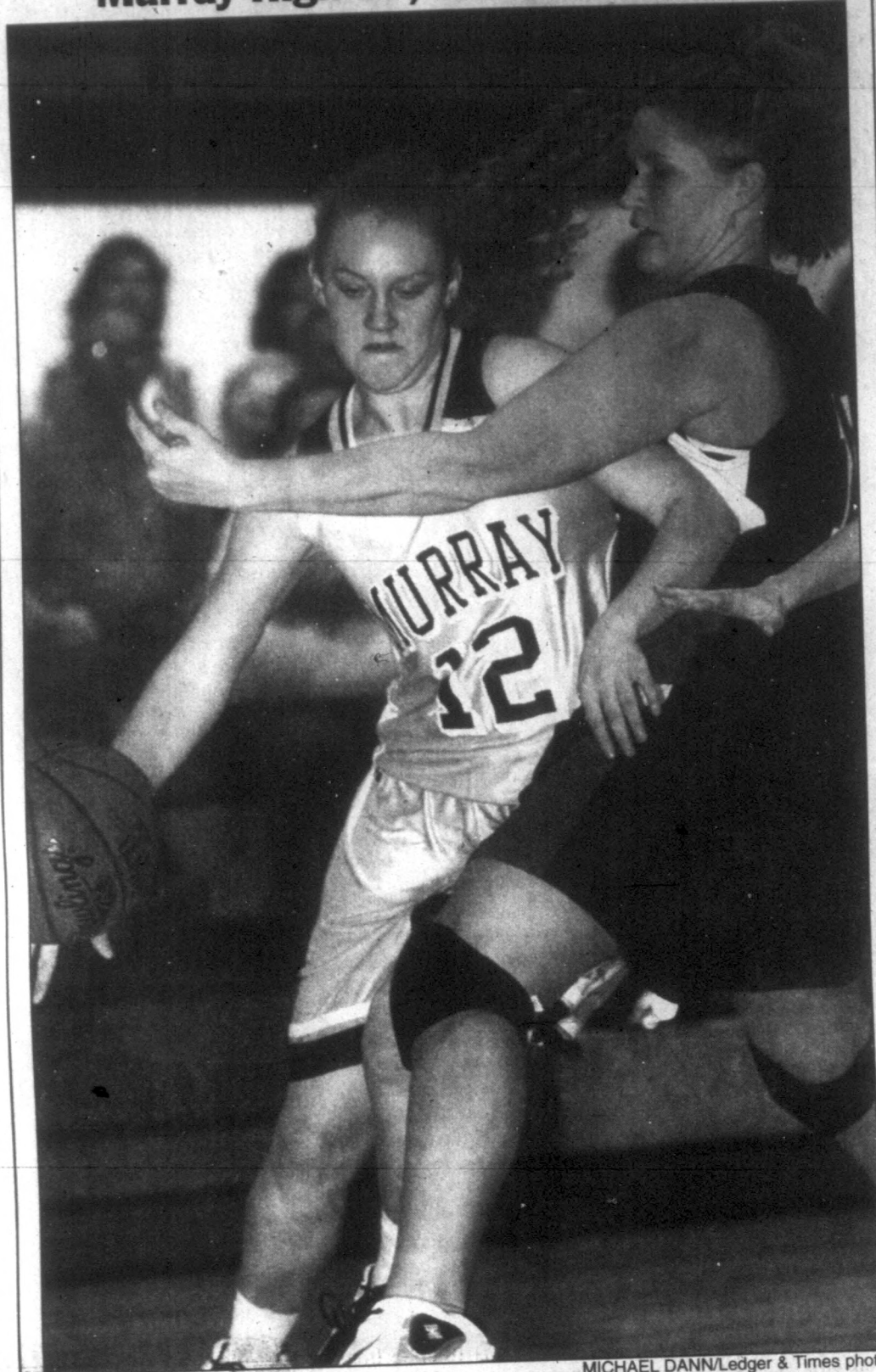
"Because it keeps you from being the consistent winner and creating that momentum that you need," he said heading into the Tennessee game three weeks ago.

White praised Willingham, saying the coach had done everything the school wanted off the field. It was on the field that was the problem.

"We simply have not made the progress on the field that we need to make," White said. "Nor have we been able to create the positive momentum necessary in our efforts to return the Notre Dame program to the elite level of the college football world."

Willingham finishes at Notre Dame with a 21-15 record, a winning percentage of 58.3 percent.

Murray High 77, Hickman Co. 39



MICHAEL DANN/Ledger & Times photo
Lady Tiger senior Breanna Volp works her way around a Hickman County defender during the third quarter of Tuesday's season opener at Murray High School. Volp finished with three points as the Lady Tigers topped the Lady Falcons 77-39.

Turner prophetic in Lady Tiger victory

By MICHAEL DANN
Sports Writer

Rechelle Turner needs to think about moonlighting as a psychic.

The Murray High School girls' basketball head coach gazed into her crystal ball prior to Tuesday night's showdown with Hickman County and came away knowing two things.

One, she knew her squad was going to have a shaky first quarter. Two, Turner has a notion she will have a different leading scorer each night the Lady Tigers take the court.

Not even Miss Cleo could have done a better job of predicting than Turner's assessment Tuesday as her Lady Tigers hammered Hickman County 77-39 in the season opener for both teams.

Senior Katie Garland led

Lady Tigers 77, Hickman Co. 39				
Hickman Co.	12	2	9	16
Murray	13	28	17	19
Hickman (39)				
Yates 14, Byassee 7, Humphreys 0, Watson 2, Smith 1, Welkman 2, Hobbs 4, Rushing 1, Farlee 0, Weatherford 0, Hancock 2. Totals 10-45 16-23 39.				
Murray (77)				
Thurman 15, Volp 3, Garland 17, Sears 11, Dunn 9, Huston 10, Cunningham 2, Elias 0, Scarborough 8, Jenkins 0, Bledsoe 0, McCuiston 2. Totals 29-59 16-30 77.				
Three-point goals — HCHS (Yates 2), MHS (Dunn). Fouled out — None. Rebounds — HCHS 12, MHS 30.				

the Lady Tigers with a game-high 17 points as Murray High (1-0) had four players in double figures en route to the win. Lisa Thurman tacked on 15 points, while Allen County-Scottsville transfer Whitney Sears had 11. Jordan Huston came off the bench for 10 points.

"We are going to have two

or three people in double figures," Turner said. "and at least two or three people that we can count on to lead us. Right now, the thing that is so special about this team is how unselfish they are. We gave up shots to make an extra pass to have a better shot."

"That's one thing, as a coach, you have to be proud of the first game — the fact there are people on the floor not caring about stats, but caring about the team."

And just like Turner suspected, her 13-12 first quarter advantage over the Lady Falcons (0-1) wasn't indicative of just how good her team can be.

"I told the kids before the game started that we weren't going to have a very good first quarter," Turner said. "It takes

■ See MHS Page 7A

Azubuike, UK light up OVC foe Tuesday

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) — Kelenna Azubuike found the way out of a season-long shooting slump — keep shooting.

Azubuike scored 21 points — just two off his career high — and No. 8 Kentucky routed Tennessee Tech 92-63 on Tuesday night.

Chuck Hayes overcame foul trouble to add 17 points and 11 rebounds for Kentucky (4-0) in its last basketball game before playing at No. 9 North Carolina on Saturday.



Azubuike's emergence came at an opportune time for the Wildcats, who will play the Tar Heels, Indiana and Louisville on successive Saturdays in December.

Azubuike averaged 11.1 points per game last season and was expected to fill a larger role in Kentucky's offense this season. But the junior swingman entered Tuesday's game averaging 9.3 points and shooting 39.4 percent for the season. He made one 3-point attempt in 11 tries.

For a player who scored 3,530 points during his high school career in Oklahoma, Azubuike's slump was somewhat of a mystery to some, but not to Kentucky coach Tubby Smith.

"We've talked about taking it to the rim," Smith said of Azubuike. "With his athleticism, there's no reason he shouldn't

take it to the rim.

"He looked very relaxed. He played with focus. Twenty-two minutes and 21 points — that's impressive."

Against the Golden Eagles (1-3) of the Ohio Valley Conference, Azubuike went 7-of-12 from the field and made half of his six 3-point attempts. He just missed his career high, set last season in a loss to Georgia.

"Kelenna struggled a bit, but he didn't tonight," said Tennessee Tech coach Mike Sutton, a former Kentucky assistant. "He got some easy scoring opportunities."

Kentucky led 44-38 early in the second half when Azubuike started a 19-3 run with a three-point play. He had two of the Wildcats' four 3-pointers during the run, which ended with Kentucky ahead 63-41 with 12:46 left.

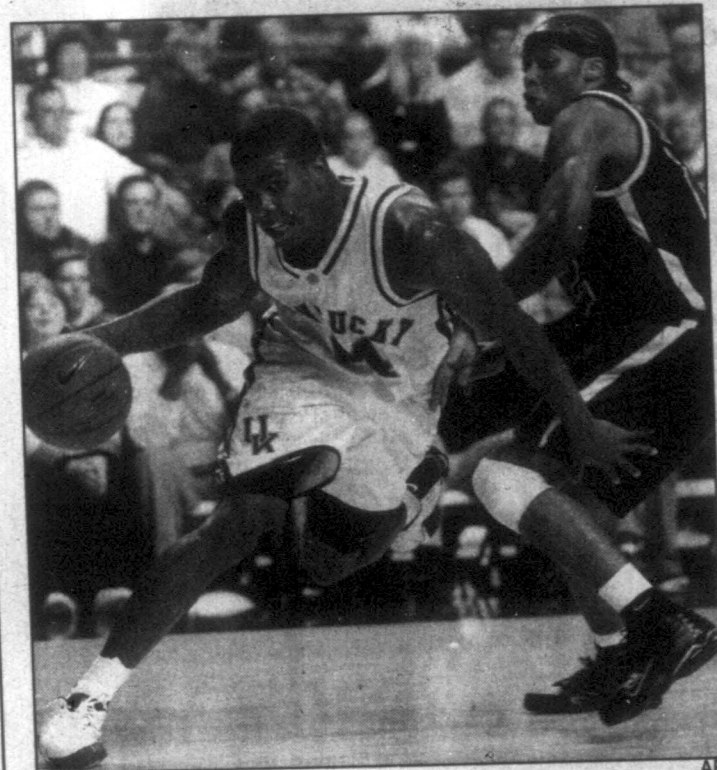
"We played the game the right way in the second half," Smith said. "It came at the right time."

Tennessee Tech came no closer than 19 points after that. Kentucky extended its lead to as many as 34 points.

Kentucky raised its average winning margin this season to 24.5 points. But the best that can be said of the Wildcats' opponents thus far — Coppin State, Ball State and Georgia State were the others — is that they are little-known.

The same can't be said for North Carolina.

"That's why you come to Kentucky, to play teams like North Carolina," Hayes said.



AP
Kentucky's Kelenna Azubuike hooks Tennessee Tech's Milone Clark as he drives to the basket during the second half Tuesday at Rupp Arena in Lexington.

Remington leading way for Lady Racers

By SCOTT NANNEY
Sports Editor

There's no substitution for senior leadership.

And Murray State head coach Joi Felton knows she'll have to lean on at least one senior if her second Lady Racer squad is to improve on



Remington

last year's 13-15 finish. "When she plays well, the Lady Racers play well," said Felton of Rebecca Remington, who is one of only two seniors on the MSU roster this season. Forward Kaleena Miller is the other senior.

Remington, a 5-foot-9 guard from Scandinavia, Wisc., certainly played well in Sunday's matchup with Ball State in Muncie, Ind., where she led all scorers with a career-high 29 points to lead MSU to an 87-76

victory. That effort, along with a 24-point outing in last week's home loss to Northern Iowa, garnered Remington Ohio Valley Conference Player of the Week honors. Through four games, she is averaging 23 points in just over 37 minutes of action per game.

Remington's early-season breakout suggests that she's overcome a sluggish junior season in which she averaged just 10.4 points in only 21 minutes per game.

Felton points to several factors that support her senior's improved play.

"I think Rebecca knows me a little better, and now I know what motivates her," she explained. "She's always been a very unselfish player, and she thought she was shooting the ball too much last year. But now she understands she has to score for us to be the best we can be."

Backed by Remington's effort, the Lady Racers (2-2)

■ See MSU Page 7A

CCHS earns DH split at Lone Oak

Staff Report
Murray Ledger & Times

PADUCAH, Ky. — A late rally by the Calloway County Lakers salvaged a doubleheader split with host Lone Oak in high school basketball action Tuesday night.

The Lakers scored seven unanswered points in the final minute of play to upend the Purple Flash 60-57 in the season opener for both teams.

Calloway (1-0) trailed 57-53, but Trey Tindell converted a three-point play to close the gap to just one. Chase Futrell then hit a pair of free throws to put the Lakers ahead for good.

Lone Oak had a chance to

win the contest in the closing seconds, but a Flash player was called for charging. Tindell knocked down two more free throws and, the Lakers weathered a game-tying 3-point attempt at the buzzer to claim the victory.

CCHS opened a 16-10 edge after one quarter of play, but fell behind 32-28 at the halftime break. The score was knotted at 44-44 after three periods of play before the Lakers escaped with the win.

Futrell led all scorers with 20 points, while Tindell tossed in 17 and Brett Welter added 15. The Lakers were 23-of-49 from the field, including 5-of-11 from 3-point range. CCHS connected on 9-of-11 free throw attempts and outrebounded the Flash 29-

28. Jarad Key paced Lone Oak with 17 points. The Flash were 20-of-49 from the floor, including 6-of-14 from beyond the arc. The Oakers hit 11-of-14 foul shots.

Lone Oak 53,
Lady Lakers 44

Calloway was outrebounded by a 46-26 margin in dropping its season opener to the Lady Flash.

The Lady Lakers (0-1) jumped out to a 10-9 lead after one quarter of play, but managed just five points the rest of the half to trail 23-15 at the intermission.

Lone Oak took control in the third quarter, outscoring CCHS 14-10 to carry a 37-25 advantage into the final period of play.

TSU pulls out win in overtime

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Bruce Price scored 10 of his 25 points in overtime to lead Tennessee State to a 102-97 victory Tuesday night over Trevecca Nazarene.

The Tigers (3-3) began the extra period with an 8-0 run to take a 96-88 lead.

Trevecca (9-2) scored the final six points of regulation to send the game to overtime tied at 88, the last two coming on free throws by Jerod Perry. Perry led the Trojans with 30 points, including six 3-pointers.

Price led the way as five Tennessee State players scored in double figures. Wayne Arnold and Roshaun Bowers both scored 19 points, while Rod Flowers had 12 points and 13 rebounds. Kareem Grant added 11 points for the Tigers.

Eric Price scored 20 points for the Trojans, and Wesley Poe had 17 points and 10 rebounds.

After taking a 49-43 half-time lead, Tennessee State jumped out early in the second half but could never pull away. Neither team ever led by more than nine points.

Broyles: Nutt still best man for job

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. (AP) — Arkansas athletic director Frank Broyles apparently hasn't let a single losing season sour him on Razorback football coach Houston Nutt.



Nutt

"I told Houston he's the best man in the country for this job," Broyles said Tuesday after meeting with Nutt to review the 2004 football season, which Arkansas ended with a 5-6 record when the Razorbacks lost 43-14 to LSU on Friday.

It was the first losing season of Nutt's seven at Arkansas, and

the first year his team hasn't been eligible to go to a post-season bowl game. Overall, Nutt's teams are 53-33 over the seven years.

"Arkansas needs him and we hope that he's happy, and he seems to be very happy here," said Broyles, who formerly coached the Arkansas football teams himself.

Broyles said he met with Nutt for about 45 minutes Tuesday morning at Broyles' home.

He said he was confident that Nutt would have more winning seasons and would take more Arkansas teams to bowls.

The athletic director noted that this year's team started without 29 lettermen — including five juniors — from last

year's squad, which went 9-4.

"We'll get it turned around and be back," Broyles said. "With a school like Arkansas, when you lose your top five juniors and it coincides with losing 25 seniors — I'm not alibiing for (Nutt) or anything, but he had a young team and he came close to having a sensational year for what was predicted."

He observed that three of the Razorbacks' losses — to Texas, Georgia and South Carolina — were by a combined total of just 11 points.

Broyles said he doesn't know if Nutt plans staff changes.

"That's totally Houston's call," he said. "He might ask my opinion, and I'll give it, but it's Houston's call."

Davis resigns from Browns post

BEREA, Ohio (AP) — As coach Butch Davis pulled out of the driveway at 76 Lou Groza Blvd. for the final time, he might have caught a glimpse of a brown-and-orange colored hearse across the street from Cleveland's team offices.

The vehicle was parked. Davis was the one moving on.

Three years after he promised to lead Cleveland to a Super Bowl title, Davis resigned Tuesday, leaving the last-place Browns in disarray and with five games still to play this season.

Record-wise, the Browns (3-8) don't appear to be much closer to being a championship team than before Davis arrived. He tried his best to make them winners, but had his successes undone by bad draft picks, injuries and tough losses.

Davis' departure came two days after the Browns dropped their fifth straight game, a 58-48 loss that followed a script similar to so many others in the Davis Era: close but not good enough.

With speculation running wild last week that he was on the verge of being fired, Davis got the support of team owner Randy Lerner, who promised to keep him through the end of this season.

His only way out would be if Davis resigned, and to the Browns' surprise, that's what he did.

"I'm not sure what changed," Lerner said. "My sense of it is that the whole environment had become very difficult to manage emotionally, and it was his sense that enough was enough."

First-year offensive coordinator Terry Robiskie will coach the Browns for the rest of the season.

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Boston	5	8.385	2	Memphis	5	10.333	7
New Jersey	3	11.214	4 1/2	New Orleans	1	12.077	10
Southeast Division				Northwest Division			
W	L	Pct	GB	W	L	Pct	GB
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Orlando	8	5.815	1/2	Minnesota	8	5.615	3 1/2
Washington	7	5.583	1	Denver	8	6.571	4
Charlotte	3	10.231	5 1/2	Portland	8	6.571	4
Atlanta	2	12.143	7	Utah	8	7.533	4 1/2
Central Division				Pacific Division			
W	L	Pct	GB	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	10	4.714	—	Phoenix	12	2.857	—
Cleveland	9	5.643	1	Sacramento	9	5.643	3
Detroit	7	7.500	3	L.A. Clippers	9	6.600	3 1/2
Milwaukee	4	8.333	5	L.A. Lakers	9	6.600	3 1/2
Chicago	1	10.091	7 1/2	Golden State	3	10.231	8 1/2

Monday's Games
 Boston 117, Orlando 101
 Denver 76, New Orleans 67
 L.A. Clippers 94, Cleveland 82

Tuesday's Games
 New York 110, Atlanta 109, OT
 Toronto 94, Miami 92
 New Jersey 99, Charlotte 86
 Sacramento 98, Memphis 93
 L.A. Lakers 95, Milwaukee 90
 Detroit 93, Houston 72
 San Antonio 107, Dallas 89
 Phoenix 115, Utah 102
 Portland 100, Seattle 94

Today's Games
 Milwaukee at Boston, 6 p.m.
 Toronto at Orlando, 6 p.m.
 New Jersey at Washington, 6 p.m.
 Memphis at New York, 6:30 p.m.
 Sacramento at New Orleans, 7 p.m.
 L.A. Lakers at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.
 Philadelphia at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m.
 Cleveland at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
 Utah at Seattle, 9 p.m.
 Indiana at L.A. Clippers, 9:30 p.m.
 Minnesota at Golden State, 9:30 p.m.

Thursday's Games
 Houston at Dallas, 7 p.m.
 Cleveland at Denver, 9:30 p.m.

MHS ...

From Page 6A

us a while to get going, and I knew we were going to come out with those first-game jitters. I knew that after we got the first quarter under our belt, we could take off.

"The main thing is we have to run the basketball. We have to be a run-and-gun basketball team. We don't need to be a half-court team," she added.

Garland, who finished 7-of-14 from the field while hitting 3-of-9 from the foul stripe, couldn't have agreed more with her coach.

"We stress the fast break," Garland added. "We're not a good half-court team. We talked about getting out and running the ball. We're so quick that we

can get out on other teams and beat them to the basket. That's how I had most of my points, just getting out and beating the defender down the court."

Garland said last year she was counted on solely for her defense. This year, however, she wants to make the same kind of name for herself on the other side of the ball.

"Last year, I wasn't a high scorer. (Tuesday) I wanted to come out and do something else for the team besides play defense," she noted. "Last year, that's all I did."

The real difference for Murray High, however, was the second quarter, when Turner's trapping defense put the clamps quickly on the Lady Falcons.

Amanda Hobbs' field goal gave Hickman an early 14-13 lead. After that, it was all Murray High as the Lady Tigers roared through the second quarter on a 25-0 run that started with Christina Dunn's steal and layup with 5:28 remaining and ended with Dunn's long-range bomb with six seconds before halftime. Dunn finished with nine points, including seven in the second quarter.

Murray High forced Hickman into 10 second-quarter turnovers. The Lady Tigers only committed four and did a better job on the glass, thanks in part to Houston, who subbed in for Breanna Volp late in the first quarter.

"She was amazing," Turner

said of Huston. "She came in off the bench and gave us some very good minutes and some much-needed rebounding help when we weren't getting any. If she can come in like that every night and give us that kind of spark off the bench, we are going to be doing very good for ourselves."

Murray High took a 41-14 lead into halftime and extended the lead to 58-23 at the end of three. In the contest, the Lady Tigers outrebounded Hickman 30-12 while shooting 49 percent from the floor on 29-of-59 shooting.

Hickman was 10-of-45 from the perimeter for 22 percent while Ashley Yates paced the Lady Falcons' offense with a team-high 14 points.

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MSU ...

From Page 6A

shot 46 percent (36-of-77) from the floor against the Cardinals, including 57 percent (20-of-35) in the second half. Murray was also 11-of-24 from 3-point range.

Sophomore guard Ashley Hayes followed Remington in the Lady Racer lineup with 25 points on 9-of-18 shooting, including a 7-of-14 effort from beyond the arc.

Freshman guard Shalea Petty joined Remington on the honor roll by being named the OVC's Freshman of the Week. The former Christian County standout tossed in 12 points against Ball State after pumping in 18 against Northern Iowa.

The play of the Lady Racer backcourt has tried to mask the team's deficiencies in the low post, where MSU has struggled. However, those difficulties were expected after two projected frontcourt starters left the team in the offseason for personal reasons.

"We really have a lot of work to do, especially on the inside," Felton said. "But I'm proud of the way our post players have responded. Kaleena and Katie (Willinger) and Ashley Smith did a wonderful job of not letting Ball State do things they wanted to do in the middle."

Ball State was one of several non-conference challenges on a difficult pre-conference schedule for the Lady Racers, who will also face Conference USA teams UNC-Charlotte and Louisville this month before playing at rival Western Kentucky on Jan. 3.

Those challenges, including the season opener against nationally-ranked DePaul, are part of a Lady Racer slate that is ranked 74th in the nation out of 328 Division I women's teams in the NCAA. MSU is ranked third in the OVC in schedule strength.

"We lost a couple of kids, and we made this schedule with them in mind," noted Felton. "But we're not making any excuses. ... All of these teams we're playing are talented. It's a good opportunity for us to go and play good competition."

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Ridge steps down as homeland security secretary

WASHINGTON (AP) — Tom Ridge, the nation's first homeland security secretary, announced Tuesday that he is resigning after three years of reworking American security and presiding over color-coded terror alerts. He's the seventh Bush Cabinet officer leaving so far.

Ridge oversaw the most significant government reorganization in 50 years. He'll be remembered for his terror alerts and tutorials about how to prepare for possible attacks, including the controversial "disaster kits" that caused last year's run on duct tape and plastic sheeting.

Amid warnings that the country may face increased terror risks around the holidays and the Jan. 20 presidential inauguration, Ridge said he will remain on the job through Feb. 1, unless his replacement is installed sooner.

Ridge acknowledged he could not prove the costly and complex security measures that have been put in place have foiled any terrorist attacks inside the United States, but he said the country is safer today than before the suicide hijackings on Sept. 11, 2001, killed nearly 3,000 people in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania.

"I am confident that the terrorists are aware that from the curb to the cockpit we've got additional security measures that didn't exist a couple years ago," Ridge told reporters at the department's Washington campus, which he helped create.

"His efforts have resulted in safer skies, increased border and port security and enhanced measures to safeguard our critical infrastructure and the American public," Bush said in a prepared statement Tuesday evening.

Ridge sent his letter of resignation to President Bush at midday Tuesday, after attending a morning White House threat briefing with CIA and FBI officials. The former Pennsylvania governor thanked Bush for giving him the opportunity to fight back against terrorists. He recalled that the passengers on Flight 93 who forced their hijacked plane down in a Pennsylvania field had also fought back.

"There will always be more to do, but today, America is significantly stronger—and safer than ever before," Ridge wrote Bush.

Ridge is the seventh of Bush's 15-member Cabinet to announce they won't be part of the second term. More

are expected, and administration officials say Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson appears to be next.

The turnover in the Bush Cabinet is typical of second-term presidencies. Presidents Clinton and Reagan had seven Cabinet seats change hands after they won new terms, President Nixon nine and Presidents Truman and Johnson four each.

Among those mentioned as possible candidates to replace Ridge are Bernard Kerik, the former New York City police commissioner who helped rebuild Iraq's police force; former Federal Emergency Management Agency Director Joe Allbaugh; Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Mike Leavitt; and White House homeland security adviser Fran Townsend.

Others are also believed to be interested in the job, including Asa Hutchinson, undersecretary for border and transportation security in the Homeland Security Department.

Ridge leaves behind a department that's still learning to work together. Culled from 22 often disparate federal agencies, the 180,000-employee organization still faces criticism over aspects



Ridge

of its massive government merger, including the coordination of finances to computers systems.

Ridge, consistently a defender of the department, stood by its efforts to warn the public of possible terror threats, saying it preferred to disclose more information than some officials believed was wise.

"That's something we take pride in," Ridge said. "America is prepared to deal with the reality of the post-9/11 world. It's in our best long-term interest to share more information about the threat to America rather than less."

Ridge, who is married with two children, said that for the future he intends to "raise some family and personal matters to a higher priority," including attending his son's rugby games.

In an e-mail circulated to Homeland Security officials, Ridge praised the department as "an extraordinary organization that each day contributes to keeping America safe and free."

In October 2001, Ridge became the nation's first White House homeland security adviser, leading a massive undertaking to rethink all aspects of security within the U.S. borders in the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks.

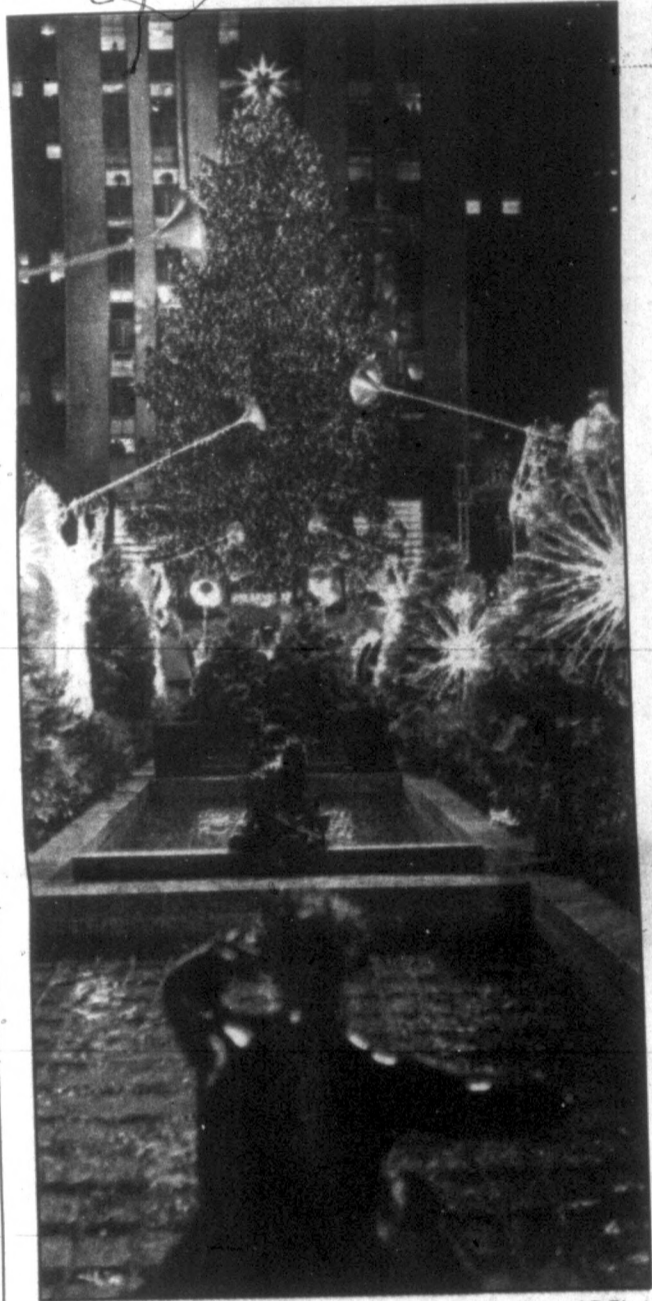
Congress subsequently passed legislation establishing the Homeland Security Department, with Ridge taking over as the department's first secretary in January 2003.

He has presided over six national orange alerts — second highest on the five-color scale — when the government boosted security out of concern that an attack may be coming.

Yet Ridge, a politician by nature, fought criticism leading up to the election from those who said he was using terror warnings to boost support for Bush.

Ridge, who has spent 22 years in public service, came home from Vietnam, earned a law degree and went into private practice in Pennsylvania. He ran for Congress in 1982 and was re-elected five times.

He became the Pennsylvania governor in 1995, leaving the state capital in October 2001 after the White House called.



AP Photo

The Rockefeller Center Christmas tree stands lit framed in angels' trumpets during the lighting ceremony Tuesday in New York.

WKMS to air holiday specials

Murray State's public radio service, WKMS 91.3 FM, presents "Company for the Holidays" a series of programs to celebrate the season, with all sorts of music represented, from choral to bluegrass.

On Dec. 13 at 11 a.m., WKMS will feature A Candlelight Christmas. Recorded in the historic Heinz Chapel at the University of Pittsburgh the Heinz Chapel Choir holiday concert evokes the holiday's spirit of wonder as host Ted Sohler introduces holiday choral favorites spanning many centuries and continents. Repertoire includes "O Come, O Come Emmanuel," "In the Bleak Midwinter," and a popular carol like "The Christmas Song" as well as ethnic holiday music from Brazil and folk carols from America.

On Dec. 14 at 11 a.m., tune in for Christmas with the Philadelphia Singers 2004. This is a concert of traditional and contemporary holiday music performed by the choral group, The Philadelphia Singers, recorded live at St. Clements

Church in Philadelphia. Its co-writer, Ed Cunningham, who weaves information on the different musical selections throughout the hour-long presentation, hosts the program.

December 15 at 11 a.m. will feature Echoes of Christmas. Echoes features the Dale Warland Singers, a mixed-voice a capella choir, and their annual Echoes of Christmas concert. Founder and music director, Dale Warland, retired from the group this past spring, and this is the final chance to hear his ensemble as recorded in December 2003.

See the complete list of WKMS' "Company for the Holidays 2004" specials running through New Years Eve, at wkms.org. WKMS is the listener-supported National Public Radio member station licensed to Murray State University.

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The problem with getting old

A few years ago our pre-Sunday school class discussion centered around one of our members who had just gotten her Medicare Card. She was crushed.

"Reality really sets in now. I have to face the fact that I am 65 — no longer what you'd exactly call a young chick!"

We were quick to remind her of the alternative. We either grow older or we die. She didn't like the alternative either! Sometimes you just can't please people.

I don't know what it is about age that bothers us, but it does. Earlier this year I awoke with my back itching and hurting. We thought it was a spider bite so I went to the doctor. She said it was shingles.

Upon returning home from the doctor's visit, we researched shingles on the Internet. One of the first things it

said was this is usually a disease of the "elderly." That was a real thrill!

After I got over the initial shock, we had a good laugh.

We also think no matter what your age, you don't seem to ever think you



The Fabulous Fifties & Beyond

By Jeanetta & Jim Pollard
Syndicated Columnists

are the one getting old. A doctor friend of ours shared this story with us. He said one of his 90-year-old patients was in his office. She was trying to get out of the chair. It took her three tries before she made it. Her comment was "Here I am acting like an old woman, who can't even get up."

We think it is a "good thing" that people do not think of themselves as being old. As long as they continue to feel they are young, they will continue to try and do things that will keep them young.

There are many things people can do to keep themselves young. One of the very important things you can do is learn to laugh at yourself. Laughter is the best medicine for all of us, no matter our age. Just recently I was talking with a friend of mine. She told me last week she was packing to go out of town. She had made her list as we all

must do at this age.

She saw tooth paste and tooth brush on the list. She immediately applied tooth paste to her tooth brush and started to put it into her suitcase when she remembered what she was about to do. The tooth brush and tooth paste were each to go into the suitcase separately.

I then shared a really dumb thing I had recently done. I made some Kool-Aid for Jim. He drank about half of it before telling me it had no sugar. I was sure I had put two half cups in it, but maybe I only put one. I went back to the kitchen and added another half cup. This time it was fine. I just thought I had forgotten to add the other half cup.

Later in the day, I started to wash a pitcher that was sitting on my counter. Just as I put it into the water, I noticed something white in it. There was the

other half-cup of sugar. The empty pitcher had been sitting next to the container I made the Kool-Aid in. One half went into the Kool-Aid; the other half went into the empty pitcher.

We both had a very good laugh and then went on about our day, each of us feeling a little better because we had shared our "crazy things." It also uplifted us (or at least it did me) to think: If I am crazy, I'm not by myself. I think that is a comforting thought, but I'm not quite sure!

Check your local cable listings for viewing times of *The Fabulous Fifties and Beyond*. Visit us online at www.TheFabulousFifties.net. Send us your questions or comments to Jim@TheFabulousFifties.net or write us at P.O. Box 7, Boaz, Ky., 42027.

More retirees consider moving to or staying in snow country

By The Associated Press
BUFFALO, Wyo. (AP) — Whenever Fern and Dale Johnson visited family here, they couldn't help feeling a bit envious. People were so friendly, and the pace of life in the rural community was much slower — and more to their liking — than back home in Nebraska.

The Johnsons once dreamed of spending their leisure years in the warmth of sunny Arizona. But Sun City, it turned out, was

too "busy." So when retirement finally came last year, they headed instead for Buffalo, a decidedly four-season town of about 4,100 people near the looming Big Horn Mountains of northern Wyoming.

Buffalo is certainly a far cry from Arizona. Winter snows can come early and stay late in Wyoming. The interstate on-ramps have permanent barriers that can be lowered when blizzards make travel too danger-

ous. But nestled in a small house on a block so quiet the thrush of blowing autumn leaves is startling, the Johnsons say they couldn't be happier.

"To me, the climate is so much nicer here," said Fern Johnson, 66.

Florida and Arizona remain hot retirement destinations, offering the constants of sun and warmth, gardening and golf, the traditional attractions for a retiree. But Sunbelt destinations are losing some of their cool with many new retirees, who want more and are willing to live where it's cold and snowy to get it.

Some, like the Johnsons, seek small-town connections. Others seek out culture and educational opportunities in college towns. Some want active outdoor recreation. And some look for a low cost of living where they can build a dream home or start a new business.

"The hold Florida and Arizona have had on retirees is loosening, and the options are growing," said Clare Hushbeck, an economist and senior legislative representative with AARP.

Today, the nature of retirement is changing. Many people are retiring younger, with more money and more plans. For many, that includes opportuni-

ties to stay active and involved. Newly retiring baby boomers, between the ages of 40 and 60, don't see themselves as old, said Joanne Bowlby of AARP Wyoming.

"The idea of playing golf and living in a condo with people only their own age — to them — is old," she said. "Here, we see them active: mountain biking, hiking, skiing. The independent mindset fits them."

It did Marvin and JoAnne Brown. The retired Air Force colonel and his wife found a house in Lander, Wyo., that they ended up buying and turning into a bed and breakfast. Though they hadn't any particular plans to leave their home in Denver, they were bowled over by the house and its prospects and were excited about starting over in a town of about 7,000 people in mountainous western Wyoming.

Nearly 10 years later, their Blue Spruce Inn is doing well and the couple remain pleased with their move.

"Lander is the kind of place where you can be as busy or not-as-busy as you want to be," said Marvin Brown, 67. "Pick your animal and there's a group for it — elk, turkeys, fish."

Hunting and fishing are among the draws to Townsend, Mont., a town of about 1,900 near the state capital of Helena.

From 1990-2003, Broadwater County, which includes Townsend, saw a 54 percent increase in the number of people 65 and older, according to the census.

Weather, water and mountains are main draws to Sequim, Wash., a town of about 4,200 on the northern end of the Olympic Peninsula. The town's average age is 58, said Pat McCauley, Sequim marketing director.

"I actively market to kayakers and bikers and outdoor adventure people, and they move here with their kayaks and bikes when they retire," she said.

While Buffalo is attracting retirees, those same retirees are changing Buffalo.

They volunteer at places such as the Jim Gatchell Museum and food pantry. They use the YMCA to lift weights, walk or swim, and their growing number is a factor as officials look ahead at how best to meet the needs of members, chief executive officer Doug Schultz said. A climbing wall, for example, may be out.

Realtor Bob Snowden says he has seen a steady number of retirees move into the area over the last decade and a rise in

prices for the coveted 2- to 5-acre plots inhabited in the county. In outlying areas, clearing some snow-covered roads isn't a top priority for road crews, a fact many new residents learn after their first, big snowfall, said Ken Gross, a consultant to the city and former local planner.



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Photo provided
Maria Gelb, Vice President/CFO of The Murray Bank, discusses the benefits of Online Banking & Online Bill Pay during their fall financial series, "21st Century Banking for Seniors", at the M-CC Senior Citizen Center. The Murray Bank is offering this free series to area senior citizens as a community service.

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Numerous programs offered in December

The Center for Health & Wellness will be offering several educational events during the month of December, which will be offered to members, MCCH employees, as well as the general community.

Miracle Moments Maternity Center will be offering Prepared Childbirth Classes in December. Classes will take place on December 6 and 13 from 7-9 p.m. at the Center for Health & Wellness. Pre-registration is required for all classes. For more information, or to arrange for a personalized tour of the Miracle Moments Maternity Unit, call Debbie Graham at 270-762-1940.

The Center for Diabetes will hold Diabetes Self-Management Classes in December at the Center for Health & Wellness. The Diabetes Self-Management Classes will be on December 2 & 3 and December 14 & 15 between the hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. These classes are presented by the Center for Diabetes and help create awareness on the latest diabetic treatments and self-management techniques available. Participants must pre-register by calling 270-762-1806.

Join Rebecca Wright, MS, RD, LD, on Wednesday, December 8 between noon and 12:30 p.m. for an educational session entitled "How to Burn off Your Holiday Cookies". Participants will learn how to bake cookies the healthy way and Cortne Hunt, Exercise Specialist will follow up with teaching you how to maintain an adequate activity level to burn off the additional calories consumed in December. The class will take place in the CHW classroom.

On Tuesday, December 28 between 7-8 p.m., join Wright to learn the important role of diet for a healthy pregnancy. Women in the class, entitled "Pregnancy: Eating Healthy for You and Your Baby," will learn how to develop a healthy eating plan and how their diet can help them with several discomforts and complications of pregnancy. The class is recommended for women in their first trimester, so healthy eating habits can be established early in their pregnancy, but any mother expecting is encouraged to attend. Pre-registration for the classes is required by calling 270-762-1348. Registration forms are available at the Murray Woman's Clinic as well as the Center for Health & Wellness.

For more information on programs at the Center for Health & Wellness, contact Allison Lancaster, Health Promotions Coordinator at Murray-Calloway County Hospital, at 270-762-1348.

Tired of Tae Bo?

Health clubs now offering belly dancing

PORTLAND, Maine (AP) — Most don't look like harem girls and few midribs are showing. But they sure seem to be belly dancing.

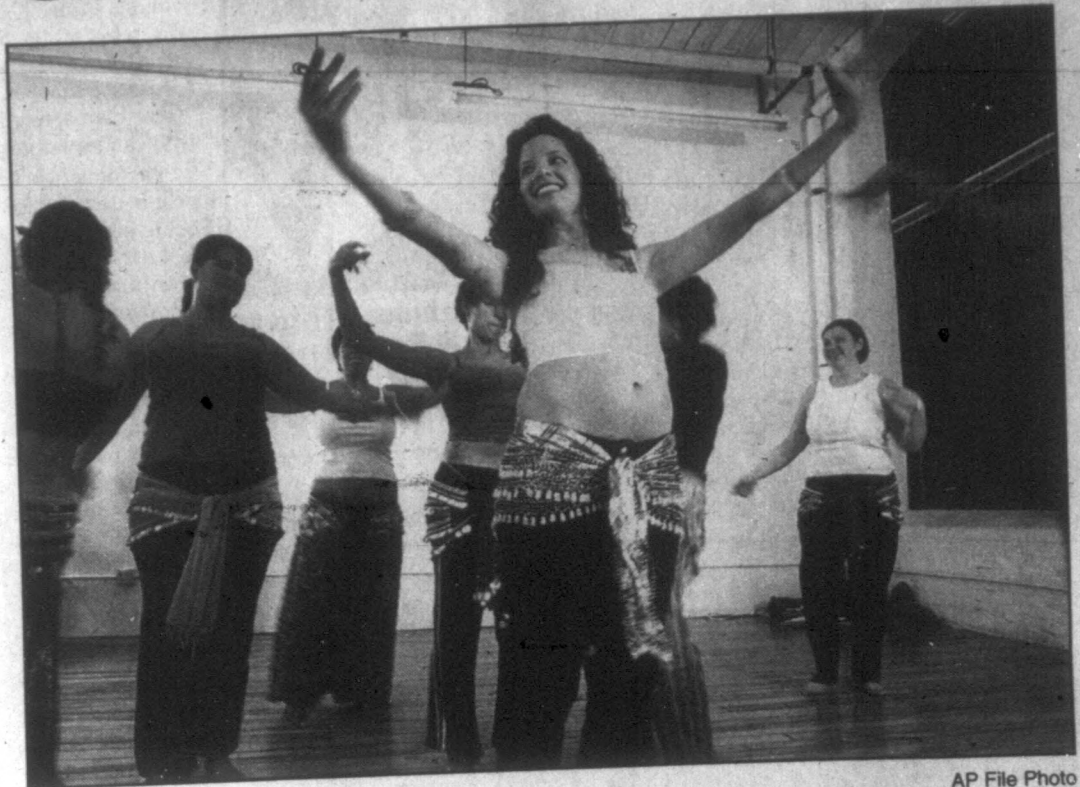
A woman in her late 40s is swiveling her hips with the charisma of a teen pop star. A dozen others ranging from petite teens to middle-aged moms swarm around her, ringing out a rhythmic chorus on their finger cymbals.

Belly dancing has emerged as a form of exercise for those who find its sultry undulations more their speed than hours of aerobics or weightlifting. As with Pilates and yoga, you do not have to be willowy to belly dance.

"You get to a certain age where you can't do ballet anymore," said Anne Cornely, 46, of Brunswick, her face covered in a film of sweat after finishing a dance. "This is a dance anybody, no matter your age or your size, can do."

Like many of the older, more modest dancers, Cornely wears a black tank top and matching, long spandex pants during the workout. A few of the younger women are decked out in full, shimmering, traditional costume.

But all wear the colorful hip scarves that give them the sense of flowing movement.



AP File Photo
Jeanne Handy leads a belly dancing for fitness class, in a file photo in Brunswick, Maine. The ancient form of dance recognized as a celebration of femininity has begun to appear in more health clubs, and it's less about sultry moves or Middle Eastern culture than it is about getting fit and losing a few pounds.

Considered a folk dance in some cultures, a celebration of femininity in others, belly dancing is thought to have been introduced in the United States during the 1893 World's Fair in Chicago.

The allure of belly dancing in the new millennium lies in its low-impact mix of meditation and workout, experts say. The ancient dance is now less about sultry moves or Middle Eastern culture than feeling fit and losing weight.

"It appeals to the person who, for whatever reason, has not found traditional exercise to be their cup of tea," said Cedric Bryant, chief exercise physiologist at the American Council on Exercise in San Diego. "It has really grown out of people looking at alternative modes of activity to spice up their workout."

During a recent class in Brunswick, Jamileh Jeanne Handy, a Lebanese belly dancing instructor, smiled from the corner while her students tossed aside their inhibitions to dip and lean into the moves she was ask-

ing them to perform.

Handy said women do not have to know the cultural history of the dance to feel a connection to the women spinning with them.

The nature of the dance is suitable for youthful or aging bodies, she said, and it doesn't require Spandex or sweat towels.

"It feeds your spirit, it feeds your mind, and it feeds your body," she said. "After a session, there is no question about it, attitudes shift about bodies."

Carol Heppell, who at 48 is the oldest woman in the class, has been belly dancing for a year. She said that during that time she began to understand why she was intrigued by belly dancing even as a little girl. Now a middle-aged woman, she giggled as she spun across the room.

"I was always very inward," she said. "But this really brings out the woman inside. The rhythm is inside me."

Modern culture often tells

women that having pride in their bodies if they are not models is bad, she said. Belly dancing helps women overcome that.

Not surprisingly, Handy said, many women back away from belly dancing because they are self-conscious about their bodies.

Only in the West, where Hollywood representations often show belly dancers as exotic harem girls doing the dance as a means of seduction, do belly dancers have to bare a midriff and wear belts shimmering with coins, she said.

Women do not have to be models to pride themselves on their femininity or exude a powerful sexuality with every move to consider themselves belly dancers.

"Belly dancing celebrates the excitement of youth, the pride of motherhood, and the wisdom of age," she said. "My students keep coming back because they're having a good time. And that's one of the biggest hurdles in exercise."

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More Mail from Minsk

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is the 11th in a series of columns from Donald W. Whisenhunt, who is in Minsk as a Fulbright Scholar.

One of the first impressions we had of Minsk when we arrived was how clean it is. We also noticed how there was almost no graffiti anywhere in the city. That situation has changed a bit since we've been here. We now see graffiti showing up in public places, but it is still far from what we would see in American cities, or in Lithuania, for that matter. When graffiti does appear, someone comes by very soon and paints over it. Unfortunately, we have seen a few places where graffiti on white walls has been painted over with a very unattractive brown paint. Sometimes the brown paint is put on so thickly or carelessly that the paint drips and runs. So in a way, the repair is uglier than the original graffiti.

Another thing we've noticed is how clean the streets are. From almost the first day we knew why because we saw the street sweepers out in force. Almost anywhere one goes, there are sweepers, sometimes one alone and at other times several in a group.

In the area between our apartment building and the school is a grassy area with 40-45 trees. They are all almost the same size and are thirty-five to forty years old. They are about 40 feet tall. That is logical, since this city was leveled during World War II, and the trees were replanted shortly after the end of the war. In this neighborhood, they were replanted probably in the 1950s when the buildings were being built.

Almost every day since we've been here, a woman in her late thirties or early forties has come between 6 and 7 a.m. to sweep our area. During our more than two months, it has almost always been the same woman. Occasionally she is joined by other women and sometimes a few men. Our regular sweeper is one of the most

energetic women I've ever seen. She moves quickly and is very good at her job.

When we first arrived, she swept the dirt and debris in the street and the litter, cigarette butts, and beer bottles from around the benches in front of the apartment. Soon, the trees began slowly to drop their leaves. Then, every morning our sweeper began to sweep the leaves, both from in the street and on the grass.

This surprised us very much. She used her broom to sweep the leaves off the grass. Her broom looks very primitive. It appears to be a bundle of sticks, but actually is a bundle of broom straw, tied with string around a broomstick. She vigorously sweeps the leaves off the grass into piles either on the grass or on the street. Then she uses a type of dustpan to move the leaves. At first when there were not so many leaves, she carried plastic bags to put the leaves in. When the leaves began to fall in large numbers, she then swept them into large piles.

Periodically, a tractor and trailer comes by with a larger crew of workers who load them into the trailer and take them away. These crews are predominantly women, but there are usually one or two men with them—men who tend to supervise and do little actual work.

We thought how labor intensive this cleaning is. We also wondered why there was not a more efficient way to sweep the leaves under control. We have seen no leaf blowers that are so common in Murray, although a man did come to cut the grass with a weed eater type of machine. In addition to not being very efficient, considering the space he had to cover, he had trouble keeping it running and spent a lot of time working on it. He continued to work long after dark a couple of times, and it was quite irritating to hear the machine run.

After the leaves began to come down in great numbers, I noticed one

morning—by now it is pitch dark when she begins her work—that our regular sweeper was using a leaf rake like we have in America as well as her broom. Now the trees are all bare except for two or three holdouts that drop a few leaves each day. Our sweeper is not here as long now, and I'm sure she moves on to work in other areas or with other crews.

This extensive use of hand labor we saw in China as well. This is a holdover from the Soviet system of "full employment." The idea was that everyone should be given employment, no matter how menial and inefficient, in order to give them work and to keep them from becoming restless and a potential nucleus of a mob. As long as people are working, even if it is menial and meaningless, they seem to be satisfied.

We see the full employment concept in several ways. There are public toilets in some parts of the city. They are all staffed, usually by women, who collect the fees (usually about 15 cents in U.S. dollars) and maintain the toilets—at least one would hope they do, but their condition does not show much effort.

The stores here are different, depending on the ownership. In the private stores, the number of employees is not so different from stores at home. But in the state-run stores, there are more employees, sometimes more than seem necessary. Again, this is full employment. However, the number of store employees here does not begin to compare with what we saw in China.

In the stores in China—both private and state-owned—the number of clerks was amazing. In department stores, each counter and each free standing display had a clerk; if one bought something, it had to be paid for at the time. There was no way to accumulate one's purchases and pay for them at one time at a checkout stand. In many stores, there seemed



Photo provided

Pictured is a sweeper outside the Whisenhunts' apartment.

to be more employees than customers. I noticed on one occasion that in a state store there were clerks standing shoulder-to-shoulder behind the display cases. On one floor in one store I counted forty clerks, but I'm not sure I saw them all. This was nine years ago. We know that some things have changed there; more factories, at least, have been privatized, so there is less "full employment." There is also more unrest.

We have encountered nothing like shoulder-to-shoulder employees in

Belarus, but the concept of "full employment" is alive and well. Belarus is no longer officially a communist country, but it is still authoritarian with a "strong man" leader who knows that he must keep the people pacified to maintain order. Therefore, the city is clean, the streets are safe, the state pensions and salaries are paid on time, and there is some type of work for all—or so it seems.

If you have comments or suggestions, you can write to me at doww@wwu.edu.

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Newborn's parents face deportation

FORT MITCHELL, Ky. (AP) — Five-week-old Jade Odum is caught in a legal limbo. Jade became a U.S. citizen the day he was born in Northern Kentucky. But his parents are not citizens, and immigration officials are trying to deport them. Jade has been in Kentucky's children services system for two weeks because his parents, both college students from Ghana, are in jail on charges of falsely claiming to be U.S. citizens. His parents' predicament has left the newborn facing an indefinite separation from his parents while their case makes its way through the federal courts, a process that could take weeks or months. And it has left his parents facing the prospect of one day either leaving their child behind

in America or taking him back with them to Ghana in western Africa. Public defender Lisa Bushelman said she doubts the mother would opt for the latter. "This is very difficult for her," Bushelman said. "It's not the most positive thing for a mom." Although immigration officials don't track how many parents must make similar decisions, most agree that the numbers have risen with tougher immigration enforcement since Sept. 11, 2001. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement expelled more than 157,000 non-citizens during the past fiscal year — a record. Officials say it's also increasingly common for immigrants to be parents of children born in

the United States, which automatically gives the child American citizenship. "It's a difficult situation," said Gail Montenegro, spokeswoman for the ICE regional office in Chicago, which oversees cases in Kentucky. "You are dealing with children who are born here and have every right to be here. But we have to enforce immigration laws." Officials say Jade's parents broke the law when they "falsely and willfully" represented themselves as citizens of the United States. They were arrested Nov. 18. Immigration officials say Jade's mother, Yaa Boateng, arrived from Ghana on a student visa in early 2003 to study at Northern Kentucky University. They say she later dropped out, invalidating her visa and putting

her in violation of immigration laws. Jade's father, whose name was not released, also was in custody on the same charge, said Firooz Namei, another attorney for Boateng. A request to interview Boateng was turned down Monday by the U.S. Marshals Service. Bushelman asked a federal magistrate Monday to release Boateng on bond so she could be with her child. But the magistrate said Boateng must first make a request for her release with immigration officials and then, if they refuse, try again with an immigration judge. "We are definitely in limbo right now," Bushelman said. "Everybody is trying really hard to help her. It's just such a strange set of circumstances."

Flu reaches Kentucky

FRANKFORT, Ky. — A Northern Kentucky lab reported the first positive influenza culture to the Department for Public Health this week, indicating the presence of flu in the state. The Department for Public Health reported the results to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as part of statewide flu surveillance efforts. Kentucky's flu activity is currently classified as "sporadic," the lowest level indicating flu activity. The flu season can begin as early as October and last through April. Most other states are also reporting sporadic activity. Surveillance efforts serve as a tracking system to follow the patterns and types of flu each year; they are not meant to reflect a full count of all flu cases. Public Health Commissioner Dr. William Hacker said, "Speaking as a physician, I'd like to remind people that there are simple steps that can be taken to prevent flu and other illnesses that normally circulate at this time of year. You should follow the advice your mother gave you - wash your hands frequently, cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze and staying home when you're sick - in order to stay healthy." Dr. Hacker also urged those in the groups at high risk for complications related to the flu that have not received vaccine to check with local health departments or other providers. "Although slow in coming, additional shipments of flu vaccine are still arriving at some local health departments and health providers' offices, so high risk people should continue to try to get their flu shot as soon as vaccine becomes available," said Dr. Hacker.

The group of people at the highest risk for flu complications includes all children ages 6 - 23 months; adults 65 and older; persons age 2 - 64 with chronic medical conditions; women who will be pregnant during flu season; residents of nursing homes and long-term care facilities; children 6 months to 18 years on chronic aspirin therapy; health care workers involved in direct patient care; and out-of-home caregivers and household contacts of children less than 6 months old. The nasal-spray flu vaccine is an acceptable alternative to the flu shot for healthy persons ages 5-49. For more information about the flu, see the CDC's website at www.cdc.gov/flu/.

School counselors to help students deal with drug issues

SOMERSET, Ky. (AP) — A federally funded program will pay for 31 counselors in schools across parts of eastern and south-central Kentucky to help students deal with drug problems. Operation UNITE will provide the counselors in its 29-county area. The counselors will try to intervene in cases where students are using drugs and will work with students who have problems because of substance abuse in their families. "I hope that this will be someone that these kids can turn to for a little guidance or help," said Clay County Superintendent Doug Adams. "We have so many children living with these drugs." Providing counselors is part of a \$1.6 million education initiative by UNITE. The plan also includes reimbursing school dis-

tricts up to \$2,000 to pay for drug testing for employees and students, assessing how the schools are providing anti-drug education and helping with improvements, training teachers to incorporate drug-abuse prevention information into lessons, and providing teaching materials if necessary. The goals are to create a sustained effort to teach children not to use drugs, or, if they are using them, to turn away before they become addicted, said Karen Engle, executive director of UNITE. The first counselors are likely to be in place after the Christmas break, Engle said. There are 44 school districts in the 29 counties covered by UNITE, so some will have to share a drug counselor. UNITE stands for Unlawful Narcotics Investigation, Treatment and Education.

U.S. Rep. Harold "Hal" Rogers, R-Ky., got \$8 million set aside early in 2003 to create the program, and has since gotten an additional \$16 million. The program's goal is to increase drug investigations, provide more treatment for addicts and boost anti-drug education efforts in Rogers' district, where he and others have described the level of substance abuse as epidemic. Abuse of prescription medication has caused overdose deaths and has driven up the crime rate, and the region has a growing problem with methamphetamine abuse. So far, UNITE's law enforcement programs have gotten the lion's share of the money. That was by design, to get the attention of drug dealers and the public with a crackdown on street-level drug trafficking, Engle said.



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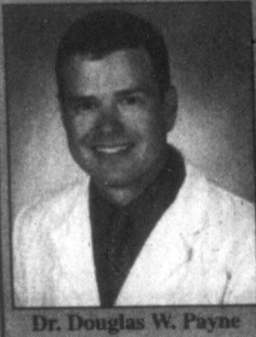
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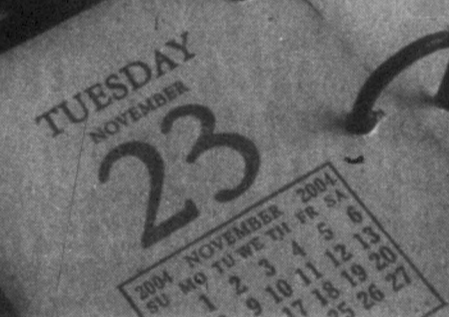
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010 Legal Notice

020 Notice
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 030 Financial
 040 Roommates Wanted
 045 Lost And Found
 050 Help Wanted
 070 Position Wanted
 080 Domestic & Childcare
 100 Business Opportunity
 110 Electronics
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 130 Appliance Parts
 140 Want To Buy
 150 Articles For Sale
 155 Appliances
 160 Home Furnishings
 165 Antiques
 180 Lawn & Garden

190 Farm Equipment

195 Heavy Equipment
 200 Sports Equipment
 210 Firewood
 220 Musical
 250 Mobile Home Lots For Sale
 270 Mobile Homes For Sale
 280 Mobile Homes For Rent
 285 Mobile Home Lots For Rent
 300 Business Rentals
 320 Apartments For Rent
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 370 Commercial Property
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160 Home Furnishings

160 Home Furnishings

320 Apartments For Rent

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 RE: Calloway Circuit Court, Civil Action No. 04-CI-00394
 CAPTION: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., As Nominee For America's Wholesale Lender vs. Daniel Eugene Robinson A/K/A Daniel Robinson and The Unknown Spouse Of Daniel Eugene Robinson and Black Acre Enterprises, LLC, Assignee of Fidelity Federal Bank
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 USED kneehole desks, L-shaped, executive desk, work station, computers, monitors, copy machines, copy/fax/print machines, file cabinets, telephone systems/ 7 phones, chairs, 55 gallon fish tank/stand & accessories, 5 cubic ft. refrigerator, microwave, 10 key calculator, staplers, paper cutter, etc. Call 753-6222

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 FREE L.P. Gas fill with 20 lb tank purchase. B&B Brokers 753-4389.
 HOT tub, 5 person, SHP, 20 jets, digital cabinet, light, warranty, never used, retail \$4,300, sacrifice for \$1,595. 931-538-5777 Trenton
 MEN'S uniforms like new, large shirt, light blue, navy pants. 30x31. (270)489-6178
 PING pong table, excellent condition. Extra paddles and balls. \$75. 759-8006
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TV Listings Thursday, December 2, 2004

FOR SALE 2100 Country Rd. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home on one plus acre scenic lot in S.W. Villa. Extra large double garage plus separate outbuilding. Priced in \$160's with immediate possession. Call 270-753-5755

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HOROSCOPES by Jacqueline Biglar

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Dec. 2, 2004: You have the ability to pull back and not get too involved in what is happening, if you so choose. Use that detachment to gain perspective and to learn to understand others better. Walk in others' shoes more often. Travel and education could play significant roles in your year. Learn to express your feelings more often, both the positive and negatives ones. Network professionally and personally. If you are attached, work together to make a dream happen. LEO always has a different point of view.

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 can either be dragged into the commotion this morning or put an end to it. You are hot tempered right now, my dear Ram. Easily, you could lose your temper. Later, you decide a peace offering might be just what the doctor ordered. Tonight: Just don't hold back.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ***** You might get into a verbal tussle with an associate or family member. Though some ugly words might be said, it has nothing to do with you, but his or her frustration. Take the time to brainstorm with this person. Tonight: Happy at home.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ***** You might be accepting more responsibility than you can handle. This drain becomes obvious in an argument or accident (be careful). Slow down and do more mental work, which might involve some daydreaming as well. Tonight: Accept another's gift.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ***** A risk backfires big time, and you might hear about this flub-up for quite a while. Don't get irritated; just know that there is some truth to what others say. Be a gracious listener. A partner or dear friend asks for special time. Why not? Tonight: Think about hanging some mistletoe.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ***** The Lion might roar today and expect others to respond, but clearly someone is not impressed. Let it go and continue to do your thing. A partner, friend or loved one invites you out. He or she wants to indulge you. Tonight: Let the good times rock and roll.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ** Easily, disruption occurs in your mind because of another's hard or sarcastic remark. Could this person be talking about him- or herself? Toss yourself into the wonderful nurturing and creative part of your life. Tonight: Buy yourself a present on the way home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ***** Look at the long-term gains or losses rather than get into a tussle with someone. Your diplomacy could save the day. Creativity urges you to indulge. You might not want to hold yourself back, either. Romance flourishes. Tonight: Hook up with your friends.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ***** Your mood swings from impatience and frustration to affectionate and docile. If you get some strange reactions, don't be surprised. Work demands your leadership and attention. Still, your mind slips to personal matters. Tonight: Sorry, out late.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ***** You will need to detach and remain philosophical with others acting, at best, strangely. You might be irritated and angry. Be careful how you express your dismay. Perhaps look to solutions and better ideas. Tonight: Dinner with music.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) *** Friends could be disruptive and toss a kink into your day. You might be best off confiding in and working with a special associate or partner. Money slips through your fingers. Careful! You like that jingle in your pocket. Tonight: Quality time for two.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ***** You might be getting mixed messages, at best. Decide to go on your own path rather than get caught up in present complications. Others seek you out. You decide when you are available and for what and with whom. Tonight: Just don't be alone.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) *** Your mind might be far away from work and what is happening. Do your best to lasso yourself in and concentrate. You will get a lot done professionally as a result. Wait till late afternoon to make a special call or plans. Tonight: Get some exercise.

360 Storage Rentals

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370 Commercial Prop. For Sale

375 commercial prop. for rent WAREHOUSE, 8,000 sq. ft. \$650/month.

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AMERICAN Pit Bull pups, ADBA NKC registered, champion blood lines, blues & blues, 4 males & 4 females

DOG Obedience Master Trainer. 436-2858

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UKC American Eskimo puppies, miniature, born 10/18. \$250. 395-8396 or 205-0562

400 Yard Sale

ALL CHRISTMAS YARD SALE 711-B Bagwell Crt. Off of Glendale Rd. Thurs., Fri. & Sat. Dec. 2, 3 & 4 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. All Christmas

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INDOOR Avon and "stuff" sale Fridays and Saturdays 9am-6pm or by appointment through December 18, 2004. New items added weekly. 3528 Pottertown Rd. 436-5900

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BEAUTIFUL site in Spring Creek Subdivision on Sandy Pine 1/2 mile south of Murray on 641. Reduced to \$26,000. 270-436-2805

485 Sport Utility Vehicles

4WD Eddie Bauer Expedition, 1998, 112,000 miles, \$9,500. 492-6161

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1996 Ford Club Wagon Chateau loaded, rear A/C, 4 captain's chairs, new tires, everything works, used for long distance travel, excellent condition. Call 767-9442

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FREE puppies, shots and wormed. Call 753-7865 after 4:30.

FREE to good home. Rottweiler mix- good with kids. 293-2477 or 753-7901.

THURSDAY MORNING A- CHARTER, B- MURRAY ELECTRIC, C- MEDIACOM, D- GALAXY. Table with columns for time slots (6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for various channels (WKR-ABC, WSL-ABC, WSMV-NBC, etc.) listing programs like News, Good Morning America, Today, etc.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON A- CHARTER, B- MURRAY ELECTRIC, C- MEDIACOM, D- GALAXY. Table with columns for time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30) and rows for various channels (WKR-ABC, WSL-ABC, WSMV-NBC, etc.) listing programs like All My Children, General Hospital, Days of Our Lives, etc.

THURSDAY EVENING A- CHARTER, B- MURRAY ELECTRIC, C- MEDIACOM, D- GALAXY. Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30) and rows for various channels (WKR-ABC, WSL-ABC, WSMV-NBC, etc.) listing programs like Extreme Makeover, The Apprentice, Survivor, etc.

Two unusual questions

DEAR DR. GOTT: I have two questions.

— Do people with rotten teeth have bad breath? (I have been assured by a friend that this isn't so.)

— Can a man die of a broken heart?

DEAR DR. GOTT: 1) Rotten teeth and dental decay invariably cause halitosis. I believe that your friend is incorrect.

2) Traditionally, a broken heart is a phrase denoting extreme grief. That in and of itself is not directly associated with death. The consequences of this grief, however, can be dangerous. For example, suicide, severe depression, inattention to proper diet, and overuse of alcohol and drugs are major concerns. Thus, I would answer that it's not the broken heart that leads to death or illness; rather, the important consideration has to do with the grieving person's reaction to the emotional trauma. With counseling and professional assistance, a broken heart can be mended and serious reactions avoided.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I am an active, 68-year-old widow who, for the past six months, finds myself feeling constantly tired and lacking ambition. I've gained weight and feel depressed. My doctor did a cursory exam and ordered a blood count and a thyroid test, both normal. He said that I am not depressed because I smile a lot. I don't want to offend my physician by changing doctors,

but I really need to get to the bottom of this.

DEAR READER: Doctors are not always correct in their assessments of patients. We are, after all, only human, and have the same foibles everyone else has.

However, in this instance, I believe your health issues must be directly addressed. The symptoms you describe are certainly consistent with depression, but is this affliction a consequence or a cause of your problems? In addition, your symptoms could be based on medical conditions, such as a hidden malignancy or infection.

Therefore, I recommend a second opinion from an internist, a specialist in diagnosis.

There are several ways of obtaining the name of a qualified doctor of internal medicine: ask your friends whom they would go to; call your local hospital for a list of such practitioners in your community; and check with your health maintenance organization for internists in your insurance plan.

In my opinion, your present physician's potential feelings of rejection are far outweighed by the advantages of a second opinion. (Moreover, most capable physicians are more than willing to refer difficult cases to specialists, so don't worry about hurting your doctor's feelings. Your health is more important.)

Let me know the outcome. To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Medical Specialists." Other readers who would like a copy should send a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope and \$2 to Newsletter, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092. Be sure to mention the title.

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Dad claims to call the shots in daughter's choice of men

DEAR ABBY: My name is "Lenny" and I live in Florida. About six weeks ago, my girlfriend, "Jill," and I broke up. Jill is 20 and I am 41. She was adopted by her parents as an infant.



Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Jill and her folks moved to Illinois, but we talk on the phone at least three times a week. I proposed marriage, but Jill said she couldn't make the decision without her father's approval. Her mother was all for it; her father was not.

Jill says that when her parents adopted her, her father put a clause in the contract that he had the right to choose the man she was to marry — and it was signed by a judge in the state of Illinois. Is this legal? — FRUSTRATED IN FLORIDA

DEAR FRUSTRATED: No, it's not. Either Jill is lying to you, or someone is lying to her.

DEAR ABBY: I have eight siblings. I am the only one who is still single. My brothers and sisters are upstanding members of their communities, happily married and raising beautiful families.

Until a few years ago, we all got together for the holidays. Now that the children are here — 20 at last count — my sibs prefer to spend the holidays in their own homes with their families. We get together a couple of weeks before Christmas to exchange gifts.

I know that each of my brothers and sisters thinks I'm hav-

ing Christmas dinner with another family member, but in reality I'm not invited anywhere, so I spend the day alone. I'd love to spend the day with family, and I'm hoping they will see this letter and think of me. — ALL ALONE IN MARYLAND

DEAR ALL ALONE: And what if they happen to be too busy to read the column today? Your siblings aren't mind readers, so tell them what you told me. And if an invitation isn't forthcoming, make plans for the Christmas holiday with close friends or volunteer at a shelter. The greatest joy is in giving to others. You do not have to sit alone.

DEAR ABBY: I'm 11 and in sixth grade. I recently caught a girl in my class copying off my paper. When I asked her not to, she denied doing it. The next day, she started copying down my answers word for word. This time, I asked her if she would like to pair up and work together. She sneered at me and told me to get my "help" from the teacher.

I told the teacher then, and the teacher replied, "She is having trouble with her work and personal problems at home. Just imagine if this math was hard for you."

The girl has ADHD. Should I continue to let this girl copy me? — STUDENT IN PHOENIX

DEAR STUDENT: No, you should not. Because if you do, a girl who is already having trouble with math will never learn how to solve the problems herself.

P.S. It was nice of you to volunteer to help by pairing up with her. But this girl has bigger problems than you are equipped to cope with.

Looking Back

10 years ago Published is a picture of Lt. Ronnie Barnett and firefighter Jimmy Cole stringing 73 strands of lights on a tree in front of the Murray Municipal Utilities at South Fifth and Poplar Streets. The department utilized the new 105-foot platform truck. The photo was by Staff Photographer Stacey Crook.

Dr. Eldon Heathcott, chairman of college of agriculture of Murray State University, will serve on Gov. Breerton Jones' task force to study the agricultural viability of kemp. Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Hughes will be married 50 years Dec. 2.

20 years ago Published is a picture of Paul Matthew Baugher, fourth grader at Carter Elementary School, being fingerprinted by Murray Police Officer Joye Mills as one of the students in the identification program, sponsored by local Fraternal Order of Police and Murray-Calloway County Jaycee Women.

Births reported include a girl to Theresa and Mark Owens and a girl to Tracy and Frank Coley, Nov. 26.

Murray High School Lady Tigers won, but MHS Tigers lost in basketball games with Wingo Indians. High scorers for MHS were Sheri Swift for girls and Stan Rutledge for boys.

30 years ago Good fall weather and overtime work by Murray Street Department has left the tennis courts at Murray-Calloway County Park near completion.

Murray High School Tigers won 14-0 over Beechwood Tigers to win the Kentucky State Class A Football Championship held at Eastern Ken-

tucky University, Richmond. The MHS Band also performed at the half-time.

Steve Porter of MHS has been named to the Kentucky High School All-State Football Team. Tony Boone of MHS was named to the second team. Craig Suiter, Doug Shelton, Lindsey Hudspeth and Wes Ferguson of MHS were named to honorable mentioned group.

40 years ago A total of \$15,600 has been recorded for the Murray-Calloway County United Fund Drive. This is 67 percent of the goal for 1964.

John Bennett, tackle, and Champion and Wilkins, ends, of Murray High School Football Team, have been named to the All-Conference Football Team.

Rosella Outland and Katie Overcast presented a lesson on "Basic Grooming" at a meeting of Potertown Homemakers Club at home of Goldia Curd.

50 years ago Protective shots of the Salk polio vaccine will be available for every first grade child in Calloway County if a scientific report next spring indicates that the vaccine is effective, according to Alvis E. Jones, chairman of Calloway County March of Dimes Campaign.

Dr. Conrad H. Jones has been elected to the board of directors of Peoples Bank of Murray, according to H. Glenn Doran, executive vice president of the bank.

Today in History

By the Associated Press Today is Wednesday, Dec. 1, the 336th day of 2004. There are 30 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

One hundred years ago, on Dec. 1, 1904, the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis closed after seven months and some 20 million visitors.

On this date: In 1824, the presidential election was turned over to the U.S. House of Representatives when a deadlock developed between John Quincy Adams, Andrew Jackson, William H. Crawford and Henry Clay. Adams ended up the winner.

In 1913, the first drive-in automobile service station opened, in Pittsburgh.

In 1955, Rosa Parks, a black seamstress, refused to give up her seat to a white man on a Montgomery, Ala., city bus. Mrs. Parks was arrested, sparking a yearlong boycott of the buses by blacks.

Ten years ago: Former TV evangelist Jim Bakker spent his first full day of freedom after time in prison, a halfway house and house arrest for bilking followers of his PTL ministry.

Daily Comics

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Contract Bridge

A Drop in the Bucket

West dealer. East-West vulnerable. NORTH ♠ 10 ♥ AKJ3 ♦ AKJ9 ♣ QJ104 WEST ♠ AK983 ♥ Q8 ♦ Q5 ♣ K972 EAST ♠ 7642 ♥ 96 ♦ 108643 ♣ A5 SOUTH ♠ QJ5 ♥ 107542 ♦ 72 ♣ 863

The bidding: West North East South 1♦ Dble Pass 2♥ Pass 4♥ Opening lead — king of spades.

The most important aim when you are declarer is to make the contract if it can be made. Similarly, the most important aim when you are a defender is to beat the contract if it can be beaten. These goals may be achieved by following a fundamental principle: You always assume that the cards lie in a way that will enable you to attain

your goal, rather than in a way that will prevent your attaining it. Very often this assumption will prove false, but there is little to be lost by adopting the more optimistic view. Here is a typical case. West leads the king of spades against four hearts and must then decide how to continue at trick two. The proper play is a low club, which defeats the contract after East takes the ace, returns a club to West's king and gets a club ruff for the defense's fourth trick. Most players wouldn't dare lead a club from the king at trick two. The possibility that South might have the ace would freeze them in their tracks and induce them to make a "safer" play.

This is the wrong view. West has no choice but to assume that East has the ace of clubs, because if South has the ace, there is no way to defeat the contract. He must also assume that the ace is doubleton, for otherwise it will be next to impossible to score four tricks. It is true that a club lead might lose a trick, but it never loses the contract. The trick that might be lost is a drop in the bucket compared with what could be lost by not leading a club.

Tomorrow: Two-for-one deal. ©2004 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Crosswords

- ACROSS 1 Noted potters 5 Ryan and Tilly 9 Cable network 12 Sheikh's cartel 13 Perched on 14 Fleming of spidrom 15 Having little light 16 Advisory groups 18 — of hand 20 NE state 21 Want-ad abbr. 22 Fixes up 26 B-vitamin source 29 Tank filler 30 Scare word 31 Very large 32 Hideaway 33 Willow 34 Afore 35 Part of RSVP 36 Writer's concern 37 Casual wear 39 Mayo holder 40 Laugh syllable 41 Small sizes 45 Double-crossers 49 Plaid garment 50 Connections 51 Paleozoic and Mesozoic 52 Huron neighbor 53 Psychic power 54 Curved roof 55 Line of stitches

Answer to Previous Puzzle IMP GALAS OHS BOA ALECS VEE MDS DIET GAME TIGER SN AR MEN SHACKS MOB TABLEWINE EGAD TAI SNOW NUTRIENTS ETE DETERS HAY SD AK TEDDY BOND HERD URL ERR HOTEL LET TEA SWEDE END

12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55

- DOWN 1 Coal scuttles 2 Gemstone 3 Marselles father 4 Most yucky 5 Like Rambo? 6 Coup d'— 7 Swabbe 8 Cloves and ginger 9 Scurry along 10 Cave dweller 11 Switch positions 17 Highest degree 19 Receive 22 Moved swiftly 23 In a skiff way 24 Cook shrimp 25 Any 26 — St. Laurent 27 Nobleman 28 Riding the waves 29 Harden 32 Bad-mouth 33 Breaks camp 35 Enjoyed the rink 36 Gathered dust 38 Tai — ch'uan 39 Helms or Owens 41 Wheels for baby 42 Become fatigued 43 Essay byline 44 Flower part 45 Game without a winner 46 Hosp workers 47 Cleopatra's snake 48 Incan treasure

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Adult and Family Education offers second chances at future

Anica Smith, Coordinator of the Calloway County Adult and Family Education program, is quick to point out that the most rewarding aspect of her job is helping someone get a second chance at a future. "We don't judge why people initially dropped out of high school, we just know that it is very satisfying to watch people progress and succeed step-by-step. It is a cause for real celebration when someone sets a goal and achieves their General Education Development certificate," Smith says.



Smith serves as the coordinator for a staff of nine which includes instructors Joyce Givens, Donna McCoy, Debbie Royal, Pamela Seward, Donald Smith and June Vander Molen. Gracie Erwin handles the English as a Second Language program and Cindy Graves serves as Family Advocate. Steve Givens is assigned to instruct on Workplace Essential Skills. "These fantastic team members are dedicated to working together to help our students and clients succeed," Smith says. "It is great to know you are coming to work each day with such dedicated and committed people to help our community."

The mission of Calloway County Adult and Family Education is to provide life-long learning in a knowledgeable and welcoming environment. This mission is fulfilled by four core programs: Adult

Basic Education (ABE); English as a Second Language (ESL); Family LINKS; and Workplace Essential Skills. These programs are integrated into an overall program called S.O.A.R.:

- Skills
- Opportunity
- Advancement
- Retention

Smith says that the Adult and Family Education Center provides basic computer training, GED preparation, ACT and other college preparations, pre-employment assessments, and a host of other training that is specifically tailored to the needs of qualified members of our community.

Smith emphasizes that all services provided by the Adult Education program are free. "We don't want costs to keep someone from furthering their education to the full extent of their desire and capability," she says. "Our whole team realizes how hard it is sometimes to ask for help and admit you haven't reached the education level you need and want." She explained that helping with learning disabilities, funding issues and overcoming perceptions are what the Adult Ed team is all about. "Something as simple as a pair of glasses may have been an obstacle to a person graduating from high school with his of her class before, but we will help overcome that barrier and others," Smith said.

Smith talks extensively about the local Family LINKS program that she and her staff are integrating into the local elementary schools. "This is a family literacy program designed for parents to help

themselves and their kids. It provides a role-model and stresses the importance of education and causes families to communicate and play together," she said.

She went on to say that it helps children and families relate better to their teachers and peers. "We are working with the schools in the county to get this program going and are particularly proud of the lead that East Elementary has taken," she says.

Smith also talks about the need for continuing adult education and employment assessments. "If the employment offices say anything about testing, people are usually referred to us," she says. "We work closely with the Career Discovery Center to help prepare people for the workforce needs of our community."

Smith also alluded to studies which show that people who improve their education and skills are less likely to be commit crimes, be jailed, or return to jail. "Those who improve their education are less likely to be repeat offenders and, as a result, save taxpayers money in the long run," she says. Toward that end, the local Adult Ed has a program that provides tutoring and classes twice weekly at the Calloway County Jail.

The Calloway County Adult and Family Education program is a member agency of the local United Way. "We receive the bulk of our funding from state and federal grants, but the funding provided by our local United Way enables us to pay for student GED fees and augment our equipment and materials budget," Smith says. "Our



Anica Smith is pictured with students taking basic computer training at the Calloway County Adult Education office.

affiliation with the local United Way also provides valuable interaction with other agencies that can help us serve the needs of our clients," she said.

The Adult and Family Education program has several needs and those who want to help should call the office at 759-5525 or make contributions to the United Way. Pressing needs include:

- Paper and ink for Epson printers.
- Donated office space.
- Old eye-glasses.
- Optometric help with glasses for students who qualify.
- Finger-foods for family gatherings (6 - 10) once a

month. ■ Rewards and incentives for 6-10 families once a month (movie passes, gift certificates, etc.).

■ Annual graduation party items for about 50 people (food and prizes).

"We have a real crisis in funding and may be losing staff if something can't be done," Smith said. "I know the items listed don't seem like much, but they can make a real difference in our ability to help advance adult education and our service to the families of Calloway County."

"Each of our folks has their own story. When we learn their story they become almost like

family to us," Smith says. "We want to be there for them when life's circumstances catch up again and they are ready to improve their education and, perhaps, lot in life."

The Calloway County Adult and Family Education program is located at 404 G North 4th Street. The phone number is 759-5525 and they can be reached by Fax at 759-9985 and by e-mail at alsmith@murrayky.net. The office hours are Monday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. with testing from 2-7:30 p.m. by appointment; Tuesday - Thursday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Friday from 8 a.m.-noon with testing by appointment only.

Photo provided

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