

12-24-2003

Murray Ledger and Times, December 24, 2003

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PREP BASKETBALL: Calloway County Wins Daviess County Invite, Page 10A

MURRAY LEDGER & TIMES

Home of Murray University

Peanuts



Dec. 24
1 shopping day to Christmas

Vol. 124, No. 303

Wednesday, December 24, 2003

50 CENTS

Viola Miller new head of Tennessee Department of Children's Services

Former MSU dean led Kentucky's Cabinet for Families and Children

By KARIN MILLER
Associated Press Writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Murray's Viola P. Miller, whose reforms of children's services in Kentucky led to national accreditation, was sworn in Tuesday as the new commissioner of Tennessee's troubled Department of Children's Services.

Although her job doesn't officially begin until Jan. 5, she was flying to Baltimore later in the day to meet with plaintiffs in a federal lawsuit over the state's treatment of foster children. She's hoping to prevent a scheduled Jan. 2 hearing on contempt of court charges.

Miller, 60, served as secretary of the Cabinet for Families and Children under Kentucky Gov. Paul Patton and is credited with leading reforms that reshaped the depart-

ment. She lost her job of eight years when a new governor was inaugurated earlier this month.

Prior to her work in Kentucky's cabinet, she served as dean of Murray State University's Center for Continuing Education and Academic Outreach.

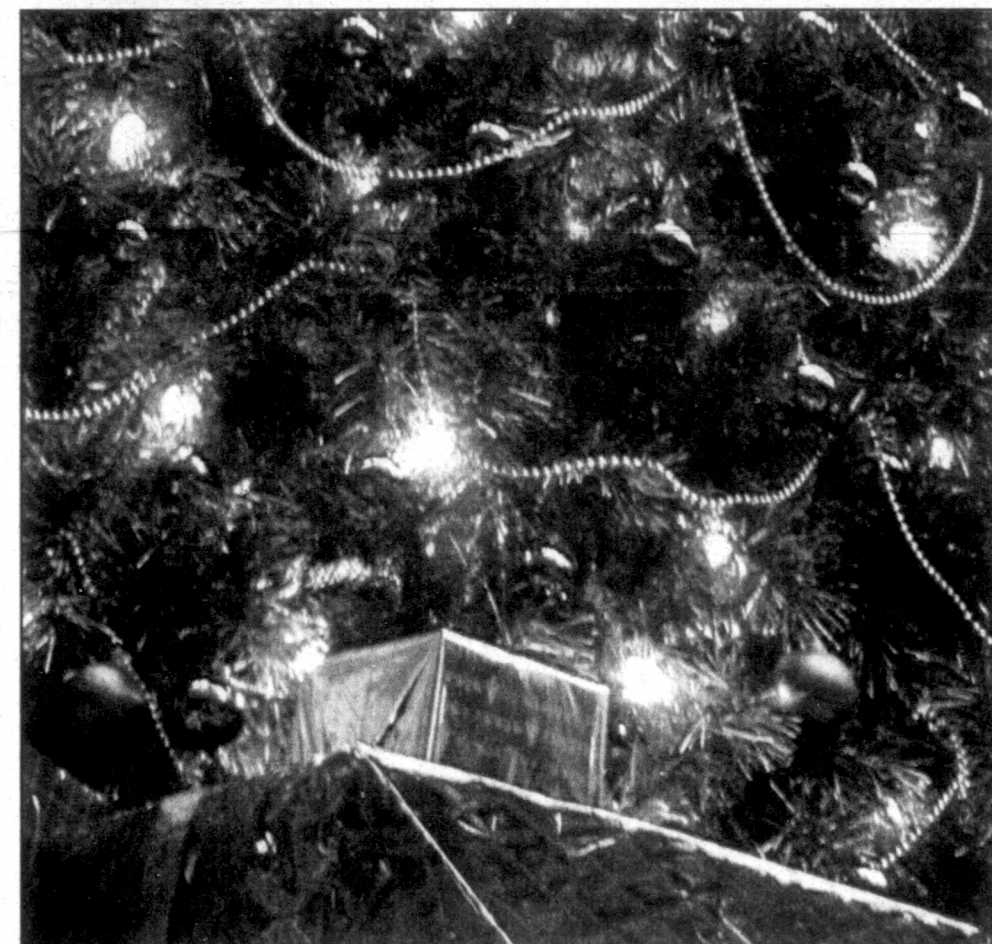
"This kind of no-nonsense results-oriented leadership is exactly what we've been looking for in this department," said Gov. Phil Bredesen. "I'm confident her vision and experience, coupled with her passion for children and families, will make a huge difference in our efforts to overcome some of the problems that historically plagued this department."

She replaces Michael Miller, who resigned at Bredesen's request last month. Bredesen ousted Miller because of slow progress in carrying



Miller

■ See Page 2A



Scenes of the Season

JOHN WRIGHT/Ledger & Times photos

Decked out in the school colors of blue and gold, at left, the Christmas tree and accompanying gifts under the Christmas tree inside Murray State University's Curris Center provides visitors with a pleasant site. Meanwhile, Coldwater resident Tom Luallen constructed this nativity scene outside his home to showcase the true "reason for the season."



Heating aid program starts next month

Staff Report
Murray Ledger & Times

A program is available for low-income families in the Purchase area that are in a home heating crisis.

The CRISIS component of the Home Energy Assistance Program begins Jan. 5 and will continue through March 31 or until funds have been expended.

A household is considered to be in a home heating crisis when it is within four days of running out of bulk fuel — coal, fuel oil, propane, Kerosene or wood — or has received a past due or disconnect notice of natural gas or electric heat

source, according to West Kentucky Allied Services. Also, a crisis situation can include an eviction notice for non-payment of rent if the home heating costs are part of an undesignated portion of the rent.

To be eligible, applicants must meet income guidelines based on the household size. A one-person household must have a gross monthly income of \$824; two people, \$1,111; three people, \$1,399; four people, \$1,687; five people, \$1,975; six people, \$2,263; seven people, \$2,551; and eight people, \$2,838. Add \$288 for additional family

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Photo provided

Locally created needlework from the Embroiderer's Guild of America, Western Kentucky/Tennessee decorates a tree at the National Headquarters of the American Horticulture society. For more information on the creations, see our Community pages in today's Ledger & Times.

Procrastination just part of Christmas shopping experience

By BRANDI WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

With the winter season comes the expected Christmas shopping procrastination. However, many store owners did not expect the amount of last-minute shoppers who have turned up the last couple of days.

Betty Miller, owner of The Place, said her store has had lots of people looking for Christmas sales. "I've got all my help with me today," she said Tuesday.

She said last minute shopping is always expected, especially with male shoppers.

"The men always wait until the last minute," she said.

Sarah Jones, owner of Vintage Rose Emporium, said she sees con-

fused men wandering into her store this time of year.

"Just earlier (Tuesday), we had three men in the store with this blank look on their face," she said.

Jones said the way the holiday has fallen could be why the shoppers are waiting longer to buy.

"I think part of the problem this year, which was the same problem last year, is Thanksgiving was late," she said. "It shortens the shopping season a week."

DK Kelley owner Debbie Kelley said there are some people who just wait until the last minute.

"We're open on Christmas Eve so we're here if they need us," she said.

Owner of the Red Barn, Beverly

Lemons, said she wasn't sure why shoppers were waiting longer to get their purchasing done.

"I don't know if they have had so much going on or if they are looking for bargains," Lemons said.

Like many other stores, she has marked down much of her merchandise to make room for all new items coming in at the beginning of the year.

Some store owners are getting their first taste of holiday madness. Heather Bell, owner of Jean Marie's, said her first Christmas open has been quite hectic.

"Busy is not bad," she said. "I really didn't expect this many, but

■ See Page 2A

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OBITUARIES

■ listings Page 5A

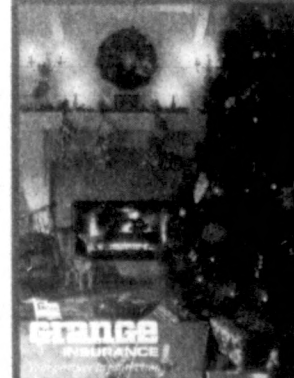
Allison Deanne Pritchett
Robert W. "Bob" Caldwell
Eunice Bell Wood
Bobby Gene Smith
Isabelle Gilbert Griffin
Clarence John Kurowski

WEATHER

HIGH: Tonight will be mostly clear with light winds.
35
LOW: Thursday will be mostly sunny skies with highs in the mid 40s.
22



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First suspected mad cow disease case found in U.S.

By The Associated Press
WASHINGTON (AP) — A single Holstein on a Washington state farm has tested positive for mad cow disease, marking the disease's first suspected appearance in the United States, the Bush administration announced Tuesday as it assured Americans their food is safe.

Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman said the slaughtered cow was screened earlier this month and any diseased parts were removed before they could enter the food supply and infect humans. Fear of

the disease has brought economic ruin on beef industries in Europe and Canada.

"We remain confident in the safety of our food supply," Veneman told a hastily convened news conference.

Still, some allies like Japan and South Korea temporarily banned imports of U.S. beef, providing an early indication of the potential economic damage the discovery could cause.

The farm near Yakima, Wash., where the cow originated, has been quarantined as officials trace how the animal contracted the disease and where its meat went.

"Even though the risk to human health is minimal, we will take all appropriate actions out of an abundance of caution," she said.

Mad cow disease, known also as bovine spongiform encephalopathy, eats holes in the brains of cattle. It sprang up in Britain in 1986 and spread through countries in Europe and Asia, prompting massive destruction of herds and decimating the European beef industry.

A form of mad cow disease can be contracted by humans if they eat infected beef or nerve tissue, and possibly through blood transfusions. The human form of mad cow disease so far has killed 143 people in Britain and 10 elsewhere, none in the United States. Blood donors possibly at risk for the disease are banned from giving.

Wary of the potential economic impact on their American market, beef producers quickly sought Tuesday to reassure consumers that

infected meat wouldn't reach their tables. "There is no risk to consumers based upon the product that came from this animal," said Terry Stokes, chief executive of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association.

Veneman also assured Americans the screening system worked, and no foul play was suspected. "This incident is not terrorist-related," she said. "I cannot stress this point strongly enough."

President Bush was briefed a few times on the development Tuesday and was confident Veneman's department handling the matter properly, the White House said.

With an election year approaching, the news concerned some in Congress. Rep. Tim Holden, D-Pa., a member of the House Agriculture Committee, said he expected lawmakers to hold hearings when they return to Washington in late January.

"We're going to look into this and see the possibility of how this happened," Holden said. "I'm sure there will be extensive oversight hearings to see what we can do to assure the American people the safety of the food chain."

Lawmakers are keenly aware that a case of mad cow disease in Canada last May — which officials described as a single, isolated incident — still had devastating economic consequences.

"If it's anything like what happened in Canada, it will be bad. The problem won't be that people will stop eating meat in the United States; the problem is the exports will be shut down like we did with

Canada," said Rep. Collin Peterson, D-Minn.

Veneman said the Holstein, which could not move on its own, was found at a farm in Mabton, Wash., about 40 miles southeast of Yakima, and tested preliminarily positive for the brain-wasting illness on Dec. 9. Parts of the cow that would be infected — the brain, the spinal cord and the lower part of the small intestine — were removed before the animal went to a meat processing plant.

Samples from the cow have been sent to Britain for confirmation of the preliminary mad cow finding, Veneman said. The results will be known in three to five days. Veneman said consumers can get daily updates by reading the department's Web site or by calling 1-866-4USDACO.

She said tests are made of all downed cows — old cows that are not mobile — that are sent to slaughterhouses.

But Rep. Gary Ackerman, D-N.Y., said such cows shouldn't be in the food supply in the first place. The Senate passed such a ban earlier this year, but it failed to make it through the House.

"I blame it on greed, greed, greed," Ackerman said. "The greed of the industry, the greed of the lobbyists and the greed of the members of Congress."



Veneman

Sheriff's Logs

- Calloway County Sheriff's Department**
- A caller at 1163 Highland Road reported hearing a noise at 12:36 a.m. Monday. When she turned on the lights and opened the door, two male subjects were half way up her driveway and ran off.
 - An injury accident was reported on Ky. 94 East at Hwy. 1346 at 3:30 p.m. Monday. A stop sign was knocked down. EMS and Calloway County Fire and Rescue were notified.
 - A cargo trailer was reported stolen from a residence at 3100 Rowlett Trail at 8:20 p.m. Monday.
 - A two-vehicle injury accident was reported on U.S. 641 North near Ky. 80 at 10:44 p.m. Monday. A second call reported another vehicle was involved. The caller said his wife might be injured. There also was an altercation at the scene.

— Information is obtained from reports, logs and citations from various agencies.

'First phase' now official

FRANKFORT, Ky. (AP) — Gov. Ernie Fletcher made the first part of his plan for reorganizing state government official Tuesday.



Fletcher

Fletcher signed an executive order that combined some cabinets in state government and created new ones. The order came with no surprises, and followed a plan Fletcher outlined to reporters earlier

administration will have eight cabinets essentially in charge of running state government, compared to the 14 that existed under Gov. Paul Patton.

The cabinets are: Education, Transportation, Finance and Administration, Health and Family Services, Justice & Public Safety, Environmental & Public Protection, Economic Development and Commerce.

Meanwhile, Fletcher eliminated the former Personnel Cabinet, and made it the Department of Personnel. The personnel department, the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights and the Kentucky Commission on Women will report to the secretary of Fletcher's executive cabinet.

While the plan is not aimed at immediately saving the state money, it sets the framework for future savings, Fletcher said earlier this month.

"I am proud to sign this executive order for reorganization because Kentuckians deserve the most efficient and effective state government possible," Fletcher said in a news release.

Under the order, Fletcher's

Poll: News stories draw highly different audiences

WASHINGTON (AP) — Women were more likely than men to follow the news story about Laci Peterson very closely and blacks were more likely than whites to closely watch the legal troubles of Kobe Bryant and Michael Jackson, says a poll out Tuesday.

Women were almost twice as likely as men to say they were very closely following the case of Peterson, a murdered pregnant woman, whose husband is on trial in the killing, according to the poll by the Pew Research Center for People & the Press.

And blacks were far more likely than whites — by 47 percent to 13 percent — to be closely following developments in the sexual assault case against professional basketball star Kobe Bryant very closely. By a smaller margin, blacks were more likely to be closely following the molestation case against singer Michael Jackson, by 42 percent to 26 percent.

Most everyone showed interest in news about Iraq — the top 2003 story in terms of media interest — but the audiences for other high-profile news stories varied dramatically. Almost two-thirds, or 63 percent, said they followed news about the war in Iraq very closely.

White evangelicals were twice as likely as Catholics and non-evangelical Protestants to have very closely watched the case of the Alabama chief justice's efforts to defy federal orders to remove a monument of the Ten Commandments from a state courthouse.

Voters over age 65 were more than four times as likely as young adults to have kept a sharp eye on news of the Medicare bill in Congress.

The study was based on Pew polls throughout the year and had a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 1 percentage point.

Farmer to speak at MSU

Kentucky Commissioner of Agriculture Richie Farmer will be the special guest for the Agricultural Leaders Reception.

The reception is scheduled for Jan. 8, from 4:30-5:30 p.m. in the small ballroom of the Curris Center.

Farmer, a Republican, will speak at 5 p.m.

The event is hosted by the MSU School of Agriculture and sponsored by the U.S. Smokeless Tobacco Co. Agriculture Leadership Development Program.



Farmer

Heating ...

From Front

members.

Applicants must bring certain documents to apply: the disconnect or past due notice if electric or natural gas is the heat source; eviction notice if heating costs are an undesignated portion of the rent; proof of last propane delivery to determine if household will be without heat source in four day or a statement from the company to that effect; Social Security numbers of all the household members; proof of income for every member in the home who works or had income for the month prior to applying.

For more information, contact Tony Dowdy, Community Services Block Grant director, at P.O. Box 736, 222 W. Water St., Mayfield, Ky., 42066 or 270-247-4046. He also can be reached at cshg42066@yahoo.com.

CSBG workers can also be reached in each county. Calloway County residents should contact Sue Chaney at 607 Poplar St. Suite C, Murray, Ky., 42071 or 753-0908 or wkasse@vci.net. Marshall County residents should contact Elizabeth Turner at 307 Main St., Benton, Ky., 42025 or 270-527-9766 or wkaset@vci.net. Graves County residents should contact Jan Johnson at 222 W. Water St., Mayfield, Ky., 42066 or 270-247-4046 or jj42066@yahoo.com.

Shop ...

From Front

this is my first year so I didn't know what to expect."

However, for that right-to-the-last-second shopping, Wal-Mart brings in most of the procrastinators. Co-manager David Rhodes said he thinks the store is seeing an average amount of last minute shoppers.

"It is just about the same as last year," he said. "I just started my shopping last week myself."

Miller ...

From Front

out foster care reforms required by the court settlement.

Tennessee has met just 24 of 136 settlement requirements halfway through the implementation period, a report for the court found. The state agreed to reforms that included improved foster home placements, smaller group homes and keeping children geographically close to

their families.

"We're going to make this department work again," the new commissioner said. "That begins with greater accountability and an absolute insistence on clear, measurable results."

Results are what Marcia Robinson Lowry is looking for. The executive director of the Children's Rights, the national advocacy group that sued on behalf of the state's foster children, said she has "no reason to doubt Ms. Miller intends to do a good job. That's not going to be enough at this point."

She said Bredezen's administration, which took office in January, "has done almost nothing to move this situation forward. If anything they've gone backward. We'll be looking very, very hard at what they put on the table."

Miller, who will make \$110,000 a year, said she turned down a more lucrative offer in another state because of Bredezen's commitment

to long-term substantive improvements.

"Child welfare reform is not about tinkering to make things look better," she said.

In Kentucky, Miller instituted an annual analysis of the department's successes and failures that was released publicly, created a foster care census to ensure each child was accounted for and to evaluate foster homes, improved record-keeping with an online case management system and began a new training program. Kentucky is one of two states fully accredited by the Council on Accreditation for Children and Family Services.

Miller, a native of Shreveport, La., earned degrees in speech and hearing therapy from Northwestern State University and Tulane, completed a residency in medical speech pathology at Duke University Medical Center and a special education doctorate from the University of Alabama.

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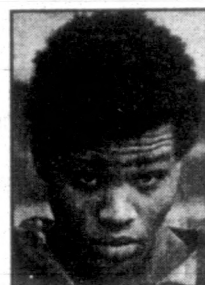
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AP Photo
Victoria Snider, the sister of victim James "Sonny" Buchanan, speaks to the media after the jury spared convicted sniper Lee Boyd Malvo from the death penalty in a Chesapeake, Va courthouse Tuesday.

Survivor, victims' families disappointed at Malvo life sentence



Malvo

Malvo did not get the death penalty like the mastermind of the attacks, John Allen Muhammad.

A jury took 8 1/2 hours over two days before choosing a sentence of life in prison without parole for Malvo, 18.

"There are two people who committed the ultimate crime," said Paul LaRuffa, who prosecutors say was shot at close range by Malvo outside his Maryland restaurant a month before the October 2002 shooting spree that killed 10 people and wounded three.

"One got the ultimate penalty and one didn't," LaRuffa said outside the courthouse. "I ask you, why?"

The sister of James L. "Sonny" Buchanan, who was killed in Maryland during the spree, said she too was disappointed, though she

accepted the jury's decision.

"I don't think there could be another case that would be more deserving of capital punishment," a tearful Victoria Buchanan Snider said.

Vijay Walekar, who lost his brother Premkumar Walekar in the sniper attacks, also said he had wanted Malvo to be executed.

"What if he runs away again?" Walekar told reporters, referring to Malvo's thwarted escape attempt the night he was arrested.

Relatives of Linda Franklin, whose murder Malvo was convicted of, did not speak outside court. The FBI analyst was shot in the head as she and her husband loaded packages into their car at a Home Depot in northern Virginia.

Katrina Hannum, Franklin's daughter, shook her head and cried when the sentence was read. Her stepfather, William Franklin, stared straight ahead.

Other victims' relatives sat quietly in court, putting their hands on each other's shoulders.

June Boyle, a Fairfax County police detective to whom Malvo confessed to some of the shootings, was visibly upset when the sentence was read. She declined to comment.

Schwarzenegger declares state of emergency

By The Associated Press

PASO ROBLES, Calif. (AP) — More aftershocks rattled the area Tuesday following a magnitude-6.5 earthquake that jolted the central California coast, killing two people, injuring dozens and wrecking a landmark clock tower.

Residents from San Francisco to Los Angeles were shaken by Monday's quake, the first to cause fatalities in the state since a magnitude-6.7 temblor hit Northridge in 1994.

The bodies of two women were pulled from under the roof of Paso Robles' 1892 clock tower, which pitched into the street and crushed a row of parked cars in this San Luis Obispo County community of 25,000, some 20 miles east of the epicenter.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger toured the damaged downtown area Tuesday and declared a state of emergency for San Luis Obispo County. The declaration frees up state aid to help local recovery efforts.

"At 11 a.m. yesterday this was an American main street, alive with energy. ... Today this is a site of devastation. But we will come together once again as Californians and as neighbors. We will rebuild this town square," Schwarzenegger said.

Mayor Frank Mechem said Tuesday that 82 downtown buildings had been identified as having at least some damage. He said that after the governor's declaration, "we'll be asking for federal assistance."

About 75,000 homes and businesses in San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties lost power after the quake, but service had been restored to all but about 1,600 by



AP Pool Photo
California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger walks in front of Pan Jewelers, one of several buildings destroyed from Monday's earthquake in Paso Robles, Calif., Tuesday. More aftershocks rattled the area following a magnitude-6.5 earthquake that jolted the central California coast.

Tuesday morning, were said Pacific Gas & Electric spokesman Bill Roake.

The main shock was centered in a sparsely populated area about 11 miles north of the coastal town of Cambria. It was followed Monday and early Tuesday by more than 80 aftershocks larger than 3.0, the biggest of which was estimated at 4.7, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The total included seven aftershocks of 4.0 to 4.6 on Tuesday morning.

The state Office of Emergency Services said there was a 90 percent

or greater probability that aftershocks of 5.0 magnitude or greater would follow in the next week.

By Monday night, search and rescue crews in Paso Robles had combed all seriously damaged buildings and were confident they had found all the quake's victims, though the owner of one car crushed

in the rubble had not yet been located.

Earlier in the day, the bodies of Jennifer Myrick, 20, of Atascadero, and Marilyn Zafuto, 55, of Paso Robles, were found on the street outside a dress shop, police Sgt. Bob Adams said.

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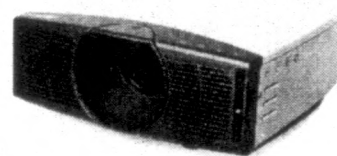
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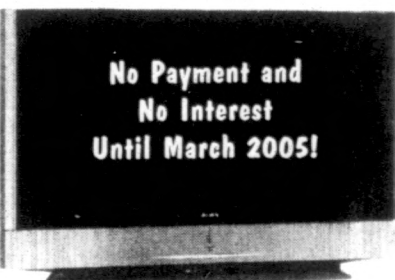
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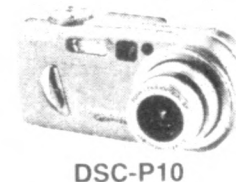
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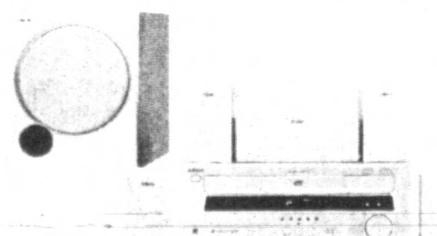
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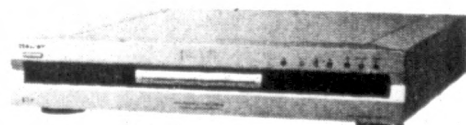
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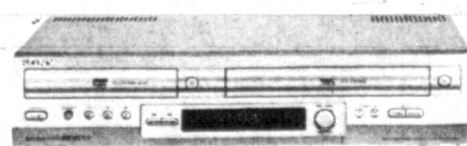
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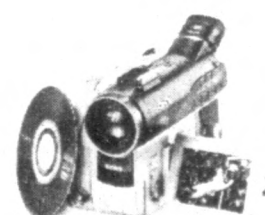
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Forum

Wednesday, December 24, 2003

MURRAY
LEDGER & TIMES

ALICE ROUSE

ERIC WALKER

Publisher

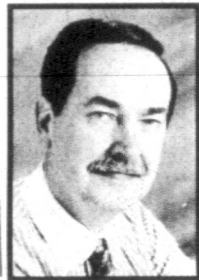
Managing Editor

"Where there is no vision, the people perish."
PUBLISHED BY MURRAY NEWSPAPER, INC.

Bush on a Roll

First Saddam Hussein falls to the Bush Doctrine, and now Libya's dictator, Moammar Kadafi, buckling under pressure, announces he will give up his efforts (and they were considerable) to develop weapons of mass destruction. He has also allowed American and British inspectors into Libya to see what he's been up to for the last two decades.

The New York Times had advised a different course of action. The newspaper editorialized that the United States should have followed the example of the United Nations and lifted sanctions after Libya's settlement with the families of those killed aboard Pan Am 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, in 1988, a terrorist attack in which Kadafi grudgingly admitted his role. To its credit, *The Times* has acknowledged it was wrong and President Bush was right.



Cal's Thoughts
By Cal Thomas
Syndicated Columnist

In a Dec. 20 editorial, the newspaper said, "This page recommended lifting American sanctions, but President Bush left them in place pending further steps, most notably Libya's decision to end its unconventional weapons programs. It is now clear that he was right to do so. The added American pressure worked just as intended."

No wonder the president doesn't read the newspapers.

This policy success should be a lesson to the United Nations, "peace activists" and others who have criticized the Bush strategy of preemption and the "failure" (so far) to find weapons of mass destruction in Iraq — even though Saddam Hussein used them in the past. Dictators lie and deceive. This lesson should have been learned in the last century. Applying moral equivalency in negotiations with dictators is like taking a used car salesman at his word without inspecting the vehicle.

The fruits of the war to topple Saddam Hussein are becoming apparent. Even Democrats are starting to acknowledge the significance of Libya's announcement. Ashton B. Carter, who served as assistant secretary of defense in the Clinton administration, said that the Iraq war was a turning point in convincing Kadafi to relinquish his weapons. One senior Bush administration official told reporters last

Friday night that Libya had progressed "much further" in its nuclear program than the United States had suspected, including acquisition of centrifuges that could be used to produce highly enriched uranium.

Given Kadafi's history, weapons inspectors will need to remain focused. In a rare appearance in the White House press room, President Bush acknowledged as much when he said, "Because Libya has a troubled history with America and Britain, we will be vigilant in ensuring its government lives up to all its responsibilities."

Libya was one of a small number of nations in the world that had refused to sign the treaty banning chemical weapons. In its war with Chad, Libya became one of a very few states to use such weapons in 1987. They were mustard gas bombs, supplied by Iran. Intelligence agents have said that Kadafi once tried to recruit South African scientists to assist him in developing biological weapons. American intelligence officials concluded earlier this year that a senior scientist who once led Iraq's germ weapons program had tried to emigrate to Libya in the mid-1990s.

If Kadafi follows through on his promises, the Bush administration (along with its equally steadfast partner, British Prime Minister Tony Blair) can rightly claim success for the proper use of force, power and resolve against those whose sole "weapon" is diplomacy, aided by the feckless United Nations. The only thing a bully understands is a fist in the face instead of a shake of the hand and meaningless signatures on documents recording promises they never intend to honor.

After the fall of Saddam Hussein, some of the leading Democratic presidential candidates continued to say that while they are grateful Saddam is gone, they would have done it differently. Now that another of the world's terrorists may have been neutered by the powerful American and British weapon of joint resolve, will Democrats who want to be president say they would have followed another path? Not unless they want to go against the repentant *New York Times*.

Cal Thomas hosts "After Hours" on Fox News Channel Saturdays at 11 p.m. ET. Direct all MAIL for Cal Thomas to: Tribune Media Services, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 1500, Chicago, Ill. 60611. Readers may also leave e-mail at www.calthomas.com.



The Vast Left Wing Conspiracy Nuts

If the Democrats who spent years making fun of conservatives by ridiculing them as right wing conspiracy nuts look up they will see a fleet of black helicopters hovering overhead.



Making Sense

By Michael Reagan

"I've been surprised they waited, but then I thought, well, politically, it probably doesn't make much sense to find him just yet," he said adding "There's too much by happenstance for it to be just a coincidental thing that it happened on this particular day." When asked if he thought the timing of the capture was meant to help President Bush, McDermott laughed and said: "Yeah. Oh, yeah."

■ Former Clinton Secretary of State Madeline Albright joined the black helicopter watch when she asked reporter Mort Kondracke if he believed that President Bush has already nabbed Osama Bin Laden and has him stashed away somewhere, planning to spring him on the nation at a politically opportune time before the November elections.

When Kondracke said "You can't seriously believe that," she replied that such an "October surprise" was "a possibility." Now she's trying to back down, saying she was only kidding, but

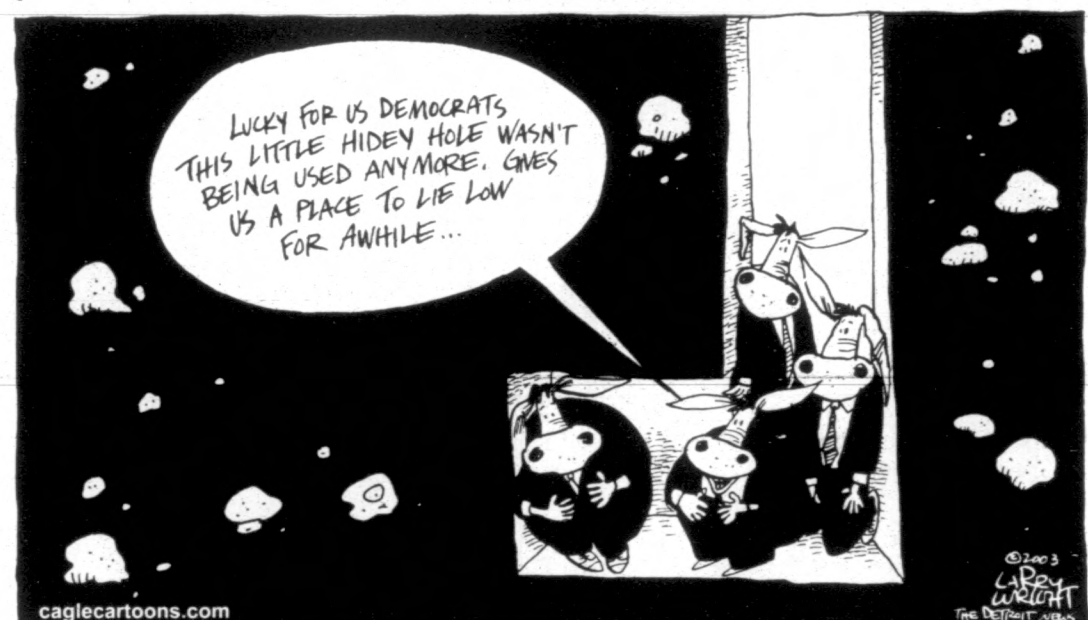
The desperation of a party coming apart at the seams is now in full public view, and as the panic sets in, Democrats are grasping at wafer-thin conspiracy straws. In recent days Americans have been treated with a spectacle of top members of the party coming unhinged and seeing monsters under their beds.

■ Rep. James McDermott, a Washington state Democrat who angered the nation by standing on Iraqi soil and attacking the U.S. before the war began, now imagines that the U.S. could have nabbed Saddam Hussein "a long time ago" if we had wanted to. He told KIRO radio station in Seattle that there were people in the administration "all along who knew basically" where the dictator was.

"I've been surprised they waited, but then I thought, well, politically, it probably doesn't make much sense to find him just yet," he said adding "There's too much by happenstance for it to be just a coincidental thing that it happened on this particular day." When asked if he thought the timing of the capture was meant to help President Bush, McDermott laughed and said: "Yeah. Oh, yeah."

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Kondracke stands by his story and is backed up by two witnesses who insist she was dead serious when she slipped her moorings and drifted into Cloud Cuckoo land.

■ Former Vermont Governor Howard Dean has seriously suggested that President Bush was alerted to 9/11 before it happened. Speaking on National Public Radio (where else?) Dec. 1, he created a new conspiracy theory by suggesting that George W. Bush ignored alleged Saudi Arabian warnings of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. And when he appeared on Fox News Sunday Dec. 7, he declined to disavow the absurd rumor or apologize for having spread it.

That all of this garbage has sprung from the fevered brains of leading Democrats is simply a sign of the panic inspired by the dramatic resurgence of the economy, the Republicans' successful co-option of the potent Medicare issue, and the capture of Saddam Hussein. They had pinned their hopes on the economic collapse they were praying for and watched in horror as the economy rebounded. They relied on the mantra that Saddam was still free and why hasn't Bush caught him, and watched in open-mouthed shock

as U.S. soldiers dug him out of his rat hole.

Allegedly politically astute, they stupidly forgot that the ball is always in the President's court and that with all of the power available to the White House, the President can always find a few rabbits to pull out of his hat when the need arises. And so they found themselves blindsided when they lost the only issues they'd been exploiting.

Their reaction to the quagmire they have managed to fall into has been a retreat into the world of fantasy poor Hillary Clinton discovered when she sought to cope with all the disclosures of her husband's sordid conduct. She blamed it all not on her husband, but on that vast right wing conspiracy which somehow had been able to cause him to drop his pants at the very sight of Monica Lewinsky.

Mike Reagan, the eldest son of President Ronald Reagan, is heard on more than 200 talk radio stations nationally as part of the *Premiere Radio Network*. Comments to micreagan@hotmail.com for Mike.

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An Early Christmas Present

Last Sunday, the capture of the ruthless tyrant Saddam Hussein was an early Christmas present for America and the world.



On The Hill
By Sen. Jim Bunning
R-Kentucky

It goes without saying that the capture of Hussein is an important milestone in the fight against terror and the rise of a free and democratic Iraq. As the President said on Sunday, Saddam's capture means that in the history of

Iraq a dark and painful era is over and a hopeful day has arrived. It also makes the Middle East, and the

rest of the world a bit safer.

The capture of Hussein marks the final end of a brutal regime. While his people were suffering Saddam was building lavish palaces all across Iraq.

During his regime the Iraqi people were being denied their inalienable human rights. Saddam was looting the country and making himself a multi-billionaire, terrorizing neighbor nations, gassing Kurdish populations in the North, maiming innocent women and children in torture chambers, and developing weapons of mass destruction in violation of 17 United Nations Resolutions.

That all came to an end last Sunday.

Hussein's capture shows America will not rest in the War on Terror. To put it into perspective, Iraq is the size of California and

Saddam Hussein was found in a five foot hole near a rundown shed. The tyrant who once lived in palaces the size of football fields looked like a disheveled street person when captured.

What led to the capture of Hussein was the fine work and resolve of the American military.

The Iraqi people now must hold Saddam Hussein to account for his crimes. They need to be involved because they were the people who were brutalized by him. Hussein's regime murdered, gassed, tortured and even had rape rooms. It has been estimated that the Hussein regime has killed over one million people. The Iraqi people will give Hussein a fair trial which is the real irony here because his regime would never give a fair trial.

The War on Terror is every bit as important as our fight against fas-

cism in World War II. Or our struggle against the spread of Communism during the Cold War. The capture of Saddam Hussein is a significant mile post in the War on Terror. It shows that the resolve of the American people is strong and will not waiver in the face of hardships.

As we will soon begin a new year I am confident we can continue our progress in the effort to rebuild Iraq and win the War on Terror. I also pray for our brave young men and women in our armed forces who are leading the charge in defense of freedom and their families who will be missing them during this holiday season. I wish all Kentuckians a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and enjoy this early Christmas present.

Attention Washington!

U.S. Rep. Ed Whitfield (R-Ky.)
236 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
web: www.house.gov/whitfield
1-202-225-3115 (Washington #)

U.S. Sen. Jim Bunning (R-Ky.)
137A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
web: jim_bunning@bunning.senate.gov
1-202-224-4343 (Washington #)

U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.)
361A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
1-202-224-2541 (Washington #)



Got Something To Say?

Send your letter to P.O. Box 1040, Murray KY 42071 or fax to 270-753-1927. Please include address and telephone number and all letters MUST BE SIGNED! Letters should be between 300-400 words in length and we

require letters be typed. 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. No "Thank you" letters will be accepted, except those referring to the community at large. Comments or questions may be directed to Eric Walker, managing editor, at 753-1916.

Obituaries

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& Crematory**
753-7000



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Family
FUNERAL HOME**
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Allison Deanne Pritchett

Allison Deanne Pritchett, 27, Phoenix, Az., formerly of Murray, died Thursday, Dec. 18, 2003 at her residence.

She was a graduate of Murray High School and Murray State University. She worked at a vocational tech school and was a member of the Church of Christ faith.

She was preceded in death by her father Sydney Pritchett; and grandparents Marion Bailey and Joe and Lovie Pritchett.

She is survived by her mother, Becky Smith and stepfather Dewayne Smith of Murray; grandfather Paul Bailey of Murray; and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Saturday at J.H. Churchill Funeral Home with John Dale and Dustin Darnell officiating. Burial will follow at Murray City Cemetery.

Visitation will be after 5 p.m. Friday at the funeral home.

Expressions of sympathy can be made to: the American Diabetes Association at P.O. Box 2680 North Canton, Ohio 44720; the Angel Fund - Family Resource Center at 1169 Pottertown Road, Murray, Ky. 42071; and the Four Rivers Behavioral Health Center at 1526 Lone Oak Road, Paducah, Ky. 42003.

Robert W. "Bob" Caldwell

Robert W. "Bob" Caldwell, 72, Paris, Tenn. died Saturday, December 20, 2003 at Paris Manor Nursing Center.

He was retired from Holley Carburetor, the City School system and the Army Reserve. He was also a member of the East Wood Church of Christ and a Mason. He was born Sept. 20, 1931 in Calloway County to the late Robert Morris and Eura Wall Caldwell.

He was preceded in death by one brother, Jack A. Caldwell.

He is survived by his wife, whom he married in 1952, Kathleen Holland Caldwell of Paris; one son, Robert H. Caldwell and wife Gail of Washington state; one sister, Sara Harrell and wife Billy of Hazel; one grandchild, Levi Johnson and wife Heidi of Washington state; one great grandchild, Kaidyn Marie Johnson of Washington state; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be 1 p.m. Saturday at McEvoy Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. David Jackson and Bro. Roger Banks of East Wood Church of Christ officiating. Burial will follow at Hillcrest Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be deacons of East Wood Church of Christ: Jim Russell, Joe Griffith, Ron Brown, Tommy Barrow, Craig Brown, Bill Dewees. Remaining deacons and all Elders of East Wood will serve as honorary pallbearers.

Visitation will be from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday and after 11 a.m. Saturday.

Eunice Bell Wood

Eunice Bell Wood, 88, of Benton died Tuesday, December 23, 2003 at 3 a.m. at her residence.

She was a member of Walnut Street Baptist Church.

She is preceded in death by her parents Edmon Franklin and Revelly Downing Franklin.

She is survived by one son, Charles Estes of Almo, Ky.; three daughters, Betty Jean Lovett, Wanda Lomprey and Janice Dowdy; four brothers, Wilburn Henson, James M. Henson, Donald R. Henson and Paul Wayne Henson; two sisters, Nola Estes and Dorothy Driver, all of Benton; 11 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren.

Graveside services will be 2 p.m. Wednesday at Hamlet Cemetery with the Rev. Joel Frizzell and Rev. Roy Gibson officiating.

Visitation will be from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday at Filbeck-Cann & King Funeral Home.

Brie recalled for listeria contamination

WASHINGTON (AP) — A California company is recalling 1,782 cases of brie that may have been contaminated with listeria, a germ that can cause serious food poisoning.

Recalled is Lactalis USA's President brand of soft-ripened, double cream brie in 7-ounce gold foil wedges that bear the code "sell by 01/10/04 307" on the bottom label.

The cheese was sold in retail stores nationwide.

People should not eat any of the recalled cheese but return it to the place of purchase for refunds.

While listeria may cause short-term fever, abdominal pain and diarrhea in healthy people, it can cause serious, even fatal infections in young children, the elderly and people with weak immune systems. It also can cause miscarriages and stillbirths in pregnant women even if the mother experiences no symptoms.

No illnesses have been reported, Lactalis said. The contaminated cheese was discovered during routine testing by Florida officials, who alerted Lactalis on Monday.

Consumers with questions may contact Lactalis at 1-800-828-7031.

Bobby Gene Smith

Bobby Gene Smith, 74, Pace Lane, Hardin, died Tuesday, December 23, 2003 at 5:45 a.m. at Lourdes Hospital.

He was a retired engineer in Calvert City, and maintenance supervisor, retired GAF Corp. in Calvert City. He attended Dexter Hardin Methodist Church and was a graduate of Hardin High School. He served in the U.S. Marine Corp in the Korean Conflict; and was named a Kentucky Colonel. He worked for Electric Energy Inc. in Joppa, Ill. and Paducah Power System.

He was preceded in death by his parents Gaylon M. Smith and Retha Clark Smith.

He is survived by his wife Betty Black Smith of Hardin; one son, Roger D. Smith of Baton Rouge, La.; one daughter, Luanne Smith of Philadelphia, Penn.; one brother, Billie Joe Smith of Brookport, Ill. and several nieces and nephews.

Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Murray Memorial Gardens with the Rev. Gary Elrod officiating.

Visitation will be from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday at Collier Funeral Home, Benton.

Isabelle Gilbert Griffin

Isabelle Gilbert Griffin, 86, of Paducah, formerly of Murray, died Tuesday, December 23, 2003 at 1:55 p.m. at Western Baptist Hospital in Paducah.

She was a member of Christian Church of Cadiz.

She was born July 24, 1917 in Almo to the late Boyd and Iva Drinkard Gilbert, owners and operators of the former Gilbert-Doran Funeral Home in Murray. She was preceded in death by her husband, Floyd Griffin who died Dec. 20, 1978 and she married Feb. 13, 1937.

She is survived by her daughter, Suzanne Utz of Paducah; two sons, Scott Griffin of Atlanta, Ga. and Michael Griffin of New Orleans; one brother, Harold Griffin of Paducah; eight grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Graveside services will be 1 p.m. Saturday at Murray City Cemetery with Dan Masden officiating. Burial will follow at Murray City Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. Friday at Blalock-Coleman & York Funeral Home.

Expressions of sympathy can be made to the American Cancer Society, Attn: Pat Latimer, P.O. Box 1080, Murray, Ky. 42071.

Clarence John Kurowski

Clarence John Kurowski, 89, of Story Ave., Murray died Tuesday, December 23, 2003 at 11:50 a.m. at the Jackson Purchase Medical Center in Mayfield.

He was a member of the St. Leo Catholic Church in Murray, a World War II Navy veteran and retired from the Chrysler Corporation. He was born Aug. 14, 1914 in Detroit, Michigan to the late Anthony and Cecelia Kalinowska Kurowski.

He is survived by his wife, Carrie Lee Hart Kurowski; four nieces and three nephews.

Funeral services will be 11 a.m. Saturday at St. Leo Catholic Church with Rev. Ray Goetz officiating. Burial will follow in Murray City Cemetery.

Visitation is from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Saturday at St. Leo Catholic Church.

Blalock-Coleman & York Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

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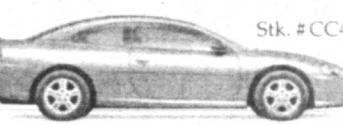
MSRP.....\$21,125

Stk. # CC4057

Peppers Disc.....- 1,630

Mfg. Rebate.....- 3,000

If Farm Bureau.....- 500



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2004 Chrysler PT Cruiser

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Mfg. Rebate.....- 2,000



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Mfg. Rebate.....- 4,000

If Farm Bureau.....- 500



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V-6, 5 Speed, A/C, PS, PB, AM/FM/Cass

MSRP.....\$20,325

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Mfg. Rebate.....- 2,500

If Farm Bureau.....- 500

Holiday Bonus Cash.....- 500



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MSRP.....\$22,840

Stk. # CT4042

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Mfg. Rebate.....- 1,500

If Military.....- 500

Holiday Bonus Cash.....- 500



Sale Price **\$18,995***

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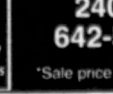
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Community

Wednesday, December 24, 2003

Local chapter members make ornaments for tree in Washington

Murray members of Embroiderer's Guild of America, Western Kentucky/Tennessee, have received national attention for their handmade Christmas ornaments for the American Horticultural Society's River Farm Christmas tree near Washington, D.C.

Nineteen stitchers volunteered to create 26 ornaments to display. Patriotic designs from the Posy Collection (www.posycollection.com) were provided by the locally owned company of Posy Lough.

Area EGA members placed top priority on completing the orna-

ments when it was learned that they were needed by Nov. 21.

Mrs. Lough was contacted to assist in decorating the national headquarters because of her commitment on design focusing on specific features of our American heritage.

The ornaments are displayed at the society's national headquarters in a historic building, once owned by George Washington on the Potomac River.

They will be seen by holiday guests from all over the world as well as featured in the society's publication, "The American Gardener Magazine." They will then be returned to the local EGA Chapter for future patriotic events locally.

Mary Renquist, president of the local chapter, said "members enjoy sharing their love of our country through needlework as one of several outreach projects."

Western KY/TN Chapter has both day and evening meetings. Anyone with an interest in the creation or preservation of needlework is welcome. Contact Renquist at 436-5824 for more information.



Locally created needlework decorates a tree at the National Headquarters of the American Horticulture Society.

Photo provided

FUN & FASHION

By D.K. Kelley



Merry Christmas! It's Christmas Eve, the stockings should be hung by the chimney with care, jingle bells are ringing every where. The partridge is in the pear tree and hopefully Santa is well on his way.

A great present to yourself would be participating in local charities and helping others less fortunate than you. It can be as simple as running an errand for a shut-in or taking food to someone who is sick.

Sharing of yourself, your money or time makes you feel good inside. It really is a wonderful present to yourself.

The party season is in full swing, you can really pull out the stops and go for the glamour.

I love getting out the gorgeous rhinestones and putting on the glitz. Even with jeans, a beautiful sweater or a satin blouse, gemstones or rhinestones are certainly appropriate.

High heels are even fine with jeans this season. Sandals in the winter, yes it's really being done, however if you get cold try our toeless panty hose. No one will know your legs aren't bare. All of our holiday wear is 25% off now through New Year's Eve.

The day after Christmas starts our clearance sale on winter merchandise. All of the Christmas merchandise is now 1/2 off too. We will also have a 60% off rack. This is the BIG SALE of the season, not to be missed beginning Friday after Christmas.

We will be open Christmas Eve for you last minute shoppers who love to put the pressure on and get down to the wire.

Let's all remember what the holidays are all about. This is the season that makes us grateful for the companionship of family, and the goodness of friendship.

Let's also not forget the courage of our soldiers and their families who have sacrificed for all of us. Let's pray for our soldiers to return home safely.

We will be having lunch this Friday from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. as usual. Please join us and check out our sale.

Congratulations to Betty Elkins who won the red onyx enhancer door prize last Friday at our lunch.

Quote of the Week: "Be mindful that happiness is not based on possessions, power, or prestige, but on relationships with people you love and respect." Unknown

May the magic of Christmas envelope you in the joy of the season.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. Stay tuned to next week's Fun & Fashion report.

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Telephone calls and e-mail mean so much during holidays



Jo's Datebook
By Jo Burkeen
Community Editor

Did you ever stop to think of how much the telephone and e-mail means to your life. With cell phones, we can call from our cars wherever we are most of the time.

Families can stay in contact with their children by e-mail hearing from them every day.

At Christmas, it is a special joy when we can talk to our children and grandchildren by telephone no matter where they live.

During World War II, some parents were able to talk with their sons serving overseas; but for most, it was almost an impossibility. The parents just watched the mail boxes and hoped to get letters from their soldier sons and daughters.

Let us be thankful for the many blessings we enjoy each day. A special thought goes out to all those who have lost loved ones during the past year.

Angels Attic lists closing holiday days

The Angels Attic Thrift Shop at 972 Chestnut St., Murray, next to Pagliai's, has announced that it will be closed after Dec. 24 and reopen on Friday, Jan. 2. The attic is usually open from noon to 5 p.m., Tuesdays through Saturdays. Volunteers are urgently needed to assist with this community-wide endeavor which benefits the Angels Community Clinic. For more information call 762-0505.

Deadline today to sign up for classes

Master Clothing Volunteers Connie Talent, Jo Farley and Ann Cash will have a morning and afternoon class for youth on Friday, Jan. 2, from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. at the Calloway County Extension office. Limited spaces are available. Youth must sign up for the class by today, Dec. 24, by calling Talent at 753-9894 or Extension office at 753-1452. The extension office will be closed Dec. 25 through Jan. 1.

Christmas Eve service planned

First Christian Church will have a Christmas Eve Candlelight service tonight, Dec. 24, at 8 p.m. The public is invited.

Methodists plan service

First United Methodist Church will have a Christmas Eve service tonight, Dec. 24, at 7 p.m. A Come and Go Communion will be from 8:15 to 9 p.m.

Presbyterians plan service

First Presbyterian Church will have its Communion Service on Christmas Eve, tonight, Dec. 24, at 7 p.m.

Memorial Baptists plan service

Memorial Baptist Church will have a family prayer meeting in the fellowship hall for all ages today, Dec. 24, at 5:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve service planned

First Baptist Church will have its Christmas Eve service today, Dec. 24, at 5 p.m. Persons are asked to note the change in time.

Lutherans plan services

Immanuel Lutheran Church will have a Christmas Eve service at 7 p.m. tonight, Dec. 24, and a Christmas Festival Communion Service at 10 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 25.

Youth Center plans promotion

Main Street Youth Center will have a rebate day on Saturday, Dec. 27, at Captain D's. Persons are asked to place their receipt in the box on the counter marked for the center.

Baseball camp scheduled

A Baseball Camp for youth between the ages of 9 to 18, led by Mitch and Rick Grogan, will be Saturday, Jan. 3, from 10 a.m. to noon in the gym at Elm Grove Baptist Church, Highway 94 East, Murray. For more information contact Joetta Kelly at 753-1854.

Gift certificates for books available

Gift certificates for the book, "Lynn Grove-Harris Grove Family History," are now available for those who would like to give them for Christmas. The books, being published by the Calloway County Genealogical Society, will arrive at a later date. For information call Ruth Cole at 753-2718.

Pictorial History books available

The Alpha Department of the Murray Woman's Club has received a shipment of the book, "Calloway County Pictorial History." For information call Lois Pharris at 759-4938.

AA meetings scheduled

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) will meet at 8 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday, at 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. on Wednesday, at 10 a.m. on Saturday and 4 p.m. on Sunday at the American Legion Hall, Maple and South Sixth Streets, Murray. The only requirement for attendance is a desire to stop drinking. For information call 436-5675 or 759-4539.

Festival of Lights continues at local park

"A Festival of Lights" will continue through Monday, Dec. 29, beginning at 6 p.m. each night by Murray-Calloway County Park Parks and Recreation, along with Murray-Calloway County United Way. For information call 762-0325.

Students receive scholarships from MCCH

Murray-Calloway County Hospital recently awarded scholarships to several students pursuing health-care careers.

Gary Harper of Murray received a two-year scholarship to attend West Kentucky Community and Technical College to complete an associate degree in nursing. Currently an employee on the Medical/Surgical unit of MCCH, Harper's scholarship is sponsored by the MCCH Auxiliary.

Tina Jones of Bardwell received a scholarship to attend the University of Kentucky to complete her master's degree in physical therapy.

Kelly Derington, RN, received a scholarship to attend McKendree College to complete her bachelor of science degree in nursing. She currently works as a charge nurse on the maternity floor of the hospital.

Rhonda Darnell, RN, received a scholarship to attend McKendree College to complete her bachelor of science degree in nursing. She works as a full-time charge nurse in the Medical/Surgical unit of MCCH and resides in Farmington.

Jennie Coursey, LPN, received a scholarship to attend West Kentucky Community and Technical College to complete her associate degree in nursing. She is a charge nurse at West View Nursing Home and serves on committees where she can have an impact on the quality of patient care.

Rachel Davis, LPN, received a scholarship to attend West Kentucky Community and Technical College to complete her associate degree in nursing. She is a resident of Puryear, Tenn., and is employed by West View Nursing Home.



Gary Harper

Kathleen Tucker, LPN, received a scholarship to attend West Kentucky Community and Technical College to complete an associate degree in nursing. She lives in Mayfield and works on a geriatric unit at West View Nursing Home.

Sheila Adams, LPN, received a scholarship to attend West Kentucky Community and Technical College to complete an associate degree in nursing. She is a resident of Mayfield and works on the medical/surgical unit at MCCH.

Kathy Dye, from Mayfield, received a scholarship to attend West Kentucky Community and Technical College to become a

See Page 7A

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For more information on Project Safe Kids, contact the Planning and Marketing Department at 762-1381 or contact FROGGY 103.7 FM at 753-2400.

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Photo provided
 Pictured is the NEMO and two of the 101 Dalmatians having a "Murray" Christmas at the home of Hank and Edit: Hatcher, 1511 Johnson Blvd. Hank said that every year for the last 15 years he has done something like this. He built the display and painted the display himself, building Nemo (from the movie, "Finding Nemo") out of cardboard and the Dalmatians from plywood. The first year, he built a depiction of "Snow White & the Seven Dwarfs."

Students interested in learning more about the healthcare scholarship opportunities available through MCCH can call Lyn Ryan, nurse recruiter, at 762-1319.



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JOHN WRIGHT/Ledger & Times photo
Glendale Place Activities Director Viola Wood, left, serves some peach cobbler to resident Ruby Mangold during the retirement center's Old Fashioned Family Christmas celebration last week. The event attracted a full house of family members and other guests. Also shown mulling over the dessert options are resident Gene Wrather, center, and non-resident Chester Caddas, right, both of Murray, while non-resident Gene McDougall, in front of window, and Joy Waldrop, far right, can be seen waiting in the dinner line.

Pentagon considers closing military base schools

FORT KNOX, Ky. (AP) — If the Pentagon decides to close the schools it operates on military bases, it would mean some major changes at the two bases in Kentucky.

Affected students would either be sent to nearby public schools, or the local public school system would take over the base schools, said Mike Lynch, chief of staff for the Department of Defense Education Activity, a civilian agency that operates the schools.

It would also mean the end of a standardized curriculum that allows a student to transfer at midyear from Germany or South Korea to Kentucky without changing textbooks.

The Department of Defense has completed a \$1.6 million campus-by-campus evaluation of the effect of closing some or all of the more than 50 schools it operates, which cost the government more than \$250 million last year to operate. A decision isn't expected until spring.

Students, active-duty military parents and base commanders have expressed fierce opposition to closing the schools, which students say make the burden of moving from base to base more tolerable.

"People here just understand what you are going through," said Katie Wurzbach, a Fort Knox High sophomore whose father will be in Saudi Arabia until June.

School officials at Fort Knox, which has 2,800 students, and Fort Campbell, with 4,500 students, say the schools' benefits go beyond the bonds students form. They cite high performance on standardized tests — especially among minority students — and graduation rates better than 95 percent.

But the schools are costly for the military, which is fighting two wars and is in the middle of a major transformation as the branches reconfigure themselves for fighting in a new, high-tech century. Salaries for teachers, who are federal employees, average as much as \$15,000 a year more than the average salary for Kentucky's public schools.

Last year, the Pentagon spent about \$28 million to operate the Fort Knox school system alone. Both

Fort Knox and Fort Campbell have full school systems, kindergarten through 12th grade — something done at only four of the 14 U.S. bases with schools.

High-ranking officers — including Brig. Gen. Ben Freakley, the commander at Fort Benning, Ga., who until recently served as assistant division commander of the Fort Campbell-based 101st Airborne Division in Iraq — also are on record as strongly opposing the idea.

U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said in a statement that he is confident the study will "illustrate that families at Fort Campbell and Fort Knox are well served by their schools, which are obviously tremendous assets to these two Kentucky installations and to the children of our soldiers."

Lynch said the final decision will be made by Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, probably in consultation with President Bush, and likely will involve Congress.

Col. Keith Armstrong, garrison commander at Fort Knox, said word of the potential closings only recently

began circulating on the post.

"But I think you are going to be seeing a very vocal part of the population speaking out in favor of the schools," he said.

Reaction at Fort Campbell, where thousands of families have members fighting in Iraq with the 101st Airborne, has so far been muted as well, said post spokesman George Heath. But acting superintendent Tom Pearce said students and staff have taken the possibility of closing seriously.

Bob Lovingood, superintendent of Christian County schools, said it's not clear how many of Fort Campbell's students would be absorbed into his district if the schools close, since the post straddles the Kentucky-Tennessee border.

But he said he'd welcome the new students if the government provides funding to support their education.

Hardin County schools Superintendent Richard Hughes said the government may pay the district as much as \$8,000 per student.

Elementary school works to become bully-free

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) — A Fayette County elementary school is doing its part to stamp out bullying.

Every morning, students at Lansdowne Elementary recite an anti-bullying pledge along with the Pledge of Allegiance. Original artwork against bullying lines the school hallways. Teachers have stepped up supervision on the playground.

A large part of this year's initiative teaches children that adults in the school will take action to stop bullying as soon as they find out about the problem.

The result, for students like fifth-grader Emily Kesheimer, is a new feeling of security at school.

For two years, she said classmates hit her and teased her about her height, her family and her neighborhood.

"It scares you," the 10-year-old said. "You say you're never going to come to school anymore and you're not going to talk to anybody. You don't want to have any friends."

"I like coming to school now ... I know nothing bad is going to happen, and if it did, it would be taken care of immediately."

Bullying goes beyond friendly teasing on the playground, school safety experts say. In three-fourths of the shootings in American schools, shooters have reported that they were retaliating against unchecked bullies, said Jon Akers, executive director of the Kentucky Center for School Safety.

Lansdowne Principal Jane Gettler said a survey of parents two years ago revealed one in five students at school had been bullied. The faculty requested additional training about bullying, she said.

Counselor Debora Rogers trained students in every grade about bullying. Students now know how to recognize bullying and have learned ways to combat it. Lessons focus on how students can handle situations themselves, intervene on behalf of classmates and get help when they feel threatened.

Family, career-juggling moms often run on empty tanks

QUESTION: You've talked about being a full-time mother vs. having a full-time career. Give us your view of a woman handling both responsibilities simultaneously. Is it doable, and is it smart?

DR. DOBSON: Some women are able to maintain a busy career and a bustling family at the same time, and they do it beautifully. I admire them for their discipline and dedication. It has been my observation, however, that this dual responsibility is a formula for exhaustion and frustration for many others. It can be a never-ending struggle for survival.

Why? Because there is only so much energy within the human body, and when it is invested in one place it is not available for use in another. Consider what it is like to be a mother of young children who must arise early in the morning, get her kids dressed, fed and located for the day, then drive to work, labor from 9 to 5, go by the grocery store and pick up food for dinner, retrieve the kids at the child-care center, and then drive home. She is dog-tired by that point and needs to put her feet up for a few minutes. But she can't rest. The kids are hungry and they've been waiting to see her all day.

"Read me a story, Mom," says the most needy.

This beleaguered woman then begins another four to six hours of very demanding "mothering" that will extend into the evening. She must fix dinner, wash the dishes, bathe the baby, help with homework, and give each child some "quality time." Then comes the task of getting the tribe in bed, saying the prayers, and bringing six glasses of water to giggling kids who want to stall. I get tired just thinking of a schedule like this.

You might ask, "Where is the husband and father in all this exertion? Why isn't he carrying his share of the homework?" Well, he may be working a 15-hour day at his own job. Getting started in a business or a profession often demands that kind of commitment. Or he may simply not choose to help his wife. That is a common complaint among working mothers.

"Not fair," you say. I agree, but that's the way the system often works.

The most difficult aspect of this lifestyle is the constancy of the load. Most of us could maintain such a schedule for a week or two, but the working mother must do it month after month for years on end. On weekends there's housecleaning to do, clothes to be ironed and pants to be mended. And this is the pace she maintains when things are going right. She has no reserve of time or energy when a member of the family gets sick or the car breaks down or marital problems develop. A little push in any direction and she could go over the edge.

Admittedly, I have painted a more stressful scenario than most families have to endure. But not by much. Overcommitted and frazzled fami-

lies are commonplace in our culture. Husbands and wives have no time for each other. Life is nothing but work, work, work. They are continually frustrated, irritable and harried. They don't take walks, read the Scriptures together, or do anything that is "fun." Their sex life suffers because exhausted people don't even make love meaningfully. They begin to drift apart and eventually find themselves with "irreconcilable differences." It is a tragic pattern I have been observing for the past 25 years.

The issue, then, is not whether a woman should choose a career and be a mother, too. Of course she has that right, and it is nobody's business but hers and her husband's. I would simply plead that you not allow your family to get sucked into that black hole of exhaustion. However you choose to divide the responsibilities of working and family management, reserve some time and energy for yourselves -- and for each other.

Your children deserve the best that you can give them, too.

Send your questions to Dr. Dobson, c/o Focus on the Family, P.O. Box 444, Colorado Springs, CO 80903. These questions and answers are excerpted from books authored by Dr. James Dobson and published by Tyndale House Publishers. Dr. Dobson is the Chairman of the Board for Focus on the Family, a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of the home.

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Prosecutors cleared to examine Limbaugh medical records

'Doctor shopping' is alleged

By JILL BARTON
Associated Press Writer

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Prosecutors investigating whether Rush Limbaugh illegally went "doctor shopping" for prescription painkillers can examine his medical records, a judge ruled Tuesday.

The conservative radio commentator accused prosecutors of going after him for political reasons, and his attorney promptly appealed the ruling.

Circuit Judge Jeffrey A. Winikoff said authorities have a compelling interest in determining whether Limbaugh broke the law, which trumps his right to keep his medical records private. However, the judge said prosecutors cannot make the records public.

Palm Beach County prosecutors insisted they needed to review the

records to determine how much Limbaugh's doctors knew about his frequent prescriptions for OxyContin, hydrocodone and other painkillers, and whether he was "doctor shopping."

That term refers to looking for a doctor willing to prescribe drugs illegally, or getting prescriptions for a single drug from more than one doctor at the same time.

"Those records are the only way to clarify the violation of law that we're investigating," prosecutor James Martz argued.

Investigators seized records from Florida and California doctors last month after discovering that Limbaugh received more than 2,000 painkillers, prescribed by four doctors in a six-month period, at a pharmacy near his \$24 million Palm Beach mansion.

Limbaugh's attorneys argued that



Rush Limbaugh

the seizure violated the broadcast-

er's privacy. Martz said the records were taken to ensure they were not tampered with or destroyed.

Limbaugh recently admitted his addiction to painkillers, blaming severe back pain. He took a five-week leave from his afternoon national radio show to go into rehab.

During his Tuesday show, Limbaugh accused authorities of leaking information to damage his reputation, and said prosecutors have a political agenda.

"The Democrats still cannot defeat me in the arena of political ideas. And so now they're trying to do so in the court of public opinion and the legal system," Limbaugh said. Prosecutor Barry Krischer disputed the allegations.

Limbaugh's lawyer, Roy Black, said: "Mr. Limbaugh was not doctor shopping and he should not have to sacrifice his privacy to prove his innocence." He asked a judge to

prohibit prosecutors from viewing the records until his appeal is decided.

Authorities began investigating Limbaugh last year after his former maid told them she had supplied him with prescription painkillers for years.

At a hearing Monday, Black said his client suffered from a degenerative disc disease with "pain so great at one point doctors thought he had bone cancer," but Limbaugh chose to take painkillers rather than under-

go surgery. Surgery to reach the affected part of Limbaugh's spine could have threatened his voice, Black said.

Limbaugh's former maid, Wilma Cline, threatened to sell the story to The National Enquirer, Black said. She and her husband demanded millions from Limbaugh and were "paid substantial amounts," the lawyer said.

Black called the payments blackmail. The Clines' attorney, Ed Shohat, denied his allegation.



AP Photo

Dan Webb, left, attorney for former Illinois Gov. George Ryan, right, speaks to the media during a news conference, Tuesday at the law firm of Winston and Strawn, in Chicago. Ryan pleaded innocent Tuesday to federal corruption charges.

Former Ill. Gov. Ryan pleads innocent to corruption charges

CHICAGO (AP) — Former Gov. George Ryan pleaded innocent to federal corruption charges Tuesday and said he would spurn any plea bargain on allegations that he took payoffs in return for letting associates profit from state contracts and leases.

Ryan pleaded not guilty to charges of racketeering conspiracy, mail fraud, tax fraud, filing false tax returns and making false statements to agents investigating corruption. He answered "I do" four times when the judge asked if he understood the charges.

"I'm absolutely not guilty of those charges," Ryan told reporters later. "I will not plea bargain. I'll go to trial and establish my innocence."

The charges in the 22-count indictment announced last Wednesday against Ryan and lobbyist Larry Warner could send them to prison for years. Warner, who allegedly collected at least \$3.1 million through his friendship with Ryan, pleaded innocent Friday.

Ryan, a Republican who served as secretary of state from 1991 to 1999 and governor from 1999 to January, was freed on \$4,500 bail.

The indictment is the latest in the government's 5 1/2-year probe of corruption under Ryan that began as an inquiry into bribes paid for driver's licenses in the secretary of state's office.

Ryan's attorney, Dan Webb, told reporters that federal prosecutors were trying to turn the give-and-take of governing into a crime.

"The government has cobbled together a number of unrelated acts, innocent acts that are nothing more than the fabric of what goes on in Illinois politics and Illinois govern-

ment," Webb said. "They are not crimes."

Ryan has said he knew there was a culture of corruption in the secretary of state's office but was unaware of the specifics.

Ryan was the 66th person charged in the investigation and the fourth former Illinois governor to be indicted by a federal grand jury in as many decades.

The scandal was a factor in his decision not to seek a second term, and his unpopularity was considered a major reason GOP candidates were routed statewide in 2002, including the election of a Democratic governor for the first time since 1972.



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Sports

Wednesday, December 24, 2003

'Boisterous State' silences TCU

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Ryan Dinwiddie ended his career as the most efficient passer in college football, and by leading Boise State to its first bowl victory away from home.

Dinwiddie threw for 325 yards and three touchdowns, the last an 18-yarder to Derek Schouman for winning score, and the No. 18 Broncos beat No. 19 TCU 34-31 Tuesday night in the inaugural Fort Worth Bowl.

The win wasn't secure until sophomore Mike Wynn, who had not attempted a kick for TCU all season, was well short on a 51-yard field-goal attempt with 7 seconds left.

Boise State (13-1) ended the season with 11 straight wins. The Broncos have won all four of their bowl games, including the Humanitarian Bowl on their blue-turfed home field three of the previous four seasons.

TCU (11-2), playing at home after being in contention for a Bowl Championship Series spot until its only regular-season loss Nov. 20, had its school-record 13-game home winning streak snapped.

The Broncos missed a chance to clinch the game after Gabriel Franklin's diving interception with 5:41 left. He cut in front of receiver Reggie Harrell, snagging the ball just inches off the ground.

But Boise State then went three-and-out, giving the ball back to TCU with 3:27 left.

TCU converted a fourth-and-10 from its 20 when Brandon Hassell passed to Harrell for 28 yards. The Frogs then converted on a fourth-and-1, when Lonta Hobbs just got the needed yards to the 28 with 40 seconds left.

After three incomplete passes and a penalty, Wynn came on instead of Nick Browne. Coach Gary Patterson said Browne, the senior who made 28 of 33 field goals this season, including a 22-yarder earlier in the game, had a quad injury.

Dinwiddie hit 19 of 35 passes, and overcame two interceptions. He finished with 4,356 yards passing this season, and in his career had 9,809 yards with 82 touchdowns and just 20 interceptions.

T.J. Acree had eight catches for 150 yards, including a 27-yard touchdown in the first quarter that came just 1:20 after TCU's opening score.

Two TCU fumbles led to Boise State's 10 second-half points.

On the first play of the second half, Andy Avalos recovered Robert Merrill's fumble at the TCU 26. Three plays later, Tyler Jones kicked a 37-yard field goal to break the 24-24 halftime tie.

The Horned Frogs responded by going 81 yards in eight plays, the last coming on Hobbs' 7-yard TD run.

But Hobbs, who ran for 117 yards on 23 carries, fumbled early in the fourth quarter when the ball was knocked out by a teammate.



LM OTERO/AP
Boise State's tight end Derek Schouman (91) pulls in the winning touchdown in front of TCU defenders Chris Peoples (20) in the fourth quarter of the Fort Worth Bowl in Fort Worth, Texas, Tuesday night. Boise State won 34-31.

Lakers win championship over Daviess County

By MICHAEL DANN
Sports Writer

OWENSBORO, Ky. — The Laker boys basketball team is feeling a little like the Harlem Globetrotters these days.

And they are playing like them as well.

Calloway County High School took to the road for the seventh time this season and earned its sixth win in a row, a 60-50 win over Daviess County High School, to win the championship of the Daviess County Invitational Tuesday night.

Tournament MVP and senior guard Terry Adams led the charge with 29 points.

Seth Barrow helped out with 12 points, while Roger Jones tacked on 11. Logan Walker fin-

ished with six points and Chase Futrell had two in the win.

Both Futrell and Jones were named to the All-Tournament team as well.

It was an early Christmas present for head coach Terry Birdsong, who said that his Lakers are starting to come together.

"I've told our kids to never underestimate the heart of a champion and they showed that tonight."

The Lakers (7-2) pulled the upset over the eighth state ranked Panthers (8-2) using stingy defense, a defense that Birdsong added is getting better and better night-in and night-out. Meanwhile, Calloway County has been doing it without the services of Cody White who has been side-

lined with mononucleosis.

Birdsong hopes to get the 5-foot-11-White back at the start of the year. The junior guard was averaging 5.5 points-per-game before his absence, but offensively was not where he was needed.

"He's one of my better defenders," Birdsong said. "He's one of the more aggressive kids I have and I'll be glad to get him back."

Calloway County trailed the Panthers 18-12 at the end of the first quarter, but regrouped to tie the score at 24-all at halftime.

The Lakers closed out the third quarter holding a 43-36 lead and outscored Daviess County 17-14 in the final eight minutes.

Johnny Worth led the Panthers with 16 points.



ED REINKE/AP
Kentucky's Gerald Fitch drives past Eastern Kentucky's Terrez DeWalt during the first half of their intrastate matchup Tuesday night in Lexington. Eastern Kentucky players Matt Witt, left, and Michael Haney follow the play in the background.

Cats clobber Colonels

By CHRIS DUNCAN
AP Sports Writer

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) — Kentucky coach Tubby Smith believes his team is at its best when it's playing unselfishly.

The second-ranked Wildcats (7-0) put on a clinic of unselfish play on Tuesday night, piling up a season-high 28 assists in a 101-72 win over Eastern Kentucky.

"We were sharp," Smith said. "We have an excellent passing team and that's a key to taking good shots. When we take good shots, we're going to make them."

Gerald Fitch scored 26 points on 10-of-16 shooting. He went five for seven from 3-point range — getting mostly wide-open looks from teammates' pinpoint passing.

Fitch did his share of distributing, too, finishing with six assists. Erik Daniels had 15 points, seven rebounds and a career-high eight assists. Cliff Hawkins added 16 points and six assists as Kentucky won its 27th consecutive regular-season game.

Many of the assists were dazzling — from alley-oops to no-look passes to the behind-the-back variety.

"Passing is what this team does best," Daniels said.

Kentucky's active, swarming defense was just as impressive, generating 18 steals and 25 Eastern Kentucky turnovers.

Michael Haney scored 15 points

to lead the overmatched Colonels (3-5).

"Everything we did poorly was because of them," said Eastern Kentucky coach Travis Ford, who played point guard for Kentucky from 1992-94.

Kentucky was playing its first home game since Nov. 28 and dominated from the start, taking a 12-2 lead in the first five minutes. The Colonels committed four turnovers and missed seven of their first eight shots in that span, while the Wildcats started 6-of-8.

Jon Bentley scored on an inbound play, but consecutive 3-pointers by Azubuike and Fitch kept the Wildcats rolling.

Smith pulled all five starters — Fitch, Daniels, Hawkins, Kelen-Azubuike and Chuck Hayes — with 14:03 left in the opening half and the Wildcats already up 18-4.

Kentucky has trailed only 67 seconds this season and hasn't faced a deficit in four games.

"We have gotten off to some good starts this year," Smith said. "That has been a big key to us being able to control tempo and the flow of the game."

Smith substituted freely for the rest of the half, tinkering with different lineups and getting minutes for nearly all his reserves.

He wasn't happy with his bench's play after the game, noticing immediately that reserves com-

WILDCATS 101, Eastern Kentucky 72

EASTERN KENTUCKY (3-5)

Diakhate 3-9 0-0 6, Bentley 5-9 2-3 12, Haney 5-6 6-6 17, Scott 2-7 5-6 9, Witt 0-9 2-2 2, DeWalt 1-2 0-0 2, Rushing 1-3 2-2 4, Newton 1-1 0-0 3, Brock 0-1 0-0 0, Mascoli 0-1 0-0 0, Slaughter 2-3 1-2 5, Moore 2-5 0-0 6, McPherson 0-0 0-0 0, Volpenhein 3-4 0-0 6. Totals 25-60 18-21 72.

KENTUCKY (7-0)

Daniels 7-10 1-1 15, Hayes 4-5 1-1 9, Azubuike 5-6 0-0 13, Hawkins 7-7 0-0 16, Fitch 10-16 1-2 26, Moss 0-1 1-2 1, Stockton 1-1 0-0 2, Carrier 0-2 0-0 0, Obrzut 3-3 0-0 6, Cole 1-2 0-0 3, Alleyne 3-4 0-0 6, Thomas 1-4 0-0 2, Barbour 1-2 0-0 2, LeMaster 0-1 0-0 0, Perry 0-3 0-0 0, Heissenbuttel 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 43-67 4-6 101.

Halftime—Kentucky 48, Eastern Kentucky 32. 3-Point Goals—Eastern Kentucky 4-17 (Moore 2-5, Haney 1-1, Newton 1-1, Rushing 0-1, Mascoli 0-1, Scott 0-1, Diakhate 0-3, Witt 0-4), Kentucky 11-21 (Fitch 5-7, Azubuike 3-3, Hawkins 2-2, Cole 1-1, Barbour 0-1, Moss 0-1, Carrier 0-2, Perry 0-2, Daniels 0-2). Fouled out—None. Rebounds—Eastern Kentucky 28 (Volpenhein 7), Kentucky 33 (Daniels 7). Assists—Eastern Kentucky 11 (Scott 4), Kentucky 28 (Daniels 8). Total fouls—Eastern Kentucky 12, Kentucky 16. A—22,023.

mitted 15 of Kentucky's 22 turnovers.

"When you go into a game, you're expected to play hard, play smart and take care of the ball," Smith said. "When you don't get in that much, it's not that easy. They (the reserves) get a little nervous and try to do some things they're not used to doing."

Dean's 31 leads Louisville past VMI

By BRUCE SCHREINER

Associated Press Writer
LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Taquan Dean's smile kept getting bigger with each 3-pointer.

The sophomore guard scored a career-high 31 on a record-breaking flurry of 3-pointers as No. 20 Louisville defeated over-matched VMI 107-56 on Tuesday night.

"I was just loose and having fun," Dean said. "When I'm having fun, that's when I play my best."

He made hit nine 3-pointers in 12 attempts in the Cardinals' 700th game in Freedom Hall, their home since 1956.

The former Louisville record for 3-pointers in a game was shared by Francisco Garcia, who made eight against Cincinnati on Feb. 5, and James Brewer, who got his against Oral Roberts on Jan. 2, 1993.

The Cardinals set a school record with 34 assists, as their crisp passing led to an array of dunks and layups.

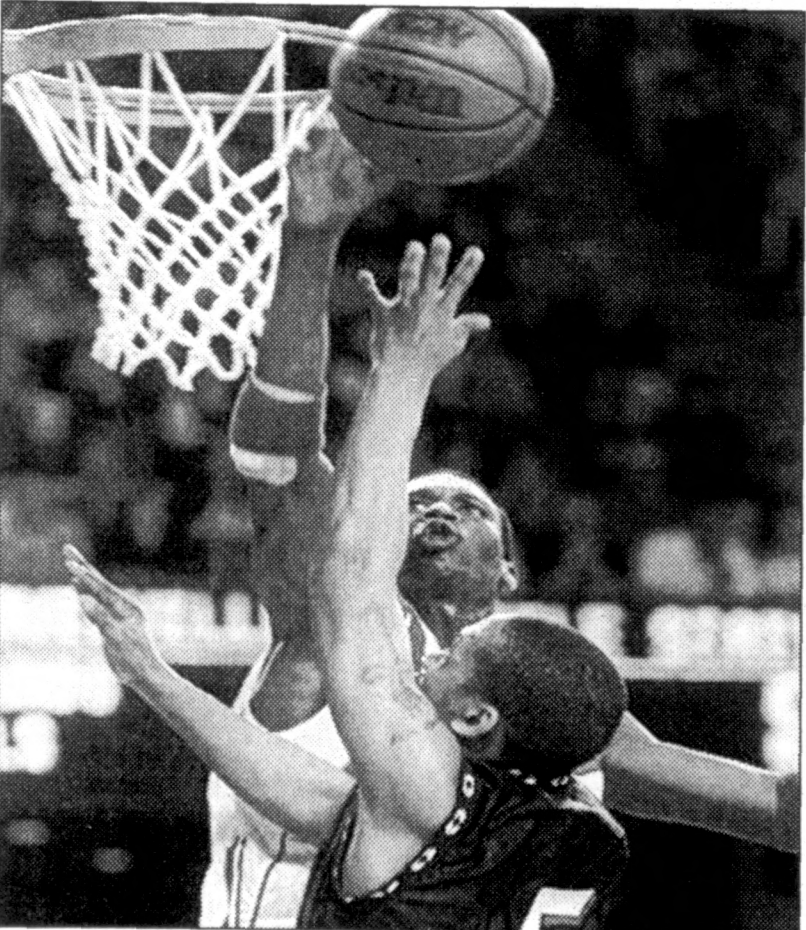
"Our guys took care of business and did a professional job of passing," Louisville coach Rick Pitino said. "They thought pass before shot."

Garcia, a sophomore guard, matched a career high with eight assists.

"Garcia could have had 30 points but he was looking for his teammates," VMI coach Bart Bellairs said.

The Keydets withered against the Cardinals' relentless first-half pressure. VMI committed nine turnovers on its first 11 possessions and had more miscues than points for most of the opening half. Louisville scored 31 points off VMI's 19 first-half turnovers.

The Cardinals (6-1) showed no signs of looking ahead to their showdown Saturday at second-



TIMOTHY D. EASLEY/AP
Louisville's Otis George blocks the shot of Virginia Military Institute's Fred Robinson (5), during first half action Tuesday night at Freedom Hall in Louisville.

ranked Kentucky.

Garcia said the performance should give the Cardinals plenty of confidence.

"We passed the ball very good and I hope it carries on for us to the next game," he said. "As a matter of fact, we are shooting the ball very good, getting the ball to the open spots."

Luke Whitehead scored 15 points and matched his career high with 15 rebounds. Nate Daniels scored a career-high 17 points and Garcia had 12.

"A lot of times you don't stay focused when you are playing a

team like this," Whitehead said. "Sometimes you overlook them. But we stayed focused the whole game and didn't overlook them."

The Cardinals took command from the outset, scoring the game's first 16 points.

Dean hit three 3-pointers in the first three minutes, and Otis George added four points for the Cardinals. Matt Murrer, who led VMI (2-7) with 11, broke the drought with a 3-pointer from the corner to make it 16-3 with 15:21 remaining in the first half.

The Cardinals hit 12-of-25 3-pointers and led 58-24 at the break.



GENE J. PUSKAR/AP

The Boston Red Sox finally got middle infielder Pokey Reese in a drawn-out pursuit. Reese, not Alex Rodriguez will join the Boston Red Sox in the spring of 2004. The second baseman, who spent two days with Boston two years ago, agreed Tuesday to a \$1 million, one-year contract.

Reese signs with Red Sox Texas says A-Rod to stay

NEW YORK (AP) — The A-Rod-to-Boston saga is over, or so the Rangers and Red Sox say.

Texas owner Tom Hicks said Tuesday he's ending attempts to complete a trade of American League MVP Alex Rodriguez to Boston for outfielder Manny Ramirez.

Hicks spoke with Red Sox owner John Henry twice Tuesday, their first conversation in four days.

"We both recognized there was too big a gulf to bridge," Hicks said. "Neither one of us thought it would take the public profile it did, or get as complex as it did."

Last week, the players' association rejected a proposal by the Red Sox to cut \$28 million to \$30 million off A-Rod's record \$252 million contract.

Henry, Red Sox chairman Tom Werner, president Larry Lucchino and general manager Theo Epstein issued a joint statement Tuesday saying "no further discussions

regarding this transaction are planned."

Rodriguez's agent also agreed that the talks were over.

"Tom Hicks has indicated he would not consider a trade for Alex Rodriguez in the immediate future," Scott Boras said.

Hicks spoke several times Tuesday to Rodriguez, and said the shortstop was "happy" to remain with the Rangers.

Still, many agents and some general managers have predicted the talks could revive before spring training, citing the gulf created between the Red Sox and Ramirez, and the damage in the relationship with incumbent Boston shortstop Nomar Garciaparra.

Boston did add a middle infielder Tuesday, agreeing to a \$1 million, one-year contract with second baseman Pokey Reese — who didn't have a preference for Rodriguez or Garciaparra.



Ohio Valley Conference Basketball Roundup

Tigers trip up Austin Peay

Big Ten beats up OVC squads

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Coach Jim O'Brien shook up the starting lineup to get his team's attention.

Velimir Radinovic scored 16 points and Ohio State (6-4) turned its roster upside down to beat Eastern Illinois 69-50 on Tuesday night.

Thoroughly displeased with the defense, shot selection and effort of his first unit, O'Brien started a lineup against Eastern Illinois (1-7) that included Radinovic, three former walk-ons and a seldom-used big man, Matt Marinich. Other than Radinovic, a senior captain, the other starters had a combined 19 games this season in which they had not played at all.

Nick Dials and Ugo Nwankwo each hit 3-pointers and Nwankwo added another basket as the Buckeyes broke out to an 11-7 lead.

The Buckeyes led 36-21 at the half, totaling nine assists — five more than they had in the entire Seton Hall game.

Indiana 77, Morehead St. 57

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. (AP) — Mike Davis expected Indiana to play with more effort and precision Tuesday night.

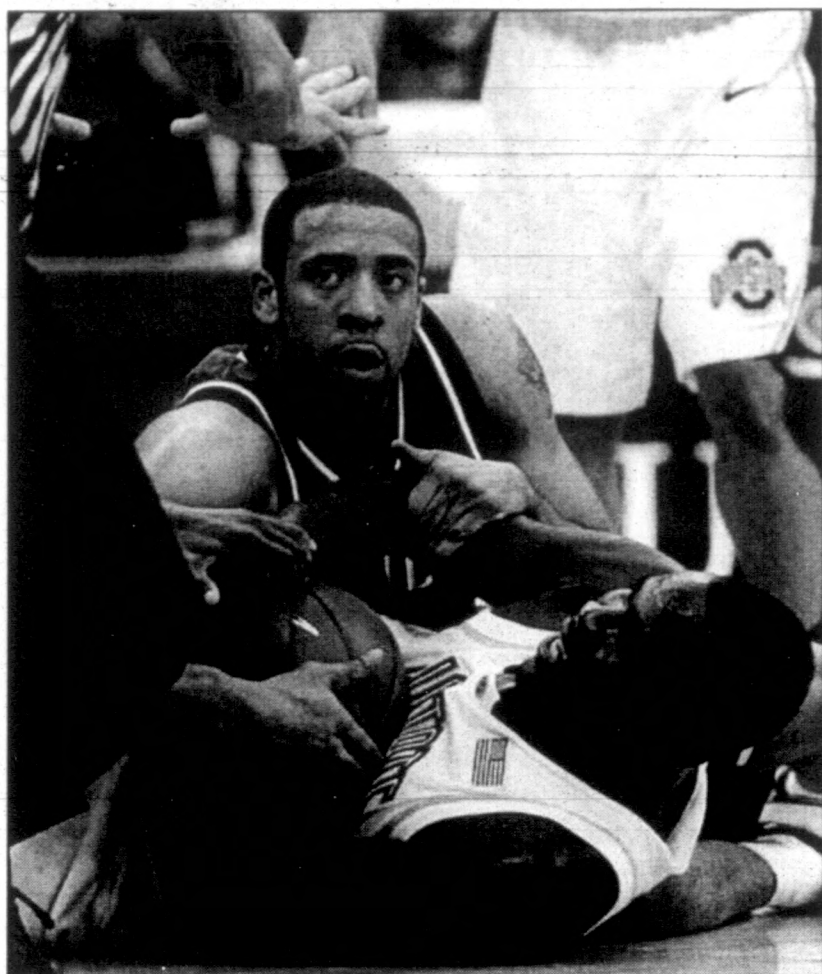
By changing three starters, the Hoosiers apparently got Davis' message.

Indiana's offense worked for shots and threw crisp passes while the defense overwhelmed Morehead State and the Hoosiers ran away with a 77-57 victory — their easiest win of the season.

"I thought this (Indiana) team would be a really good shooting team, like last year's team," Davis said. "You got a glimpse of it tonight."

The Hoosiers (5-4) looked dramatically different from the squad Davis saw just three days earlier against Kentucky in the most lopsided loss of his coaching career.

For only the second time this season, Bracey Wright didn't lead the Hoosiers' scorers. Marshall Strickland did, coming off the bench with 20 points and hitting six 3-pointers including four



CHRIS PUTMAN/AP

Eastern Illinois' Aaron Patterson, top, and Ohio State's Shun Jenkins, bottom, look to an official after trying to get control of a loose ball during the first half in Columbus, Ohio, Tuesday night.

straight to give the Hoosiers control in the first half.

Wright finished with 19 points, but unlike the Kentucky game, he had much more help.

Pat Ewing Jr., one of Davis' new starters, had 12 points and 12 rebounds — the first double-double of his college career. He had two spectacular dunks off rebounds and just missed a third when an alley-oop pass sailed high.

Middle Tennessee 70, Austin Peay 56

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. (AP) — Tommy Gunn and Michael Cuffee scored 14 points each to lead Middle Tennessee to a 70-56 victory Thursday over Austin Peay.

Middle Tennessee (5-3) took

the lead for good midway through the first half and led 35-25 at halftime. Austin Peay (3-6) got as close as 59-49 with 6:01 left in the second half on a jumper by Adrian Henning, who finished with 14 points.

The Blue Raiders made 19-of-22 free throws while Austin Peay hit just 8-of-22.

Anthony Davis led the Governors with 15 points. He and Henning were the only Austin Peay players in double figures.

Alex Weekes added 13 for the Blue Raiders and hit 6-of-8 from the floor.

Austin Peay's last lead was 17-16 on a free throw by Davis with 8:39 left in the first half.

Illini get Braggin' Rights vs. Missouri

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Illinois surrendered a 21-point lead before rallying in the final minute, regaining the edge on James Augustine's layup with 58.5 seconds to play and beating Missouri 71-70 Tuesday night in the annual grudge match.

Dee Brown led No. 21 Illinois (7-2) with 18 points and six assists. Augustine had 14 points and 10 rebounds.

Travon Bryant had a career-high 19 points, as did Rickey Paulding, for No. 11 Missouri (4-2), which lost for the second time in three games. Bryant also matched a career high with 12 rebounds and blocked two shots.

The Illini led 40-19 with 4:20 to go in the first half. Missouri went on a 15-2 run over the next seven minutes and eventually tied the game at 67-67 on a 3-pointer by Bryant with 1:30 to play.

After Augustine's basket, Johnson had a chance to tie the game again, but missed a short jumper with 23 seconds left.

Illinois has won the last four "Braggin' Rights" games.

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| Cleveland | 14 | 14 | .500 | 6 1/2 | L.A. Clippers | 11 | 13 | .458 | 8 |
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| Chicago | 8 | 22 | .267 | 13 1/2 | | | | | |
| | 7 | 20 | .259 | 13 | | | | | |
| Monday's Games | | | | | Wednesday's Games | | | | |
| Philadelphia 95, Orlando 73 | | | | | No games scheduled | | | | |
| Utah 92, Chicago 80 | | | | | Thursday's Games | | | | |
| Denver 106, Memphis 99 | | | | | Cleveland at Orlando, 1:30 p.m. | | | | |
| Tuesday's Games | | | | | Dallas at Sacramento, 5 p.m. | | | | |
| Cleveland 97, New Orleans 86 | | | | | Houston at L.A. Lakers, 7:30 p.m. | | | | |
| Atlanta 93, Boston 88 | | | | | | | | | |
| Miami 79, Washington 72 | | | | | | | | | |
| New Jersey 95, Chicago 78 | | | | | | | | | |
| Minnesota 98, New York 92 | | | | | | | | | |
| Milwaukee 83, Detroit 78 | | | | | | | | | |
| Indiana 79, Houston 71 | | | | | | | | | |
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| Seattle 116, Phoenix 90 | | | | | | | | | |
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Arts

Wednesday, December 24, 2003

Murray classical pianist Pennington constantly learning

By JOHN WRIGHT
Staff Writer

"For classical music performers, one place to see just how proficient they are in this genre" is Boston, Mass. There, the competition is, to say the least, intense. The best in the world come there every year to display their talents, along with land the best of positions.

It is safe to say that Calloway County native Kim Pennington has done just that in his 30 years there as a renowned concert pianist and classical music voice instructor. Come 2005, though, his contribution to that city's music scene will go full circle as the opera company he founded 11 years ago — a feat not too easy to accomplish in Boston — will yield the first opera house in the city since its last was demolished in 1958.

"There has been no opera house in Boston, and people are very much looking forward to this," said Pennington of the Center for Performing Arts, currently under construction in the Boston suburb of Wakefield which will be home to his Boston Bel Canto Opera. "The other opera house was built in 1909, and it was a very good place, from what I was told. Then, in 1958, it was torn down...to become a parking lot. So, since then, other places around Boston have been used to host these kinds of productions."

Pennington was back in his native Calloway County Monday for a short piano concert at Hickory Woods Retirement Center outside Murray. His mother, Hilda, was among those in attendance as he honored a promise he made to himself sometime ago to play for Hilda

and her residents whenever he was able to come home from Boston.

However, he is never far from his mother.

"He calls me every morning. He's very good to me," Hilda Pennington said, remembering to her son's younger days of learning how to play the piano. "I would put an alarm clock on the piano and would set it for one hour, and would tell him he couldn't get up from (the piano) until that hour had past. Well, then it got to the point that he wasn't getting up anymore. He was staying there after the hour had past, sometimes two or three hours after that clock had gone off."

That, though, was while young Kim was still rather inexperienced when it came to his trade. By the early 1970s, though, he had gained much more knowledge at Murray State University, en route to graduate studies at Indiana University in Bloomington, where a voice from his Murray past urged him to try his luck in Boston... his piano teacher Dorothy Mason.

"She was originally from Maine, and had trained at such places as Yale University and throughout Boston, and I had always consulted her on matters. So, as I'm finishing my master's studies at IU, she tells me, 'You know, you might consider studying and training in Boston.'"

So, Pennington went to Massachusetts, not knowing another lady he would meet would have the greatest influence ever on him musically. Her name was Madame Iride Pilla who, at the time he arrived, was the top voice teacher in Boston, serving as a faculty member at the Boston Conservatory of Music. Ironically, Pennington was an instructor himself, having become a vocal teacher during his studies at IU, while also providing himself with money as an accompanist for vocal students.

"I'll never forget it. It was July 21, 1976, my birthday, that I went to work for her," he said, remembering one of the first of many rather surprising things Pilla would throw at him. "We spoke Italian in her studio,



JOHN WRIGHT/Ledger & Times photo

With mother Hilda and other Hickory Woods residents watching intently from behind, Calloway County native Kim Pennington plays a classical piece on the retirement center's piano during his performance Monday afternoon.

not English, even though she had grown up bilingual. She then tells me that she wants me to go through voice training (even though he was a voice coach, this was from listening, not his own singing), saying, 'I want you to experience what they go through.' So, in my first two years of study, I had to give four semesters of voice exams and be evaluated. I would wind up having two recitals of 12 to 15 songs all memorized in at least three different languages, including English.

"I knew this was making me stronger, but I still wasn't sure where it would take me." In his career, Pennington — who is known by the first name of Bradley in Boston, one of four first names he uses professionally — has never performed publicly as a singer, but has played the piano in more than 1,000 appearances. He has performed all over the United States, as well as Europe, Asia and South Africa.

However, it is quite possible that all of those are overshadowed by one thing, something no concert appearance could possibly eclipse. His teacher, one of the most recognized names in opera for producing many top-name performers worldwide, gave him the distinction of being the chosen one to continue her

work once the day came that she could no longer do it herself, which came in 1997 at the age of 93.

"She told me she had not been able to find anyone she could trust. She, essentially, chose me to be her disciple, the one that was going to continue what she started, and it is quite an honor to be sure," Pennington said, noting one of his biggest inspirations is a large framed photograph he keeps on the wall of his studio. "It is a one inch by one inch passport photograph taken of her in 1926 that I have had blown up. So, she's still with me every day, and I must admit, I've had suggestions come down to me from Heaven when I'm writing a piece or trying to correct a student. I think she would be very proud."

"She would tell me, 'It's very easy to let somebody sing for a B-plus or A-minus. Don't settle for an A-minus, though. You don't have to do that, because you already have it in you to go farther.' I never did (settle for) that. That was it."

Something else people will notice about Pennington, encouraged by both mentor Pilla and other professors he had, is while he talks, there is little indication of a southern type accent. That, he says, was out of necessity in order that he be taken seriously in his Boston surround-

ings. Pilla did not speak with any accent, despite being Italian in nature and raised in New York City. Pennington remembered another discussion he had about this with an IU professor.

"She said to me, 'You have to change the way you speak. You're noticing the way I'm talking, right?' I replied, 'Yes, you don't have a regionalism when you speak, so where are you from?' She said Brooklyn, N.Y.," he remembered. "I said, 'Touche.'"

"So, I started taping my voice and listening to it, and it was like anybody who does this. You listen to it the first time, and you think, 'Oh, that's horrible!' When you're trying to impart things, though, you don't want a person to hear how you're saying it, as much as what you're saying."

Pennington also admits that singing in front of an audience is nerve-racking, way more so than playing a piano. However, a characteristic handed to him by his father, Clinton, seems to have drawn him to the voice part of music.

"He had a real love for things and people that were unique, and if you think about it, singers do have that to much greater extent than a person playing an instrument," he said. "When you're playing a piano, it is much easier to hit every note, but while singing, you can use different languages, different pitch. There is not one singer in the world whose voice is like another singer's. That individuality really appealed to me."

"Plus, when you're playing a piano, you don't risk things like never knowing when you're throat will dry out, when you might run out of air on a line or, the one that happens most frequently, you might forget the words. You'll never have a perfect performance. There is no such thing as a perfect voice."

Still, he is quite comfortable with his position in the shadows or, as he says, being the "power behind the throne," as he is with the Boston Bel Canto. He does not need to sing, or play the piano, for that matter, during those performances. Besides, he is too busy to worry about it.

And it looks like things will stay that way.

"One thing to classical music that I've discovered is one never considers retirement. You always continue to learn," he said. "I'm only 55."

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Health

Wednesday, December 24, 2003

Bar codes on drugs aim to reduce hospital errors, deaths

By LAURAN NEERGAARD
AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Inside hospital pharmacies, tiny bar codes just an eighth of an inch tall adorn the blister packs that hold single-pill doses of certain drugs, like Dilantin for seizures and Lipitor for cholesterol.

With a handheld scanner, health care workers guard against medication mixups by matching each pill's bar code to a hospitalized patient's wristband and medical chart. It is to ensure the right person swallows the right dose of the right drug at the right time. If anything's off, an alarm beeps.

Yet only a few drugs today bear bar codes, and very few hospitals have the scanners needed to read them. That's about to change.

By February, the Food and Drug Administration will issue orders requiring that every medication sold to hospitals soon bear supermarket-style bar codes.

It's a major move that, once fully phased in, is expected to protect many of the estimated 7,000 hospitalized patients who die every year because of drug errors.

The impact promises to go beyond routine drug mistakes. For example, printing a matching bar code for the vial of Mr. Jones' blood before the nurse leaves his bedside guards against mixed up samples is crucial in ensuring patients receive the right blood type and other test results.

Patients get the wrong blood in one of every 14,000 transfusions, causing at least 20 deaths a year.

"Those are totally preventable tragedies," says Dr. Gerald Sandler, Georgetown University Hospital's transfusion chief. He began pushing for electronic solutions five years ago when his hospital had a near-miss — two children awaiting transfusions switched seats after the nurses double-checked who was supposed to get which bag of blood. But he says hospitals can't afford the systems unless drug and blood safety are paired.

Also, hospitals can buy bar-code



AP Photo

An bar coded identification bracelet is scanned at Georgetown University Hospital in Washington. The bracelet is part of new technology that improves the safety of blood transfusions. Inside hospital pharmacies, tiny bar codes just an eighth of an inch tall adorn the blister packs that hold single-pill doses of certain drugs. Simply match each drug's unique bar code to identification on a hospitalized patient's wristband and medical chart, and health workers can guard against medication mix-ups — ensuring the right patient swallows the right dose of the right pill.

scanners that come with even more sophisticated software that flags patients' allergies and other important information, guiding doctors to prescribe the safest treatment choice.

Still, bar-code labeling is just the first step in a promised wave of safety technology. A bar-coded wristband isn't easy to read if the patient gets it wet or is sleeping on top of that arm. It's even harder when the patient is on an emergency room gurney or operating table — busy times when mistakes in medication or blood transfusion can be easy to make.

Next-generation systems promise to pair bar codes with tiny transmitters like those used by highway toll booths to read speed passes, letting nurses identify patients from across the room.

Consider this scenario: An alarm

blares if a nurse tries to carry into the operating room the wrong type blood for the patient on the table. Simply hook the radiofrequency chip in the patient's ID to the door, and if the patient chip doesn't match the one on the blood bag, everyone knows.

Next month, Sandler begins studying how well a new transmitter-plus-bar code system called SmartBand works and envisions the alarm scenario in the not-too-distant future. "This is the next frontier in patient safety," he said.

Only about 125 of the nation's 5,000-plus hospitals use bar-code systems now, partly because only about 35 percent of their pharmaceutical supplies come with the codes affixed to them, says Russell Lewis of Bridge Medical Inc., a leading manufacturer of bar-code systems.

Educational events offered in January

Special to the Ledger

The Center for Health & Wellness will be offering several educational events during the month of January for Center for Health and Wellness members as well as the community.

On Wednesday, Jan. 7 from noon to 12:30 p.m., Rebecca Wright, MS, RD, LD and Rob Weatherly, Exercise Specialist, CSCS, Personal Trainer, will present "Nutrition & Exercise: Perfect Partners for Weight Loss." If you gained weight during the holidays, plan to attend this session to learn the healthy foods to increase and calorically dense foods to decrease in your diet in order to manage your weight and achieve overall good health. Those that attend will also learn the benefits of strength training and cardiovascular exercise, and how nutrition and exercise work closely together to assist in attaining realistic weight goals.

Beginning Tuesday, Jan. 13, the Center for Health & Wellness will be offering Cooper Clayton Smoking Cessation Classes. The Cooper-Clayton method to stop smoking was developed by Thomas Cooper and Richard Clayton and is a 13-week program, which provides weekly education sessions in conjunction with a warm, accepting, support group environment. The program encourages the use of nicotine replacement therapy, but the support group is crucial to being successful. The Cooper-Clayton class will be held every Tuesday for 13 consecutive weeks at the Center for Health and Wellness from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and is being presented by the Purchase District Health Department — Calloway County and Mayfield Branches, Purchase AHEC, and Murray-Calloway County Hospital Center for Health and Wellness. Pre-registration is required. There is a \$10 fee to cover the cost of the book and participants must pay for their nicotine replacement. To register, please call 270-762-1348 or the Health Department at 270-753-3381.

On Tuesday, Jan. 13, from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Adam Blalock, Exercise Specialist, CSCS, Personal Trainer will offer a new maintenance

group of Weight Matters at the Center for Health and Wellness. This class is open to those who have completed Winning by Losing or have received nutritional counseling with a dietitian or met with an Exercise Specialist. The cost is \$75 for six monthly sessions and members receive their choice of a monthly meeting with Rebecca Wright, MS, RD, LD or a personal trainer.

The Center for Diabetes will hold one Diabetes Self-Management Classes in January at the Center for Health and Wellness. The Diabetes Self-Management Classes will be on January 8 and 9 and January 22 and 23 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Pre-registration for these classes is required. Call 270-762-1806 to pre-register.

The Center for Health & Wellness will begin a new season of the Winning by Losing™ weight loss program on Thursday, Jan. 15. This nationally recognized program, taught by Rebecca Wright, MS, RD, LD, and Jeff Scott, Exercise Specialist, encourages participants to make small changes in daily food and exercise habits that can help to control or even prevent medical conditions including diabetes, digestive problems, high cholesterol, high blood pressure, osteoporosis, and some types of cancer. The ultimate goal of the program is for participants to make life-long behavioral changes. The consecutive eight-week program is at the center for Health and Wellness Classroom from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. To be able to participate in this four-part weight loss program, you must be at least 18 years of age and be at

least 10 percent over your ideal body weight. The cost is \$175 and discounts are available for PrimeLife members, Center for Health and Wellness Members, and MCCCH employees. Pre-registration is required by calling 270-762-1348.

On Tuesday, Jan. 27 from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., join Rebecca Wright, MS, RD, LD, 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. Registration forms are available at the Murray Woman's Clinic as well as the Center for Health and Wellness.

Few people would dispute the benefits of diversity in the workplace. New faces and new ideas offer greater opportunity for creative solutions on the job. Join Bobbie Weatherly, PhD, to learn about developing and sustaining positive relationships with colleagues who represent different ages, genders, lifestyles, and cultures at the session entitled "Dealing with Diversity in the Workplace." The session will be on Monday, Jan. 26 from 11:30 a.m. to 12 Noon at the Center for Health and Wellness. For more information, contact 762-1348.

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Terrorists may target strikes outside major cities

By CURT ANDERSON
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Intelligence gathered by the U.S. government indicates al-Qaida terrorists have a keen interest in striking targets that are far from major cities, such as power plants, dams and even oil facilities in Alaska. The Pentagon said Tuesday it is broadening air patrols throughout the country.

In addition, the military is deploying surface-to-air missile systems in the Washington area and is considering locating more anti-aircraft systems in the New York City region, a defense official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Some of the intelligence "chatter" that led President Bush to put the nation on high "orange" alert for a terrorist strike dealt with threats against remote facilities, according to law enforcement and intelligence officials speaking Tuesday on condition of anonymity.

One specific threat, they said, was against oil facilities in Valdez, Alaska, where tankers load Prudhoe Bay oil destined for the continental United States. Other threats are more general, mentioning nuclear plants in rural areas and other electric facilities, major dams, bridges or chemical plants, the officials said.

One official cautioned that most of the reports were uncorroborated — some were from only a single informant or communications intercept — and may be unconnected to a larger al-Qaida plot. But local officials boosted security at many such facilities, including the Port of Valdez where armed Coast Guard patrol boats were more visible and ship boardings were on the increase.

"Making our presence known is a great deter-

rent," said Coast Guard spokesman Roger Wetherell.

Other intelligence points to possible attacks in cities such as New York, Washington or Los Angeles, which have been targeted by terrorists before. Aircraft continue to be a favored al-Qaida method, particularly aircraft originating from overseas and those carrying cargo — both of which have less security than U.S. passenger aircraft.

Officials say there also seems to be interest in targeting holiday events that draw large crowds, such as college and professional football games and New Year's celebrations and parades.

Americans across the nation are likely to notice increased air patrols as the government continues its response to Sunday's decision to raise the nation's terror threat level to orange, or high, the second-highest point, the Defense Department said.

It marked the fifth time the level has gone above yellow, or elevated, since the five-point system was developed after the Sept. 11, 2001 terror attacks.

Patrols of warplanes will increase "over select cities and facilities" in the coming days, said Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Myers said air defenses were put on higher alert in the Washington area and also at "different air bases throughout the country."

The patrols are "more broad" than in the past, Myers said, when fighter planes focused patrols on such expected al-Qaida targets as New York and Washington. Since the Sept. 11 attacks, U.S. warplanes have been summoned some 1,600 times to investigate incidents in American air-



AP Photo

Marley Cochran, 4, brings in her suitcase at the Oakland, Calif., Airport on her way to Los Angeles Tuesday with an Threat Level Orange sign posted at right.

space — an average of around twice a day, the general said.

Government officials continued to convey a sense of guarded urgency about the latest terror threats, which have been described as the most serious since the Sept. 11 attacks.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said the government acted appropriately in raising the terror risk level given the volume and nature of intelligence.

"You do not do it lightly," Rumsfeld said. "You ask, 'Is it serious?' Yes, you bet your life."

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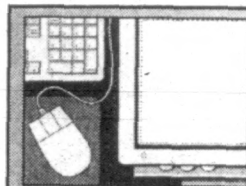
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Celebration, fear shroud Christmas in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Iraqi children mobbed two American soldiers in Santa hats as they handed out stuffed animals Tuesday. Not far away, an Iraqi Christian woman sat in an otherwise empty church, praying for peace.

While U.S. troops, buoyed by the capture of Saddam Hussein, gear up for big Christmas celebrations, the small community of Iraqi Christians is preparing for a low-key holiday, with many congregations postponing midnight services until daybreak because of the violence that still plagues the country.

The holiday brings mixed feelings for Iraq's 700,000 Christians. There are prayers for a better future, but also some fears that if unrest continues, it could revive a flight of Christians, along with other Iraqis, who left the country during the crippling economic sanctions of the 1990s. During that time, the number of Christians fell from more than a million, as many left in search of better lives in Europe, North America and elsewhere.

As a light rain fell outside, Nadal Salman, 44, sat alone Tuesday in a 17th century stone church, praying for peace. Before her was a large painted icon so weathered the image of the Virgin Mary holding baby Jesus could barely be seen.

The church is among those that will hold services Christmas morning instead of on Christmas Eve as customary. Worshippers have been told not to bring bags, for fear an attacker could slip past with a bomb.

"The situation is not normal; it's scary," Salman said, her face framed with a gold scarf. "But God is great and the Virgin Mary is with the Iraqi people."

Further dampening the holiday, she said, many families will not gather for big dinners to avoid hav-



AP Photo

A U.S. soldier, of 1st Battalion, 22nd Regiment, (1-22) of the 4th Infantry Division, gestures as she sits in front of a Christmas tree inside Tikrit's military base, Iraq, Tuesday.

ing to return home on dangerous nighttime streets. Most Iraqi Christians belong to the Chaldean Church, an ancient eastern-rite Catholic church.

On military bases around Iraq, meanwhile, coalition troops were getting ready for brass bands, Turkey dinners, sports matches and holiday carols. David Letterman, host of CBS' Late Show, will visit troops in Baghdad on Christmas Eve.

Not far from where Salman was praying Tuesday, a pair of U.S. soldiers were mobbed by Iraqi children as they handed out toys. The neighborhood is home to thousands of

Iraqis living on the edge of the walled compound in central Baghdad that houses the coalition's headquarters.

Spc. Chad Wilkerson, 23, of Clarksville, Tenn., swapped his camouflage battle helmet for a red Santa hat as he carried a box of stuffed animals from a muddy Humvee. Dozens of children living in drab, rundown high-rise apartment buildings ran up to him. Others sped up on bicycles.

The four boxes of toys and candy — donated by a Christian radio station, WCIC in Peoria, Ill. — were empty in minutes.

An 11-year-old boy, Fares Nadum, looked puzzled, then smiled as Wilkerson handed him a small, stuffed goat. Others in the crowd of mostly Muslims grabbed greedily at the box, and Wilkerson seemed to sympathize with their wants after years of hardship.

"They don't know how to handle generosity. They just attack," Wilkerson said of the children. He said some of the children living in the compound seem to be street orphans. "I pulled two kids out of the dumpster one night," he said.

"I don't know if they understand we are doing this for Christmas. But I hope the kids understand the spirit of Christmas and generosity."

Thunderous booms could be heard in the distance as the soldiers said goodbye to the crowd. They were apparently due to exploding artillery shells.

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Wednesday, December 24, 2003

Seniors become Santa secretaries for kids

By ELIZABETH A. DAVIS
Associated Press Writer

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — One child asked Santa Claus for a swimming pool and \$1,000, and another wanted a blue bike. Some kids were worried Santa would forget to bring presents to children whose military parents were stationed in Iraq.

Many professed they had been good enough this year to get presents while others tattled on their siblings.

Each of these wishes and many more like them are contained in letters addressed to "Santa Claus, North Pole." Instead of discarding the letters as undeliverable, the main Knoxville post office collects them and asks volunteers to be Santa's secretaries. The volunteers, most of them senior citizens, read each letter and then send a preprinted postcard as a reply from Santa to those with return addresses.

The project, coordinated through the Knoxville-Knox County chapter of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program, kicked off its 14th year earlier this month with a batch of about 350 letters dropped off at

Cagle Terrace, a government-subsidized apartment complex. RSVP is administered nationally by the same organization overlooking AmeriCorps.

"I love children. It's a good thing to do," said 79-year-old Sam Scott, who has been helping with the Santa letters for at least 10 years. "Some of (the letters) are good. Some are sad. Some don't want anything. Some want a lot of things."

He was among a group of six women and two men sitting around a table in the apartment building's recreation area one day last week, unfolding the letters and stopping periodically to laugh or read one aloud.

Volunteer Polly Davis is moved enough by one to share it with her colleagues.

"I want love," she reads from the letter.

One girl, whose gift list included some strapless bras and a bigger piano, wrote: "Dear Santa, I hope I am not bad. If I am, I'll try to be better next year."

The letters are first screened at the post office for signs of hardship cases, which will then be turned over to Operation Santa Claus.

Postal employees will help investigate the child's situation and donate items to help the family, said Tony Maples, customer relations coordinator at the Knoxville post office.

Santa doesn't promise anything in the replies but reminds children they must be asleep when he arrives at their home on Christmas Eve.

"I have been watching you this year, and I am glad you have been good," Santa writes on the postcard. "Christmas Eve will be here soon so the reindeer are getting ready for the trip."

Davis, 63, likes the idea of replying to letters because it helps children believe in Santa when other kids spoil the fun.

"It makes them feel like Santa is real," she said. "It makes them feel better."

Last year, the volunteers read 1,200 letters and were on pace this season to answer at least that many after the last stacks of letters were delivered on Monday, said Becky Hare, coordinator of the local RSVP.

Most of the letters that arrive at the post office come from the surrounding 16 counties, but sometimes there are a few from far away.

This week, the volunteers found

a letter written in Spanish addressed to "Santa Claus, Pola Norte" with a return address from Venezuela on the envelope.

The volunteers couldn't read Spanish, but one copied the child's name and address onto the postcard.

Because of the conflict in Iraq, there were some letters from children who just wanted their fathers or mothers to come home from military duty.

Many children asked Santa to bring gifts for others.

"Well, all my mommy wants is socks, but I was hoping you could get her something else," wrote one child.

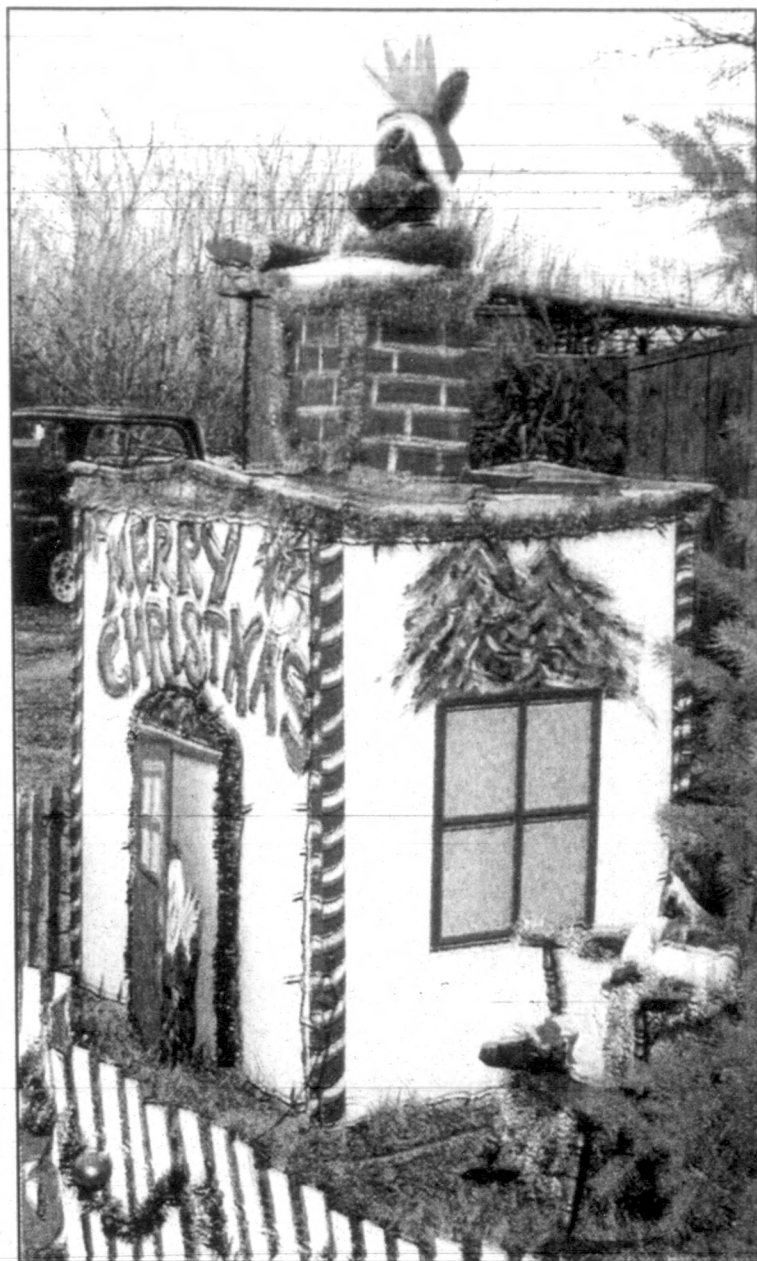
But others had not-so-nice gift suggestions.

"My sister Jessie is a bad girl. She needs a lump of coal in her stocking because she is mean," wrote a boy, who asked for Hulk hands, a race track, Care Bear and remote-controlled car for himself.

Volunteer Jean Smith, 62, remembered one letter in particular from a girl that made her giggle.

"The only thing she wanted was for her brother to quit calling her names," Smith said.

Down the chimney



JOHN WRIGHT/Ledger & Times Photo
Apparently, Santa Claus is not the only one who can go down chimneys, as this display on Irvin Cobb Road in Calloway County shows.

Holiday celebrations give international coalition troops taste of home, other cultures

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — It's not home, but international members of the coalition helping in the Iraq war say MacDill Air Force Base isn't such a bad place to spend the holidays.

"America is always a nice country," said Army Lt. Col. Mohamed Robleh from the East African nation of Djibouti. "Even though we're away from our home countries, we're OK here."

Nearly 300 troops from 68 countries act as liaisons between their armed forces and U.S. Central Command, which controls ongoing military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan and is headquartered at MacDill.

Robleh misses his family and talks to his wife in Djibouti City by phone each day. Still, like many of his foreign colleagues, he enjoys the cultural exchange the unique situation offers.

On a recent day, some 500 U.S. and coalition soldiers flocked to a Nordic Christmas celebration hosted by the contingents from Norway, Finland, Sweden and Denmark.

While Frank Sinatra and the Beach Boys crooned Christmas tunes in the background, troops in fatigues filled their plates with salted leg of lamb, salt- and sugar-cured salmon, Swedish Christmas ham and flat bread. They washed it all down with cans of Norway-brewed Mack beer.

Maj. Geza Boros, a Hungarian Air Force officer, said his stay has allowed him for the first time to meet people from Far East and Arab cultures. Although the flags on their uniforms differ, their sentiments this time of year match.

"We all miss our families. We all want to go home," said Boros, 31. "And when we are home, we all want to go somewhere else."

For two years in a row, Pakistani Army Col. Muhammad Sardar has celebrated the Muslim holy month of Ramadan without his loved ones. Last year, he was at the India-Pakistan border.

"For soldiers, we are prepared to be away from our family," Sardar, 45, said. "For them, it is more difficult."

On Nov. 25, Sardar joined fellow coalition soldiers in prayer for Eid al-Fitr, a day Muslims give thanks to Allah for allowing them to enjoy the blessing of Ramadan. That same week, he gathered with U.S. and coalition troops in downtown Tampa to share a Thanksgiving meal of turkey.

"It's good to see the various cultures," he said.

On Dec. 1, Romanian Army Col. Dan Grecu and Catalin Marius Tarnacop threw a party for Romanian National Day, which commemorates the unification of Moldavia, Wallachia, Transylvania, Bukovina, Bessarabia and Dobruja.

"It's our Fourth of July," said Grecu, 45.

Instead of beer, though, the drink was Romanian wine. But American

fare replaced the traditional dish of meat rolls in sour cabbage.

"We cannot find here the right chef to prepare it," he said.

A week later, troops were at it again — for Finland Independence Day.

"It is like that throughout the

year," said Norway Maj. Brede Hertzberg. "You have so many nations and they all celebrate their national holidays."

Hertzberg has been the coalition's public information officer since October 2002 and is preparing to return home soon to take a civil-

ian position. Officers typically spend four to six months in Tampa, although many have been stationed much longer.

Hertzberg said he can't complain about his stint, though.

"Florida is not the worst place to be."

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| | A | B | C | D | 5:00 | 5:30 | 6:00 | 6:30 | 7:00 | 7:30 | 8:00 | 8:30 | 9:00 | 9:30 | 10:00 | 10:30 | 11:00 | 11:30 | | | | | | | | |
| WKRN-ABC | 2 | 2 | | | Santa Claus | | Wild & Wacky | | Good Morning America | | | | Regis and Kelly | | Walt Disney Christmas Parade | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WSIL-ABC | 3 | 3 | 3 | | News | News | News | News | Good Morning America | | | | Living It Up | | Walt Disney Christmas Parade | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WSMV-NBC | 4 | 4 | | | News | | News | | Today (In Stereo) | | | | | | Living It Up | | Ellen Show | | | | | | | | | |
| WTVF-CBS | 5 | 5 | | | News | | News | | Early Show (In Stereo) | | | | Montel Williams | | Price Is Right | | Four- | | | | | | | | | |
| WPSD-NBC | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | AgDay | News | News | | Today (In Stereo) | | | | | | Martha Stewart | | News | | | | | | | | | |
| WBAB-ABC | 7 | 7 | | 7 | News | AgDay | Christmas Tree | | Good Morning America | | | | Regis and Kelly | | Walt Disney Christmas Parade | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WNPT-PBS | 8 | 8 | | | Berens- | BodyE- | Mr | Caillou | Lions | Arthur | Big | Tele- | Sesame Street | | Reading Cyber- | | Cmas-Belmont | | | | | | | | | |
| KBSI-Fox | 9 | 9 | 2 | 3 | (4:00) Movie | | Paid | Paid | Sher- | Paid | Hatchett | Hatchett | Judge Mathis | | People's Court | | Divorce | Justice | | | | | | | | |
| WQTV-UPN | 10 | 17 | 11 | 30 | (Off Air) | | Paid | Paid | Paid | Paid | Paid | Paid | Feud | Feud | To Be Announced | | Good Day Live (N) | | | | | | | | | |
| KFVS-CBS | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | Heartland Holidays | | | | Early Show (In Stereo) | | | | Regis and Kelly | | Price Is Right | | Mr Food | | | | | | | | | |
| WGN | 16 | 38 | 9 | 10 | Children | Life | Life | Believ- | Justice | Hillbil- | Feed the Children | | Matlock (In Stereo) | | Heat of Night | | Rockford Files | | | | | | | | | |
| INSP | 17 | 83 | 28 | | Truth | Kimble | Truths | Cherry | Inspir- | Jacobs | Hagee | Life | Your | Life | Inspirational | | Fellow- | Inspir- | | | | | | | | |
| WKMU-PBS | 21 | 21 | 5 | 11 | Yoga | BodyE- | Arthur | Clifford | Dragon | Caillou | Cmas-Baylor | | Arthur's Perft | | Happy Holidays in | | L.A. Holiday | | | | | | | | | |
| WDKA-WB | 22 | 16 | 10 | | Essen- | Shephrd | Chapl | Sabrina | Myster- | GRC | Paid | GRC | Believ- | Living | Hugh- | Feud | Jerry Springer | | | | | | | | | |
| ESPN | 24 | 29 | 26 | 8 | Sports- | Best of SportsCenter | | | Best of SportsCenter | | | | Best of SportsCenter | | Best of SportsCenter | | Sports- | | | | | | | | | |
| ESPN2 | 25 | 30 | 25 | | (4:00) Movie | | Movie: ** "The Junction Boys" (2002) | | Movie: ** "The Junction Boys" (2002) | | Movie: ** "The Junction Boys" (2002) | | Movie: ** "The Junction Boys" (2002) | | Movie: ** "The Junction Boys" (2002) | | Movie: ** "The Junction Boys" (2002) | | | | | | | | | |
| MTV | 26 | 49 | 27 | 24 | End of 2003 Countdown (In Stereo) | | | | Countdown | | | | Ozzy Cmas | | Couples | All Eyes | Britney-Zone | | | | | | | | | |
| TNT | 28 | 27 | 39 | 14 | Movie: *** "A Christmas Story" (1983) | | | | Movie: *** "A Christmas Story" (1983) | | | | Movie: *** "A Christmas Story" (1983) | | Movie: *** "A Christmas Story" (1983) | | Movie: *** "A Christmas Story" (1983) | | | | | | | | | |
| TLC | 29 | 41 | 41 | | Bus | Brum | Save | Hi-5 | Animal | Bus | While You | | While You | | While You | | While You | | | | | | | | | |
| LIFE | 30 | 52 | 31 | 31 | Paid | Paid | Fit Life | Workout | Ellen | Design- | Golden | Nanny | Golden | Movie: "Comfort and Joy" (2003) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| USA | 32 | 51 | 49 | 5 | (4:00) Movie | | Movie: *** "Meet the Parents" (2000, Comedy) | | Movie: "The Nutty Professor" (1996) | | Movie: "The Nutty Professor" (1996) | | Movie: "Bulletproof" (1996) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| AMC | 34 | 58 | 29 | | (4:20) Movie: "Jesse James" | | Movie: "The Dark Command" | | Movie: ** "Rooster Cogburn" (1975) PG | | | | Movie: "High Noon" (1952) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| A&E | 35 | 35 | 44 | 27 | Paid | Paid | "The Lost World" | | Movie: "The Fourth Protocol" (1987) | | Movie: "Beverly Hills Cop II" (1987) | | | | "Young Guns" | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FAM | 36 | 53 | 36 | 2 | Life | Tri Vita | Digimon | Bey- | Rangers | Digimon | Growing | Living | 700 Club (N) | | Without Santa | | "All I-Christmas" | | | | | | | | | |
| NICK | 37 | 22 | 24 | 4 | Oswald | Thorn- | Oddpar- | Rocket | Rugrats | Sponge | Max | Bob | Dora | Blues- | Dora | Blues- | Christ- | Max | | | | | | | | |
| HGTV | 43 | 36 | 18 | | Body- | Paid | Holiday Gardens | | Christ- | Christ- | Small Town | | Christ- | Christ- | Christmas II | | White House | | | | | | | | | |
| SPIKE | 44 | 33 | 30 | 23 | Paid | Paid | Paid | Paid | Paid | Paid | | | Movie: *** "Live and Let Die" (1973) Roger Moore | | | | "Man-Golden" | | | | | | | | | |
| WTBS | 52 | 26 | 21 | 13 | Mama | Mama | Saved- | Saved- | Drama-Rescues | | Movie: *** "Honey, I Shrunk the Kids" | | | | Movie: "Grumpier Old Men" (1995) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TOON | 65 | 32 | 50 | | "Mr. Magoo's Christmas" | | | Smurfs | Flinstones Christmas Carol | Bravo | Powerpuff Girls | | | | Little Troll Prince | | Tweety's Flying | | | | | | | | | |
| COURT | 66 | 61 | | | Paid | Paid | Paid | Paid | Paid | Paid | | Safety Challenge | | Movie: ** "Striking Poses" (1999) | | Movie: "Payback" | | | | | | | | | | |
| BET | 67 | 39 | | | BET Morning Inspiration With Brother Gerard | | | | BET Start | | | | | | BET | 106 & Park: Top 10 Live | | | | | | | | | | |
| CMTV | 70 | 34 | | | Smash Hits of Country | | | | | | | | | | | Movie: "A Smoky Mountain Christmas" | | | | | | | | | | |
| HBO | 650 | 71 | 51 | | Movie: "Miracle on 34th Street" (1994) | | | | Movie: "Stuart Little 2" (2002) | | | | Movie: *** 1/2 "The Color Purple" (1985) PG-13 | | | "Mr. Deeds" (2002) | | | | | | | | | | |
| MAX | 765 | 72 | 54 | | Movie | "Spirit: Stallion of Cimarron" | | | Movie: ** "Odd Jobs" (1986) | | | | Movie: *** 1/2 "Brown Sugar" (2002) | | | Movie: ** "Baby's Day Out" | | | | | | | | | | |
| SHOW | 700 | 73 | 52 | | Movie: "Just a Dream" (2002) | | | | Movie: *** 1/2 "Due Date" (2002) PG-13 | | | | Movie: "Bobbie's Girl" (2002) | | | Movie: "Red Sneakers" (2001, Fantasy) | | | | | | | | | | |
| DISN | 78 | 31 | 57 | | Bear | Bear | PBJ | Stanley | Rolie | JoJo | Wiggles | | Wiggles | | | Timothy Tweedle | | Santa Claus | | | | | | | | |
| FLIX | 705 | | | | Movie: "Mars Needs Women" | | | | Movie: "Pressure Point" NR | | Movie: "Hannah and Her Sisters" (1986) | | | | Movie: *** "Love Story" (1970) PG | | | | | | | | | | | |
| HBO2 | 652 | | | | ** "Look Who's Talking Too" | | Jim McKay | | Movie: *** 1/2 "Shallow Hal" (2001) | | | | Movie: *** 1/2 "The Jack Bull" (1999) R | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| WEDNESDAY EVENING | | | | | | | | | | A-Channel B-Murray Electric C-Mediam D-Galaxy | | | | | DEC. 24, 2003 | | | | |
|-------------------|-----|----|----|----|---|-------------|--|---|---|--|---|------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|--|--|--|
| | A | B | C | D | 7:00 | 7:30 | 8:00 | 8:30 | 9:00 | 9:30 | 10:00 | 10:30 | 11:00 | 11:30 | 12:00 | 12:30 | | | |
| WKRN-ABC | 2 | 2 | | | My Wife | Relative | Lopez | Married | Home Videos | | News | Friends | Friends | Nightline | Stor. Christmas | | | | |
| WSIL-ABC | 3 | 3 | 3 | | My Wife | Relative | Lopez | Married | Home Videos | | News | Nightline | Sounds of the Season | Stor. Christmas | | | | | |
| WSMV-NBC | 4 | 4 | | | Movie: **** "It's a Wonderful Life" (1946, Fantasy) James Stewart | | | | | | News | Jack Hanna | | Christmas Eve at St. Peter's | | | | | |
| WTVF-CBS | 5 | 5 | | | 60 Minutes II | | King | Becker | 48 Hours Investigates | | News | Baptist | Christmas Eve | | John Walsh Show | | | | |
| WPSD-NBC | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | Movie: **** "It's a Wonderful Life" (1946, Fantasy) James Stewart | | | | | | News | Christmas Eve at St. Peter's | | To Be Announced | | | | | |
| WBAB-ABC | 7 | 7 | | | My Wife | Relative | Lopez | Married | Home Videos | | Christmas | Christmas | Christmas | | Stor. Christmas | | | | |
| WNPT-PBS | 8 | 8 | | | Arthur's Perft | | | Great Performances: The Nutcracker From | | | News | Served | Donald McKayle | | Great Performances | | | | |
| KBSI-Fox | 9 | 9 | 2 | 3 | Movie: ** 1/2 "Anastasia" (1997, Adventure) | | | 70s Show | Will-Grace | | Simpsons | Frasier | King | Becker | GRC | Drew | | | |
| WQTV-UPN | 10 | 17 | 11 | 30 | Star Trek: Enterprise | | Jake 2.0 (In Stereo) | | To Be Announced | | Blind Date | 5th Wheel | Harvey | Harvey | Paid Prog. | Paid Prog. | | | |
| KFVS-CBS | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 60 Minutes II | | King | Becker | 48 Hours Investigates | | News | Heartland Holidays | | Friends | Christmas Eve | | | | |
| WGN | 16 | 38 | 9 | 10 | Movie: *** "Scrooge" (1951) Alastair Sim | | | | News (In Stereo) | | Movie: ** "A Christmas Carol" (1984, Fantasy) | | | | Midnight Mass | | | | |
| INSP | 17 | 83 | 28 | | Brkthrhg | Zola Levitt | Your Day | Life Today | Today | Old Gospel | | Wisdom | Feed | Inspiriion | Hope for the Holidays | | | | |
| WKMU-PBS | 21 | 21 | 5 | 11 | Duttons Holiday Live | | Face: Jesus in Art | | Face: Jesus in Art | | Christmas at Baylor | | Children's Hospital | | Shape of Life | | | | |
| WDKA-WB | 22 | 16 | 10 | | Smallville "Phoenix" | | Smallville "Lineage" | Judy | Judy | | Roseanne | Roseanne | Extra | GRC | Ripley | Road Rule | | | |
| ESPN | 24 | 29 | 26 | 8 | College Football: Las Vegas Bowl -- New Mexico vs. Oregon State | | | | | | SportsCenter (Live) | | Rome Is Burning | | SportsCenter | | | | |
| ESPN2 | 25 | 30 | 25 | | Long Drive | | 2002 ReMax Long Drive | | | Golf: Long Drive Championship | | NFL Live | | Football | Drag Race | NFL Live | | | |
| MTV | 26 | 49 | 27 | 24 | Hard Rock Live (N) | | MTV Special | | Osbourne Christmas | | MTV Cribs | MTV Cribs | | Music Videos | | Video Clash | | | |
| TNT | 28 | 27 | 39 | 14 | Movie: *** "A Christmas Story" (1983) | | | | Movie: *** "A Christmas Story" (1983) | | | | | Movie: *** "A Christmas Story" (1983) | | | | | |
| TLC | 29 | 41 | 41 | | Better-Worse | | While You Were Out | | Better-Worse | | Better-Worse | | While You Were Out | | Better-Worse | | | | |
| LIFE | 30 | 52 | 31 | 31 | (6:00) Movie | | Movie: "Christmas in My Hometown" (1996) | | | | Golden | Golden | Nanny | Nanny | Mad | Any Day | | | |
| USA | 32 | 51 | 49 | 5 | (6:00) Movie | | Movie: "Stealing Christmas" (2003) | | | | Movie: ** "Dear God" (1996) | | Greg Kinnear | | Movie: "Stealing Christmas" | | | | |
| AMC | 34 | 58 | 29 | | Movie: *** "48 HRS." (1982) Nick Nolte | R | | Movie: ** "Smokey and the Bandit II" (1980) | | | | | Movie: *** "48 HRS." (1982) | R | | | | | |
| A&E | 35 | 35 | 44 | 27 | Biography: Santa | | American Justice | | American Justice | | Third Watch "Faith" | | Biography: Santa | | American Justice | | | | |
| FAM | 36 | 53 | 36 | 2 | Santa Claus | | Without Santa | | Rudolph's-New Year | | 700 Club | | Oak Ridge Boys | | Paid Prog. | Paid Prog. | | | |
| NICK | 37 | 22 | 24 | 4 | Rugrats (In Stereo) | | Full Hse. | Full Hse. | Cosby | Cosby | Roseanne | Roseanne | Cosby | Cosby | 3's Co. | Cheers | | | |
| HGTV | 43 | 36 | 18 | | Decorat- | Decorat- | Designers | Designers | Design | Design | Design | Design | Decorat- | Decorat- | Designers | Designers | | | |
| SPIKE | 44 | 33 | 30 | 23 | (5:00) Movie | | Movie: ** 1/2 "The World Is Not Enough" (1999, Action) Pierce Brosnan. | | | | | | Movie: *** 1/2 "From Russia With Love" (1963) | | | | | | |
| WTBS | 52 | 26 | 21 | 13 | Seinfeld | Seinfeld | Ripley-Believe | | Movie: ** 1/2 "Grumpier Old Men" (1995) | | | | Ripley-Believe | | Movie: "Fletch" (1985) | | | | |
| TOON | 65 | 32 | 50 | | Granda-Run | | Powerpuff Girls: Fight | Tales | Toon | | NYPD Blue | Family | Inuyasha | Big O | Cowboy | Reign | | | |
| COURT | 66 | 61 | | | Detective | Detective | Forensic | Forensic | System | | NYPD Blue (In Stereo) | | Detective | Detective | Forensic | Forensic | | | |
| BET | 67 | 39 | | | Parkers | Parkers | Music | I'm Living | Comicview | | News | I'm Living | Midnight Love | | Comicview | | | | |
| CMTV | 70 | 34 | | | Alan Jackson | | Most Wanted Live | | Inside Fame | | Cmas-Cowboy | | Alan Jackson | | Most Wanted Live | | | | |
| HBO | 650 | 71 | 51 | | (6:15) Movie: *** "The Majestic" (2001) PG | | Inside the NFL (N) | | Inside the NFL (N) | | Movie: ** "Analyze That" (2002) | | Movie: "Night and the City" (1992) | | | | | | |
| MAX | 765 | 72 | 54 | | (6:30) Movie: "Harry Potter-Sorcerers" | | "Adam Sandler's-Crazy Nights" | | | | Hotel Ertc | | Movie: *** "Panic Room" (2002) | | "Sapphire" | | | | |
| SHOW | 760 | 73 | 52 | | Movie: ** 1/2 "Crossroads" (2002) | | Movie: ** 1/2 "Zoolander" (2001) | | | | Movie: "Changing Lanes" (2002) | | Movie: ** 1/2 "Illegally Yours" (1988) | | | | | | |
| DISN | 78 | 31 | 57 | | Movie: "Twins the Night" (2001) | | So Raven | Sister | Boy World | Kim | Proud | Even | Sister | | Boy World | Recess | | | |
| FLIX | 765 | | | | Movie: *** "Comes a Horseman" (1978) PG | | Movie: *** "Bright Angel" (1990) | | | | Movie: "House of Games" (1987) | | "Final Countdown" R | | | | | | |
| HBO2 | 652 | | | | Sex & City | Sex & City | Movie: "While You Were Sleeping" | | | | Movie: *** "The Pelican Brief" (1993) Julia Roberts | | | | Movie: ** "Cookie" | | | | |

Father ...

From 2B

became convinced it was real.

He provided his father's unlisted number and called him with the thrilling news.

"Dad," he said, "I've got a grandpa!"

His father was puzzled.

"Your dad's alive," the 30-year-old son declared.

William Treacy, the long-lost son, stared at his wife, Lydia, in disbelief.

Not long before, they'd been thumbing through a three-inch thick photo album including his baby pictures. (He'd also kept a baby book listing presents he had been given, including two from his father: \$4.50 in pennies and two \$2 bills.)

"Wouldn't it be nice," Lydia had said, "to know what happened to your dad?"

"Then, two weeks later, boom! God gave us an answer," she says now.

When Iahn's nephew, Jack, placed the momentous call to Arizona soon afterward, the first words were as simple as they come:

"Hello, son."

"Hello, Dad."

There was no way to make up for lost time. But there was much to say.

William Treacy revealed he's the father of four and grandfather of seven.

Iahn told him about family he never knew he had.

Treacy, a machinist who had taken the surname of a stepfather, had presumed his biological father was dead: He had once heard Iahn had been killed in a car accident (he was seriously injured in one).

Treacy had been raised by his grandmother and mother — who split from her husband — and even now, he remembers moments as a boy when he longed for his father.

"Growing up ... not knowing that he was on this earth, and not having

him around when I used to play ball..." he says, groping for the right words. "It's sad to me."

When he questioned his mother about his father, "she would say, 'Don't ask me,'" he said.

So he stopped asking.

The father-son call led to an invitation to Leadwood, but Treacy worried his newly discovered family might wonder why he hadn't done more to find Iahn.

"I don't know how you all will feel," he confided to his cousin, Betty.

"We all love Bill and we'll love you, too," she reassured him.

Treacy had already won over Dot Iahn, a spy woman who loves animals (her menagerie includes a dog, turkey and miniature 26-inch-high horse) and dolls (she has 780 lining almost every room of her house.)

"He said, 'Do you mind if I call you Mom?'" she recalls.

"Eighty-one years old and to be called Mom for the first time in your life?" she says, her face beaming.

"Gosh."

This fall, when Treacy and his wife, Lydia, arrived at the airport in St. Louis, he held a paper sign with "Treacy" and "Iahn" written on it.

He needn't have bothered. Family members recognized him immediately. There were hugs and kisses all around.

"Uncle Bill doesn't show a lot of emotion, but he was smiling," says his nephew, Jimmy Iahn, who drove them to the airport.

No one saw Iahn shed a tear, and yet he confesses: "I might have when nobody could see me."

Iahn has never been one to talk much, but friends say he's clearly a changed man.

"He's just got a twinkle in his eye he didn't have before," says Hackworth, whose research reunited father and son.

In their time together, the two men watched westerns, toured the St. Louis arch, visited Iahn's sister

in a nursing home, looked at old photos and joined nearly 70 other family members for a reunion at a nearby VFW Hall.

"His family grew by tenfold," Jimmy Iahn says. "It's pretty wild."

And father and son got along famously. "It was like we had known each other a long time," Treacy says.

Family members noticed similarities between father and son: Both are Army veterans, wear their watches on their left hand over their shirts and walk the same way.

Two of Treacy's grandchildren are redheads — just as Iahn was when he was young.

Iahn teases his son, calling him old man. Treacy sticks with "Dad" for his father.

Though Treacy — who turned 60 on Dec. 16 — says he still feels "a gap of not having him around all these years," he doesn't dwell on that.

"It's like being in a dim room ... and now everything's bright," he says. "There's a big ole light in my life."

The baby pictures tucked away all these years now sit on a living room shelf, along with a new photo — son and father, their arms draped around one another, with their wives.

Treacy is spending Christmas in Missouri with his father.

A few years ago, Dot Iahn had lost interest in holiday celebrations, so she gave away her lights and decorations. But with her new son, she's enthused again and started planning Christmas dinner — turkey, roast beef, mashed potatoes — in early November.

She has a Christmas stocking for Treacy and among his gifts: a pillow embroidered with the word "son."

In a way, Treacy's life has started over. "My mom says this is our first Christmas," he says. "I guess I'll be a 60-year-old kid."

DailyComics

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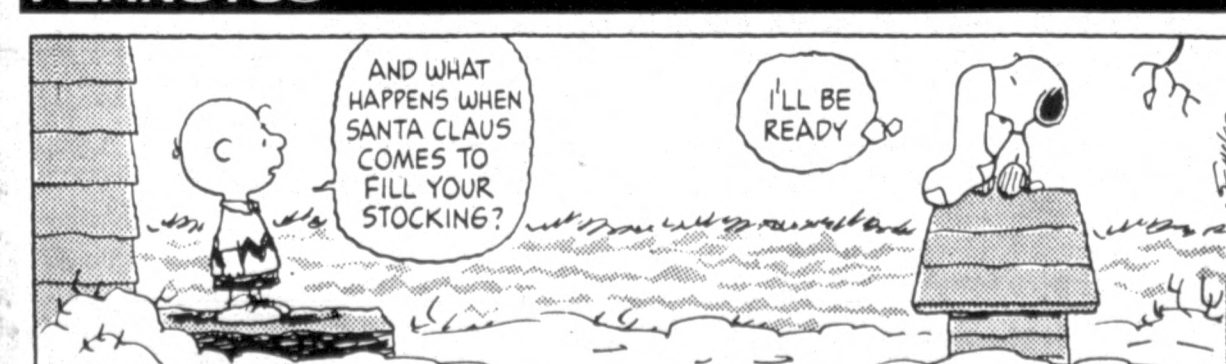
FOR BETTER or WORSE®



GARFIELD®



PEANUTS®



TV Listings published daily

| THURSDAY EVENING | | | | DEC. 25, 2003 | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|----|----|----|-----------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|---|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------|-------------|
| A | B | C | D | 7:00 | 7:30 | 8:00 | 8:30 | 9:00 | 9:30 | 10:00 | 10:30 | 11:00 | 11:30 | 12:00 | 12:30 |
| WKRN-ABC | 2 | 2 | | Basketball | NBA Basketball | Houston Rockets at Los Angeles Lakers | News | Friends | Friends | Nightline | Jimmy Kimmel Live | | | | |
| WSIL-ABC | 3 | 3 | | Basketball | NBA Basketball | Houston Rockets at Los Angeles Lakers | News | Nightline | Seinfeld | Seinfeld | Jimmy Kimmel Live | | | | |
| WSMV-NBC | 4 | 4 | | Friends | Morgan | Will-Grace | Heroes | ER "Now What?" | News | Tonight Show | Late Night (In Stereo) | Last Call | | | |
| WTVF-CBS | 5 | 5 | | Cold Case | (In Stereo) | CSI: Crime Scn | Without a Trace | News | News | Late Show (In Stereo) | Entertain | Late Late Show | | | |
| WPSD-NBC | 6 | 6 | 6 | Friends | Morgan | Will-Grace | Scrubs | ER "Now What?" | News | Tonight Show | Late Night (In Stereo) | Last Call | | | |
| WBBJ-ABC | 7 | 7 | | Basketball | NBA Basketball | Houston Rockets at Los Angeles Lakers | News | Nightline | Jimmy Kimmel Live | Seinfeld | Holly- | | | | |
| WNPT-PBS | 8 | 8 | | Tennese | Gardener | Christmas at Belmont | Christmas at Baylor | Served | LA Holiday | New This Old | | | | | |
| KBSI-Fox | 9 | 9 | 2 | World Idol (TV) | (N) (In Stereo) | Part 1 of 2 | 70s Show | Will-Grace | Simpsons | Fraser | King | Becker | GRC | Drew | |
| WQTV-UPN | 10 | 11 | 11 | 30 | WWE SmackDown! | (In Stereo) | To Be Announced | Blind Date | 5th Wheel | Harvey | Harvey | Paid Prog. | Paid Prog. | | |
| KFVS-CBS | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | Cold Case (In Stereo) | CSI: Crime Scn | Without a Trace | News | Late Show (In Stereo) | Friends | Late Late Show | | | | |
| WGN | 16 | 38 | 9 | 10 | Movie: "Sister Act" (1992, Comedy) | | | News (In Stereo) | Becker | Will-Grace | Osbourne Show | Eliminate | Street | | |
| INSP | 17 | 83 | 28 | | Brkthrhg | Damaris | Your Day | Life Today | Today | Word | Feed | In Search | Various | Sum- | Inspiratiol |
| WKMU-PBS | 21 | 21 | 5 | 11 | Antiques Roadshow | Mystery: Inspector Lynley | | Crown | News | Ky Life | Wide Angle (In Stereo) | Wide Angle | | | |
| WOKA-WB | 22 | 16 | 10 | | Big Time | Big Time | Experi- | Experi- | Judy | Roseanne | Roseanne | Extra | Paid Prog. | Ripley | Road Rule |
| ESPN | 24 | 29 | 26 | 8 | College Football: Sheraton Hawaii Bowl - Hawaii vs. Houston, (Live) | | | | | SportsCenter (Live) | Fastbreak | SportsCenter (Live) | | | |
| ESPN2 | 25 | 30 | 25 | | Movie: "The Junction Boys" (2002, Drama) | Playmakers (N) | | Playmakers (N) | | Strongest Man | NBA Basketball | | | | |
| MTV | 26 | 49 | 27 | 24 | Rich Girls | Rich Girls | Rich Girls | Rich Girls | Rich Girls | Rich Girls | Rich Girls | Osbourne Christmas | Couples | | |
| TNT | 28 | 27 | 39 | 14 | Movie: "Door to Door" (2002, Drama) | | | Movie: "The Michael" (1996) John Travolta | | Movie: "Sense and Sensibility" (1995) | | | | | |
| TLC | 29 | 41 | 41 | | While You Were Out | While You Were Out | While You Were Out | While You Were Out | While You Were Out | While You Were Out | While You Were Out | While You Were Out | While You Were Out | | |
| LIFE | 30 | 52 | 31 | 31 | (5:30) Movie: "Clara's" (1996, Drama) | Movie: "Homecoming" (1996, Drama) | Golden | Golden | Golden | Nanny | Nanny | Mad | Any Day | | |
| USA | 32 | 51 | 49 | 5 | Movie: "The Waterboy" (1998, Comedy) | Movie: "Happy Gilmore" (1996, Comedy) | Movie: "The Nutty Professor" (1996) | | | Movie: "The Nutty Professor" (1996) | | | | | |
| AMC | 34 | 58 | 29 | | Movie: "The Searchers" (1956) John Wayne, "NR" (1967) Paul Newman | Movie: "The Searchers" (1956) John Wayne, "NR" (1967) Paul Newman | | | | Movie: "The Searchers" (1956) John Wayne, "NR" (1967) Paul Newman | | | | | |
| A&E | 35 | 35 | 44 | 27 | Movie: "Columbo: A Bird in the Hand" (1992) | Movie: "Columbo: Death Hits the Jackpot" (1992) | | | | Movie: "Columbo: A Bird in the Hand" (1992) | | | | | |
| FAM | 36 | 53 | 36 | 2 | Movie: "Picking Up and Dropping Off" (2003) | Santa Claus | 700 Club | | | Home Videos | Paid Prog. | Paid Prog. | | | |
| NICK | 37 | 22 | 24 | 4 | Oddpar | Sponge | Full Hse. | Full Hse. | Cosby | Cosby | Cosby | Cosby | Cosby | Cosby | Cosby |
| HGTV | 43 | 36 | 18 | | Weekend | Land- | Designing | Designers | House | House | House | Building | Weekend | Land- | Designing |
| SPIKE | 44 | 33 | 30 | 23 | (5:00) Movie: "World" | Movie: "The Living Daylights" (1987, Adventure) | Timothy Dalton | | | Movie: "For Your Eyes Only" (1981) | | | | | |
| WTBS | 52 | 26 | 21 | 13 | Movie: "A Few Good Men" (1992, Drama) | Tom Cruise | | Movie: "Pleasantville" (1998) Tobey Maguire | | Movie: "Pleasantville" (1998) Tobey Maguire | | | | | |
| TOON | 65 | 32 | 50 | | Movie: "Ballo" (1995, Adventure) | | | Futurama | Family | Inuyasha | Big O | Cowboy | Reign | | |
| COURT | 66 | 61 | | | Movie: "Serial Killer" (1996) Kim Delaney | Movie: "Escape Clause" (1996, Drama) | | | | Movie: "Serial Killer" (1996) Kim Delaney | | | | | |
| BET | 67 | 39 | | | Parkers | Parkers | TD Jakes-Star | Cincomview | News | Maad | Midnight Love | Cincomview | | | |
| CMTV | 70 | 34 | | | Cmas-Cowboy | Alan Jackson | Top 20 Countdown | | | Cmas-Cowboy | Alan Jackson | | | | |
| HBO | 76 | 71 | 51 | | Inside the NFL | Movie: "Mr. Deeds" (2002) | First Look | Hot! Hot! Hot! | | Inside the NFL | Movie: "Gang Related" | | | | |
| MAX | 76 | 72 | 54 | | Movie: "My Big Fat Greek Wedding" (2002) | Movie | | | | Hot Line | Movie: "Mistress Club" | | | | |
| SHOW | 77 | 73 | 52 | | (6:30) Movie: "We Were Soldiers" (2002) "R" Isaak | Movie: "National Lampoon's Van Wilder" (2002) | | | | Intersect-Nxt | "Original" | | | | |
| DISN | 78 | 31 | 57 | | Movie: "It Nearly Wasn't Christmas" (1989) | So Raven | Boy World | Kim | Proud | Even | Proud | Boy World | Recess | | |
| FLIX | 78 | | | | Movie: "Love Story" (1970) | Movie: "Bull Durham" (1988) "R" | | | | Movie: "The Favor" (1994) "R" | Movie: "The Believers" | | | | |
| HBO2 | 82 | | | | Sex & City | Sex & City | Movie: "Adaptation" (2002) "R" | | | Movie: "Batman Forever" (1995) PG-13 | Movie: "The Smokers" | | | | |

| FRIDAY MORNING | | | | | | | | A-Charter B-Murray Electric C-Medison D-Galaxy | | | | DEC. 26, 2003 | | | | | | |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|---|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|----------|--|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|---|--------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| | A | B | C | D | 5:00 | 5:30 | 6:00 | 6:30 | 7:00 | 7:30 | 8:00 | 8:30 | 9:00 | 9:30 | 10:00 | 10:30 | 11:00 | 11:30 |
| WKRN-ABC | 2 | 2 | | | News | | | | Good Morning America | | | | Regis and Kelly | | The View | | Pyramid | Pyramid |
| WSIL-ABC | 3 | 3 | 3 | | News | News | News | News | Good Morning America | | | | Living It Up | | The View | | Pyramid | Pyramid |
| WSMV-NBC | 4 | 4 | | | News | | | News | Today (In Stereo) | | | | | | Living It Up | | Ellen Show | |
| WTVF-CBS | 5 | 5 | | | News | | | News | News | | Early Show | | Montel Williams | | Price Is Right | | News | Y & R |
| WPSD-NBC | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | AgDay | News | News | | Today (In Stereo) | | | | | | Martha Stewart | | News | |
| WBBJ-ABC | 7 | 7 | 7 | | News | AgDay | | Good Morning | Good Morning America | | | | Regis and Kelly | | The View | | Divorce | News |
| WNPT-PBS | 8 | 8 | | | Berens- | BodyE- | Mr | Caillou | Lions | Arthur | Couch | Tele- | Sesame Street | | Reading | Cyber- | Nova (In Stereo) | |
| KBSI-Fox | 9 | 9 | 2 | 3 | (4:00) Movie | | Paid | Paid | Sher- | Stargate | Hatchett | Hatchett | Judge Mathis | | People's Court | Divorce | Justice | |
| WQTV-UPN | 10 | 17 | 11 | 30 | (Off Air) | | Paid | Paid | Paid | Paid | Paid | Paid | John Walsh Show | | To Be Announced | Good Day Live (N) | | |
| KFVS-CBS | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | Breakfast Show | | | | Early Show (In Stereo) | | | | Regis and Kelly | | Price Is Right | | Young-Restless | |
| WGN | 16 | 38 | 9 | 10 | Children | Life | Van | Believ- | Justice | Hillbil- | Hillbil- | Hap | Matlock (In Stereo) | | Heat of Night | Rockford Files | | |
| INSP | 17 | 83 | 28 | | Truth | Bishop | Truths | Wisdom | Fellow- | For | Hagee | Life | Your | Life | Winner | Chang | Mis- | Inspir- |
| WKMU-PBS | 21 | 21 | 5 | 11 | Yoga | BodyE- | Arthur | Clifford | Dragon | Caillou | Heavenly Voices | Zoboo | Barney | | Sesame Street | Mr | | Jay Jay |
| WOKA-WB | 22 | 16 | 10 | | Essen- | Shephrd | Chapl | Sabrina | Littles | Paid | Paid | Paid | Believ- | Living | Hugh- | Feud | | Jerry Springer |
| ESPN | 24 | 29 | 26 | 8 | SportsCenter | | SportsCenter | | SportsCenter | | SportsCenter | | SportsCenter | | SportsCenter | | SportsCenter | |
| ESPN2 | 25 | 30 | 25 | | Out | Fishing | | Movie: ** "The Junction Boys" (2002) | | | Movie: ** "The Junction Boys" (2002) | | Billiards | | Wild | | Wild | |
| MTV | 26 | 49 | 27 | 24 | MTV Video Wake-Up (In Stereo) | | | | | | | | | | MTV2's Greatest Hits 2003 (In Stereo) | | | |
| TNT | 28 | 27 | 39 | 14 | Pensacola-Wing | | Lost World | | Pretender | | Charmed | | ER (In Stereo) | | ER (In Stereo) | | Judging Amy | |
| TLC | 29 | 41 | 41 | | School | Brum | Save | Hi-5 | Animal | Bus | Baby | Baby | Wed- | Wed- | Dating | Dating | Mak- | Mak- |
| LIFE | 30 | 52 | 31 | 31 | Paid | Paid | Fit Lite | Workout | Head | Design- | Golden | Nanny | Golden | Nanny | Mad | Mad | Merge | |
| USA | 32 | 51 | 49 | 5 | (4:00) Bloomberg Information Network | | | | Nash Bridges | | "Problem Child 3: Junior in Love" (1995) | | | | Movie: ** * "The Little Rascals" (1994) | | | |
| AMC | 34 | 58 | 29 | | (3:50) Movie | | Movie: *** "The Undeclared" (1969) G | | | | | | Movie: "Wake of the Red Witch" (1948) | | "Flame of Barbary Coast" | | | |
| A&E | 35 | 35 | 44 | 27 | Paid | Body- | Susan Anthony | | Murder-Wrote | | Murder-Wrote | | Murder-Wrote | | Murder-Wrote | | Murder-Wrote | |
| FAM | 36 | 53 | 36 | 2 | Life | Tri Vita | Digimon | Bey- | Rangers | Digimon | | Movie: "Sabrina Goes to Rome" (1998) | | | Movie: "Sabrina, Down Under" (1999) | | | |
| NICK | 37 | 22 | 24 | 4 | News | Thorn- | Oddpar- | Rocket | Rugrats | Sponge | Max | Rubba- | Dora | Blues- | Dora | Blues- | Little | Maggie |
| HGTV | 43 | 36 | 18 | | Paid | Paid | Marthas | Solu- | TIPIcal | Quilts | Duval | Decorat- | Home | Treas- | Room | Duval | Country | Small |
| SPIKE | 44 | 33 | 30 | 23 | Paid | Paid | Paid | Paid | Paid | Paid | Movie: *** * "From Russia With Love" (1963, Adventure) | | | | "Never Say Nvr" | | | |
| WTBS | 52 | 26 | 21 | 13 | Movie: ** * "Air America" (1990) | | | | Movie: *** * "Bird on a Wire" (1990) | | | | Movie: *** "Conspiracy Theory" (1997, Suspense) | | "Lethal" | | | |
| TOON | 65 | 32 | 50 | | Zoids | He-Man | Poke- | Yu Gi | Ed, Edd | Dexter | Hamtaro | Looney | Looney | Scooby | Scooby | Scooby-Doo | Tom | |
| COURT | 66 | 61 | | | Paid | Paid | Paid | Paid | Paid | Paid | "Perry Mason: Skin-Deep" | | | | "Perry Mason: Heartbroken Bride" | | | |
| BET | 67 | 39 | | | BET Morning Inspiration With Brother Gerard | | | | BET Start | | | | | | BET | 106 & Park: Top 10 Live | | |
| CMTV | 70 | 34 | | | Smash Hits of Country | | | | | | | | | | | "Living Proof: Hank Jr." | | |
| HBO | 60 | 71 | 51 | | Movie: ** "Zeus and Roxanne" (1997) | | | "Ace Ventura: Nature Calls" | | | | Movie: ** * "Joe Somebody" (2001) PG | | Movie: "Man of the House" | | | | |
| MAX | 76 | 72 | 54 | | Movie: ** "Airheads" (1994) | Bun Bun | Movie: *** "Tin Cup" (1996) R | | | | | Movie: "The Banger Sisters" (2002) R | | "The Fugitive" | | | | |
| SHOW | 70 | 73 | 52 | | (4:15) Movie | "Bugs Bunny, Superstar" NR | | | Movie: "Dominick and Eugene" (1988) | | | | "A Woman's a Helluva Thing" | | 2002 | | | |
| DISN | 78 | 31 | 57 | | House | House | Recess | Lilo | Wiggles | JoJo | Wiggles | Stanley | Rolie | Rolie | Out-Box | PBJ | Wiggles | JoJo |
| FLIX | 76 | | | | (4:00) Movie | | Movie: "Absolute Beginners" (1986) | | Movie: "Some Kind of a Nut" | | | | Movie: "Dead Cert" (1974) | | "Attack-Puppet" | | | |
| HBO2 | 65 | | | | Movie: "Young Frankenstein" (1974) R | | Artists' Spec | | Movie: "The Secret Garden" | | | | Movie: ** "The Transporter" (2002) PG | | | | | |

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Fax: 753-1927

www.murrayledger.com

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ADJUSTMENTS

Advertisers are requested to check the first insertion of their ads for any error. Murray Ledger & Times will be responsible for only one incorrect insertion. Any error should be reported immediately so corrections can be made.

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Monday Fri. 11 a.m.
Tuesday Mon. 11 a.m.
Wednesday Mon. 5 p.m.
Thursday Wed. 11 a.m.
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Murray Ledger & Times Fair Housing Act Notice

All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitations or discrimination.

State laws forbid discrimination in the sale, rental or advertising of real estate based on factors in addition to those protected under federal law.

We will knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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010 Legal Notice
020 Notice
025 Personal
030 Financial
040 Roommate Wanted
050 Lost And Found
060 Help Wanted
070 Position Wanted
090 Domestic & Childcare
100 Business Opportunity
110 Electronics
120 Computers
130 Appliances 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
260 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
330 Rooms For Rent
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360 Storage Rentals
370 Commercial Property
380 Pets & Supplies
390 Livestock & Supplies
410 Public Sale
425 Land For Rent or Lease

430 Real Estate
435 Lake Property
440 Lots For Sale
445 Lots For Rent
450 Farms For Sale
455 Acreage
460 Homes For Sale
470 Motorcycles & ATV's
480 Auto Parts
485 Sport Utility Vehicles
490 Used Cars
495 Vans
500 Used Trucks
510 Campers
520 Boats & Motors
530 Services Offered
560 Free Column
570 Tobacco & Supplies

To Place Your Ad Call the Classified Department at 753-1916 ask for Jill Stephens or Jennifer Jackson or stop by our office at 1001 Whitnell Ave. — Office Hours: Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.



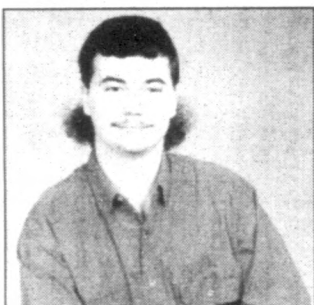
HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



Tim & Ginger Philpot
Dec. 23, 1978 - Dec. 23, 2003
Happy 25th - We Love You!

IN MEMORY

Merry Christmas From Heaven



I still hear the songs I still see the lights
I still feel your love on cold winter nights
I still share your hopes and all your cares
I'll even remind you to please say your prayers.

I just want to tell you, you still make me proud
you stand head and shoulders above the crowd.

Keep trying each moment to stay in his grace
I came here before you to help set your place
You don't have to be perfect all the time
He forgives you the slip if you continue the climb.

To my family and friends Please be thankful
today I'm still close beside you
In a new special way.

I love you all dearly Now don't shed a tear
Cause I'm spending my Christmas with Jesus this year...

Shannon Wallace
6-14-75 — 8-5-97

CARD OF THANKS

CARD OF THANKS

The family of Julia Frances Parker wishes to thank their friends and relatives for the flowers, food, memorial donations, visits and cards received during the recent passing of their beloved mother and grandmother. A special thanks to John Dale for the beautiful message of comfort and tribute. Thank you also to Alive Hospice of Nashville, Tennessee and J.H. Churchill Funeral Home of Murray for giving her honor and dignity on her final journey.

CLASSIFIEDS...THE FIRST PLACE TO START!
WHETHER YOU NEED A JOB OR CAR YOU CAN FIND IT IN THE CLASSIFIEDS SECTION.

010 Legal Notice

010 Legal Notice

010 Legal Notice

010 Legal Notice

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060 Help Wanted

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY COURT OF JUSTICE CALLOWAY CIRCUIT COURT Civil Action No. 01-CI-00423

GREEN TREE SERVICING, LLC F/K/A
CONSECO FINANCE SERVICING CORP.

PLAINTIFF,

VS.,

NOTICE OF SALE

SHANNON J. WESTMORELAND,
UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF
SHANNON J. WESTMORELAND,

DEFENDANTS

By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale entered by the Calloway Circuit Court on October 28, 2003, in the above cause, I shall proceed to offer for sale at the Courthouse door in the City of Murray, Calloway County, Kentucky, to the highest bidder, at public auction on Monday, January 12, 2004, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., c.s.t., or thereabout, the following described property located in Calloway County, Kentucky, and more particularly described as follows to wit:

Legal Description of a tract of land situated approximately 1.5 miles west of the Town of Dexter, in the County of Calloway, State of Kentucky, being part of the southwest Quarter of Section 10, Township 3, Range 4 East, and also being Lot 18 of a Minor Subdivision Plat of the Gary Ahart and Debbie Ahart property of record in Plat Book 28, Page 95, Slide 2711, said Minor Plat is a Partial Replat of Tract II of record in Plat Book 24, Page 24, Slide 2237, and being further described as follows:

Beginning at a point in the centerline of Pond View Road, located 878.61' east of the centerline of Hopkins Road, being the northeast corner of Lot 19, and the northwest corner of Lot 18 described herein;

Thence, with the centerline of Pond View Road, and along the arc of a curve to the left having radius of 52.45', for an arc distance of 69.72', the chord of which bears north 51 deg. 44' 08" east 65.70' to the southwest corner of Lot 17; thence with the south line of Lot 17, south 78 deg. 20' 45" east, passing through a 1/2" diameter rebar set at 25.00', for the distance of 226.52' to a 1/2" diameter rebar set in the west line of the Hubert Hardie property; thence with the Hardie's west line, south 02 deg. 19' 14" west 211.39' to a 1/2" diameter rebar found, the northwest corner of Tract 1 of the Ralph and Bobby McDaniel property (Plat Book 24, Page 24, Slide 2237); thence with the McDaniel's north line, north 89 deg. 48' 24" west 161.03', passing through a 1/2" diameter rebar set at 219.37', for the distance of 245.93' to the point of beginning. This tract contains 1.1928 acres, but is subject however to a 25' wide roadway easement for Pond View Road.

Being a part of the same property conveyed by deed from Gary Wade Ahart and his wife, Deborah Fay Ahart, dated April 17, 2000, of record in Book 344, Page 482, in the office of the Calloway County Court Clerk.

ALSO: A 2000 Fleetwood, LakePointe 28' x 52' mobile home, Serial #YFLY45AB01528LP12.

The aforementioned property shall be sold on a cash or credit basis of 30 days, but if sold on a credit of 30 days, the purchaser shall be required to deposit with the commissioner ten percent of the purchase price in cash together with bonds for the remainder of the purchase price with good and sufficient surety, said amount bearing interest at 12% per annum from the date of sale until paid, and fully due and payable in thirty (30) days. A lien shall be retained on the property as additional security. All delinquent taxes shall be ascertained and paid.

Dated this 18th day of December, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,
Max W. Parker
Master Commissioner
Calloway Circuit Court

Invitation To Bid

Purchase of Used Vehicles

The Calloway County Board of Education is accepting sealed bids for the purchase of used vehicles. The following vehicles will be purchased:

- 1 - Chevrolet Suburban LS - 2002 or newer; maximum mileage 25,000
- 1 - Ford Explorer XLT (4WD) - 2002 or newer; maximum mileage 25,000
- 1 - Ford Taurus - 2002 or newer; maximum mileage 25,000
- 1 - 1/2 Ton Pickup (V-8 w/long wheel base) - 2000 or newer; maximum mileage 50,000

Bids will be accepted until 2:00 p.m., January 8, 2004. Specifications and bid forms are on file at the Board office at 2110 College Farm Road, Murray, KY 42071. Any interested bidders may obtain copies at that location. Please note multiple bids may be awarded. Further information may be obtained by calling Mike Johnson at 762-7322 or Karen Brandon at 762-7300. The Calloway County Board of Education reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids and waive any irregularities in bidding.

020 Notice

BIBLE MESSAGE
759-5177

050 Lost and Found

THIS space is reserved
the day might come,
Your pet has strayed
can't find its way home.

LOST: Female Aussie-Red Heeler mix, Sable & White, short hair, answers to the name "Bella". Family pet. (270) 489-2227, (270) 994-1605 or (270) 994-2291.

Call 753-1916

060 Help Wanted

NOW accepting applications for assistant management. Apply in person. 616 North 12th Street.

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY COURT OF JUSTICE CALLOWAY CIRCUIT COURT Civil Action No. 03-CI-00375

BRANCH BANKING & TRUST
successor by merger with AREA BANK,
formerly PEOPLES BANK OF MURRAY,

PLAINTIFF,

VS.,

NOTICE OF SALE

LARRY ROBERTS, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR
OF THE ESTATE OF JERRY PENDERGRASS,
UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF JERRY PENDERGRASS,
WANDA DARLENE PENDERGRASS,

DEFENDANTS

By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale entered by the Calloway Circuit Court on November 12, 2003, in the above cause, I shall proceed to offer for sale at the Courthouse door in the City of Murray, Calloway County, Kentucky, to the highest bidder, at public auction on Monday, January 12, 2004, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., c.s.t., or thereabout, the following described property located in Calloway County, Kentucky, and more particularly described as follows to wit:

Being a part of the S.E. Qr. of Sec. 26, T. 3, R. 3, East. Beginning at a stake on the West edge of State Highway No. 299 the Southeast corner to the Methodist Church Parsonage lot; thence West with property line of Parsonage lot, Kirksey High School lot, and Hugh Gingles line about 106 poles to a stake corner to Hugh Gingles; thence South with said Gingles 18 poles and 13 feet to a stake in lane and in the property line of Devo Reed; thence, east with said Reed about 73 poles to a stake corner to Halen and Dell Smith; thence North with said Smith's line about 8 poles and 13 feet to a stake corner to said Smiths; thence East with said Smiths about 33 poles to a stake in the West edge of said Highway 299; thence North with said Highway about 10 poles to the point of beginning, containing 12 acres more or less.

Being the same property Jerry Pendergrass obtained from Harvey G. Story and wife, Reva Story, dated May 12, 1978, and of record in Book 158, Card 1652, and by Quitclaim deed from Patricia Pendergrass, a single person, dated January 25, 1999, and of record in Book 308, Page 180, all of record in the office of the Calloway County Clerk.

The aforementioned property shall be sold on credit for 30 days with the purchaser to have the privilege of paying cash, but if sold on a credit of 30 days, the purchaser shall be required to deposit with the Commissioner ten percent of the purchase price and to execute bond with good surety for the remainder of the purchase price, said amount bearing interest at 12% per annum from the date of sale until paid, and fully due and payable in thirty (30) days. A lien shall be retained on the property as additional security. All delinquent taxes shall be ascertained and paid, but the property shall be sold subject to the 2003 ad valorem taxes.

Dated this 18th day of December, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,
Max W. Parker
Master Commissioner
Calloway Circuit Court

020 Notice

020 Notice

Law Office of STEVE VIDMER

General Practice of Law Including:

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CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC/DUI
PERSONAL INJURY**

753-1752

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Security Gate

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060 Help Wanted

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST

Henry County Medical Center is seeking a Occupational Therapist. Full-time & part-time positions available.

We offer excellent benefits and a competitive salary package. Interested candidates should send resume or apply in person.

Henry County Medical Center
P.O. Box 1030
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731-644-8472

Equal Opportunity Employer

RECEPTIONIST for busy, fast-paced medical practice. Duties include but not limited to meeting patients, coding, and billing. Secretarial and other duties. Prefer team player with medical office experience who will do whatever it takes to get the job done. Reply to P.O. Box 1040C Murray, KY 42071

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Help Wanted

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Want to Buy

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
COURT OF JUSTICE
CALLOWAY CIRCUIT COURT
Civil Action No. 03-CI-00222**

UNION PLANTERS BANK, N.A.,

PLAINTIFF,

VS.,

NOTICE OF SALE

ELIZABETH A. HORNBACK,
A/K/A ELIZABETH ANN HORNBACK,
THE UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ELIZABETH A.
HORNBACK, A/K/A ELIZABETH ANN HORNBACK,
HOUSEHOLD BANK (NV), N.A.,
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY,
COUNTY OF CALLOWAY, BY AND ON BEHALF OF
SARAH JANE SCHAAF,
SECRETARY OF REVENUE,

DEFENDANTS

By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale entered by the Calloway Circuit Court on October 28, 2003, in the above cause, I shall proceed to offer for sale at the Courthouse door in the City of Murray, Calloway County, Kentucky, to the highest bidder, at public auction on Monday, January 12, 2004, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., c.s.t., or thereafter, the following described property located in Calloway County, Kentucky, and more particularly described as follows to wit:

Lot 10 of the Timber Trail Subdivision as shown on plat recorded in Plat Book 22, Page 9, Slide 2122 in the Calloway County Court Clerk's Office.

The above described property is sold subject to the restrictions as set forth in the aforesaid Office in Plat Book 22, Page 9, Slide 2122. Such restrictions are specifically referred to in the conveyance as if same were written herein in full.

Being the same property conveyed by deed from Glindel Reaves and wife, Jane M. Reaves and Joe H. Spann and wife, Sue M. Spann to Elizabeth Ann Hornback, dated May 4, 1998, of record in Book 286, Page 283, in the Office of the Clerk of the Calloway County Court.

The aforementioned property shall be sold on a cash or credit basis of 30 days, but if sold on a credit of 30 days, the purchaser shall be required to deposit with the commissioner ten percent of the purchase price in cash together with bonds for the remainder of the purchase price with good and sufficient surety, said amount bearing interest at 12% per annum from the date of sale until paid, and fully due and payable in thirty (30) days. A lien shall be retained on the property as additional security. All delinquent taxes shall be ascertained and paid.

Dated this 18th day of December, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,
Max W. Parker
Master Commissioner
Calloway Circuit Court

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
COURT OF JUSTICE
CALLOWAY CIRCUIT COURT
Civil Action No. 03-CI-00093**

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.,
as nominee for Countrywide Home Loans, Inc.,
d/b/a America's Wholesale Lender and
Countrywide Home Loans, Inc.,
d/b/a America's Wholesale Lender,

PLAINTIFF,

VS.,

NOTICE OF SALE

Unknown Defendant, Spouse of Ruby J. Leslie,
a/k/a Ruby Jo Leslie, Area Bank,
Commonwealth of Kentucky, Inheritance Tax Division,
Unknown Defendants, who are the Heirs or devisees
or Legatees of Ruby J. Leslie, a/k/a Ruby Jo Leslie,
and their Spouses and any Unknown Person who may
have an interest in the Property which is the
subject matter of this action,

DEFENDANTS

By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale entered by the Calloway Circuit Court on November 25, 2003, in the above cause, I shall proceed to offer for sale at the Courthouse door in the City of Murray, Calloway County, Kentucky, to the highest bidder, at public auction on Monday, January 12, 2004, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., c.s.t., or thereafter, the following described property located in Calloway County, Kentucky, and more particularly described as follows to wit:

Beginning at an iron stake on the East edge of State Highway No. 95 opposite Mrs. Beckham Diuguidds driveway; thence southward with the East edge of said Highway about 338 feet to a stake, corner to Rumfelt; thence East with Rumfelt's (now owned by Outland) line 170.5 feet to a stake; thence North 320 feet to a stake near a cedar tree; thence West 368.5 feet to the point of beginning, containing two (2) acres, more or less, and being a part of Section 15, T.2., R.4., East. Being the same property devised to Cynthia Ann Leslie by the Last Will and Testament of Liza Spann of record in Will Book 1, at Card 1449, in the Calloway County Court Clerk's Office. Martha Spann died on May 19, 1990.

Being the same property devised to Ruby Jo Leslie from Cynthia Ann Leslie, single, dated September 15, 1997 and recorded on September 22, 1997, in Book 205, Page 699, in the office of the Calloway County Court Clerk.

The aforementioned property shall be sold on a cash or credit basis of 30 days, but if sold on a credit of 30 days, the purchaser shall be required to deposit with the commissioner one-third of the purchase price in cash together with bonds for the remainder of the purchase price in two equal installments with good and sufficient surety, said amount bearing interest at 12% per annum from the date of sale until paid, and fully due and payable in thirty (30) days. A lien shall be retained on the property as additional security. All delinquent taxes shall be ascertained and paid.

Dated this 18th day of December, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,
Max W. Parker
Master Commissioner
Calloway Circuit Court

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
COURT OF JUSTICE
CALLOWAY CIRCUIT COURT
Civil Action No. 03-CI-00112**

U.S. Bank National Association,
As Trustee under the Pooling and
Servicing Agreement, Dated as of February 1, 2002,
among Credit-Based Asset Servicing and
Securitization LLC, Asset Backed Funding
Corporation, Litton Loan Servicing LP and JP Morgan
Chase Bank, C-BASS Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed
Certificates, Series 2002-CB1, without recourse
c/o Litton Loan Servicing, L.P.

PLAINTIFF,

VS.,

NOTICE OF SALE

WILLIAM F. BARGER,
RHONDA J. BARGER,

DEFENDANTS

By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale entered by the Calloway Circuit Court on November 25, 2003, in the above cause, I shall proceed to offer for sale at the Courthouse door in the City of Murray, Calloway County, Kentucky, to the highest bidder, at public auction on Monday, January 12, 2004, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., c.s.t., or thereafter, the following described property located in Calloway County, Kentucky, and more particularly described as follows to wit:

Beginning at a 1/2" diameter rebar found (the southwest corner of Lot 13) on the east line of Ridge Road, a 50' wide road as shown by Plat of Highland Hills Subdivision of record in Plat Book 2, Page 81, Slide 281; thence, South 87 deg. 33' 46" West 175.03' to a 3/4" iron pipe found, the southwest corner of Lot 14; thence, south 12 deg. 44' 03" west, passing through a 1/2" diameter rebar set at 189.20', for a distance of 358.72' to the north line of Lot 3 (the terminus of the access easement described herein).

Legal description of a tract of land situated approximately 11 miles northeast of the City of Murray in the County of Calloway, State of Kentucky, being a part of Section 18, Township 3, Range 6 East, and being Lot 3 of a Minor Subdivision Plat of the James M. Harris and Ruby Juanita Harris property of record in Plat Book 23, Page 48, Slide 2161, and being further described as follows:

Beginning at a 1/2" diameter rebar set in the east line of the Billy Travis property, the southwest corner of Lot 2 and the northwest corner of Lot 3 described herein; thence, with the south line of Lot 2, south 86 deg. 47' 23" east 564.35' to a 1/2" diameter rebar set in the west line of the H.B. Shelton property (Deed Book 180, Card 2139); thence, with Shelton's west line, south 16 deg. 03' 18" east 179.47' to a 3/4" iron pipe found in the north line of the Randel Scott Carter property (Deed Book 240, Page 259); thence, with Carter's north line, north 86 deg. 47' 23" west 556.73' to a 1/2" diameter rebar found, the northwest corner of said Carter property; thence, severing the lands of James Harris, north 85 deg. 53' 06" west 95.02' to a 1/2" diameter rebar set, the southeast corner of the Billy Travis property; thence, with Travis's east line, north 12 deg. 44' 03" east 170.27' to the point of beginning.

This tract contains 2.3637 acres.

ALSO: A 20' wide permanent access easement lying left of the following described line.

Being in all respects the same property conveyed to William F. Barger and his wife, Rhonda J. Barger, by deed dated September 19, 1997, and recorded October 8, 1997, in Deed Book 267, Page 229, in the Calloway County Court Clerk's Office.

The aforementioned property shall be sold on a cash or credit basis of 30 days, but if sold on a credit of 30 days, the purchaser shall be required to deposit with the commissioner one-third of the purchase price in cash together with bonds for the remainder of the purchase price in two equal installments with good and sufficient surety, said amount bearing interest at 12% per annum from the date of sale until paid, and fully due and payable in thirty (30) days. A lien shall be retained on the property as additional security. All delinquent taxes shall be ascertained and paid.

Dated this 18th day of December, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,
Max W. Parker
Master Commissioner
Calloway Circuit Court

**JOB TITLE:** Direct Sales Representative**LOCATION:** Murray, KY (2 Positions)**JOB SUMMARY:**

Responsible for generating revenue by promoting the features, benefits and value of all Charter Communications products and services through door to door solicitation.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

Ability to deal with the public in a professional manner
Ability to maintain high level of self-motivation
Knowledge of cable television products and services
Knowledge of cold call sales skills

EDUCATION (level and type)

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RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE:

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Certifications and/or Licenses
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Lecturer, Center for Environmental Education,
Murray State University. Part-time, grant, position to begin January 2004. **Qualifications:** Master's degree in Education with an emphasis in Environmental Education Certification. A minimum of three years experience in public school teaching in mathematics, science, biology, chemistry or physics at the middle or secondary levels is required. Must have experience working with an Environmental Education Center, be certified for Project Adventure's Low Ropes Challenge Course at Land Between the Lakes. Training in at least two of the following projects required: Project WILD, Wild Aquatic, Project Learning Tree, and Project Food, Land and People, and/or one other nationally known curricular project in environmental education. **Responsibilities:** Will work under the aegis of the Center for Teaching Excellence in Mathematics and Science Utilizing the Environment as an Integrating Context, funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. Coordinating, administering, and directing the Pre-Service Environmental Education Program for elementary, middle and secondary students as well as coordinating programs for the graduate environmental education discipline. Must work 24 hours per week with some weekend workshops each semester as needed. **Application Deadline:** January 5, 2004. **To Apply:** Send letter of application, resume and names, addresses and phone numbers of three references to: Center for Environmental Education, Murray State University, 3201 Alexander Hall, Murray, Kentucky 42071-3340. *Woman and minorities are encouraged to apply. Murray State University is an equal education and employment opportunity. M/F/D, AA employer.*

120

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Interested persons may pick up an application at the Murray Board of Education office located at 208 S. 13th Street, Murray, KY 42071.

140

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Horoscopes

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Dec. 25, 2003:

If you were born today, you have a gift for making money through mobilizing imaginative ideas and unusual creativity. You also know how to charm others into thinking like you. Don't spend money before it comes in, and maintain a slightly conservative approach. Family and hearth take high priorities, as you will need to spend a lot of time at home. You also might decide to move or buy a new home. Impulsiveness surrounds your personal life, but it isn't necessarily a problem. If you are single, you probably have met someone quite special by now; but if not, stay open. This person could hear a different drummer and be quite unique. If you are attached, don't take any action that could impact your home life without agreement from your significant other. AQUARIUS helps you make money.

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) Suddenly you perk up even more as you watch the unveiling of the day. You find so much to be happy about. Experiment and be open to different styles of celebrating. You don't always have to follow tradition. Tonight: Go until the wee hours.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Take charge and run the show as only you can. Someone close to you appreciates your efforts more than you realize. Creativity surges in an unprecedented manner. You finally get what you want. Tonight: Help others enjoy the holiday.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Mind your P's and Q's, and touch base with those who really count in your life. Your call could make or break someone's holiday. Nothing can replace thoughtfulness, especially on a special occasion like this one. Tonight: Put on some favorite music.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Deal with others on an individual level. Relate more directly, even if it is a family day. When you spend time looking eye to eye with someone, it means more than talking to a group. Take your time with each person. Visit. Tonight: Togetherness flows.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Listen to others and go along with their wishes. Your creativity comes

out. Others express their feelings, and you need to be a gracious receiver, even though you're uncomfortable in that role. Love seems to emanate from you. Tonight: Enjoy your entourage.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You might want to pace yourself, as you have a lot of ground to cover, and quickly at that. Although you want to celebrate, you find yourself in a position where you need to be more nurturing. Know that whatever you do is perfect! Tonight: Enjoy yourself, too.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) The Moon draws out of your playful. Examine more of what you want from a particular loved one. It might be time to get a bit more serious. Could this be the time for a commitment? Tonight: Snuggle in.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Family is where it's at. You might have someone on your mind who cares a lot about you who you need to call. The sooner you touch base the better. Pitch in when you can, but express your depth in a meaningful manner. Tonight: You don't have to go far.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You feel free to say and do what you want. How others receive your message could be very different. A strong action toward a child or new "friend" could draw a very strong reaction at first. Let others know how much you care. Tonight: Say "yes."

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You might be overwhelmed by how indulgent you are. How you say "thank you" might vary, but let others know how much you appreciate their actions. Reach out for those who might not be around you. Tonight: Your treat.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You're full of fun and life, even if you were down yesterday. A loving action taken by you multiplies in many different ways. You cannot and should not stay within yourself. Act like the sign you are, the friendship sign. Tonight: Anything goes.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Slow down and take your time dealing with those around you. You might be a bit off right now, suffering from a case of building up to the holiday and now it's here. Look to New Year's and making your resolutions. Tonight: Crash if you want to.

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Symptoms of overmedication

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm on medication for high blood pressure. Two years ago, I had triple-bypass surgery and didn't take my blood pressure medication for several months. Then my doctor insisted on placing me on Lopressor, based on my blood pressure reading in his office.



Dr. Gott

By Dr. Peter H. Gott, M.D.

For the past six months, I've noticed light-headedness; my hearing and eyesight are failing; I'm forgetful and have no energy. Although I've mentioned these symptoms to my doctor several times, he hasn't done anything about them. Memory loss is what bothers me the most. I don't know what to do next.

DEAR READER: I cannot diagnose your condition without examining you. However, you should consider the possibility that you are overmedicated. Your blood pressure may actually be too low. This situation is far from rare. In fact, many patients consistently show higher blood pressures in doctors' offices than they do at other times. Allow me to share a vignette with you that I think proves my point.

A few years ago, I had a hypertensive patient on medication and I was certain that the medicines were working perfectly, because every

time I checked her blood pressure it was 130/80 in the office, what I considered to be an ideal reading.

While I was congratulating myself on being so knowledgeable and efficient, she was falling down at home because she felt so faint.

Eventually, in desperation, we agreed that she would check her own blood pressure at home. Lo and behold, it consistently ran about 100/50, an extremely low reading for an elderly adult. This observation solved the mystery. Her blood pressure in the office was predictably higher than at home. This was a classic case of hubris: I was aggressively treating the hypertension without regard for the patient as a whole. I was treating only what I could see, with the result being that she was overmedicated.

I halved her medication, her blood pressure stabilized at 130/75 (160/90 in the office), she felt much better, and I learned an important lesson.

She is active and alert in her early 90s and is one of my most loyal patients and friends.

Show your doctor my response to your question and ask him to authorize a home blood-pressure monitoring device. These units are readily available at reasonable prices in many pharmacies. Once you learn how to take your own blood pressure, you'll be amazed at how easy the procedure is. This way, you will be more in control of your health — and you can help your doctor in the bargain.

If he is unsympathetic to your plight, ask for a second opinion — or change physicians.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Hypertension." 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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Old friend needs new lesson in acceptable party behavior

DEAR ABBY: I am 25 and moved back to my hometown six months ago. Since my return, I have been socializing with a high school friend I'll call Josh. We go out fairly often and have become good friends again. Neither of us has any particular romantic interest in the other.



Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

After the reception, a group of us went to a mutual friend's for a hot-tub party. We were all having a great time, behaving like mature adults, until Josh went into the woods to make out with "Mandy," the 19-year-old cousin of one of the guests he met in the hot tub.

While Josh and I are just friends, I expected him to treat me with respect when he escorted me to the wedding and its attendant social functions. I felt hurt and humiliated by his actions, and I ended up leaving the party.

Perhaps I'm old-fashioned, but am I wrong to think Josh behaved badly? I would never have done that to him. I want Josh to realize how much he hurt me, but I also never want to speak to him again. What should I do? — **GOLDILOCKS**

DEAR GOLDILOCKS: What Josh did was rude, immature and boorish — but speak to him again. It seems he never learned that a gentleman doesn't leave the lady he's escorting for a "quickie." If he wanted to make time with Mandy, he should have taken her number and called her another time — after you were escorted safely home.

To give him the silent treatment would be letting him off easy. It's better for both of you to tell him exactly what's on your mind. If he doesn't know better, he needs to

hear it. Besides, he owes you an apology.

DEAR ABBY: I am 22. I have a job and am engaged to marry a very nice man named "Jim" next year.

My parents divorced when I was 9. Mother abandoned me and I went to live with my dad, who subsequently married a lovely lady, "Diane." Diane has been like a mother to me. She and Dad have been helping Jim and me with our wedding plans.

Now that I'm older, my real mom wants to be my mom again, and she's very manipulative. When we spend time together, she treats me like I'm 9 years old. Then she complains that I don't spend enough time with her. I have told her I'm busy and she can come visit me, too, but she doesn't.

Abby, I have a wedding to prepare for. I wanted both my "mothers" to be at my wedding, but now I'm beginning to feel uncomfortable. What should I do? — **BRIDE-TO-BE, CHEHALIS, WASH.**

DEAR BRIDE-TO-BE: Continue with your wedding plans and stop feeling the need to explain yourself to the mother who abandoned you when you were 9. Either she has convenient amnesia, or for her, time has stood still. You can be manipulated or treated like a child only if you permit it, so don't fall into that trap.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips.

ContractBridge

Unnecessary Guesswork

North dealer.

Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ A K Q 2
 ♥ A J 8 3
 ♦ Q 10 8
 ♣ 7 5

WEST
 ♠ 10 8 7 5 3
 ♥ 5
 ♦ A J 5
 ♣ 10 8 6 3

EAST
 ♠ J 9 6
 ♥ K 2
 ♦ 7 6 4 2
 ♣ K J 9 4

SOUTH
 ♠ 4
 ♥ Q 10 9 7 6 4
 ♦ K 9 3
 ♣ A Q 2

The bidding:
 North East South West
 1♦ Pass 2♥ Pass
 4♥ Pass 6♥ Pass
 Opening lead — three of clubs.

Let's say you're East, defending against six hearts. Partner leads a club, your king forcing the ace, and declarer returns the queen of hearts, which you win with your king. What would you play next?

If you saw partner's hand, you would return a diamond and put a quick end to the matter. But if you saw only dummy, you might be torn between returning a club (in the hope that partner had the queen) or returning a diamond (hoping partner had

LookingBack

10 years ago

Published is a picture of Janet Paschall, volunteer, answering the phone at the Calloway County Family Resource Center taking hundreds of calls from people who want to give help for those children who were to have received Christmas gifts that were destroyed by fire in the van, driven by Bruce and Carol Luffman who were killed in the accident on Dec. 22. The Luffmans were delivering the gifts when the accident occurred.

Mr. and Mrs. Orbie Culver are today, Dec. 24, celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary.

20 years ago

Published is a picture of William R. Furches, retiring city councilman, being presented a plaque for his services for 12 years on the Murray City Council by Mayor Holmes Ellis. The photo was by Staff Photographer Ruth Ann Coleman.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Story will be married 50 years Dec. 28.

Births reported include a girl to Kathy and Jerry Hill and a girl to Sherry and Richard Duncan, Dec. 14; a boy to Dina and Roger Meadows and a boy to Kelly and Gus Georgiou, Dec. 15; a boy to Lois and Charles Merrell and a boy to Marshall and Eddie Bell, Dec. 16.

30 years ago

Murray High School Tigers won the championship of the Mayfield Invitational Basketball Tournament over Carlisle County 69-65. Glenn Jackson was high scorer for Murray and Robert Master for Carlisle. The Tigers defeated Bowling Green to

advance to the finals with Ray Lane being high scorer for Murray. Calloway High School Lakers lost to Carlisle County in the tournament with Greg Howard high scorer for Calloway.

Births reported include a girl to Mr. and Mrs. Roger Brandon, Dec. 4; a boy to Mr. and Mrs. David Smotherman, Dec. 7; a boy to Mr. and Mrs. J.D. Garland, Dec. 12; a girl to Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Smith, Dec. 14.

40 years ago

Hugh P. Story, boatswain's mate second class, USN, is serving aboard store ship USS Graffias operating out of Sasebo, Japan.

Members of St. Leo Catholic Church honored Harry J. Fenton for his contributions to the church and community. Fr. Martin Mattingly, pastor, was emcee for the program.

Mr. and Mrs. George Linville will be married 50 years Dec. 25.

50 years ago

Oliver C. McEmore Jr., radarman third class USN, is serving aboard the USS Los Angeles heavy cruiser, is spending Christmas in Kobe, Japan.

The Rev. Harrywood Gray, pastor of First Christian Church, spoke about "Evaluation of Murray" at a meeting of the Murray Rotary Club held at the Murray Woman's Club House.

In high school basketball games, Almo Warriors lost to Bardwell and Kirksey Eagles won over Western. High team scorers were Lockhart for Almo, B. Hoskins for Bardwell, Gene Parker for Kirksey and Leland Clark for Western.

TodayInHistory

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Dec. 24, the 358th day of 2003. There are seven days left in the year. This is Christmas Eve.

Today's Highlight in History:
 On Dec. 24, 1968, the Apollo Eight astronauts, orbiting the moon, read passages from the Old Testament Book of Genesis during a Christmas Eve television broadcast. On this date:

In 1851, fire devastated the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., destroying about 35,000 volumes.

In 1865, several veterans of the Confederate Army formed a private social club in Pulaski, Tenn., called the Ku Klux Klan.

In 1871, Giuseppe Verdi's opera "Aida" had its world premiere in Cairo, Egypt, to celebrate the opening of the Suez Canal.

In 1943, President Franklin Roosevelt appointed Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower supreme commander of Allied forces as part of Operation Overlord.

In 1980, Americans remembered the U.S. hostages in Iran by burning candles or shining lights for 417 seconds — one second for each day of captivity.

Ten years ago: The Reverend Norman Vincent Peale died in Pawling, N.Y., at age 95.

Five years ago: Ignoring NATO warnings, Serb tanks and troops struck an ethnic Albanian stronghold in Kosovo.

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Crosswords

ACROSS

- 1 Interrogate
- 5 Public transport
- 8 Lazily
- 12 Disentangle
- 13 Grounded bird
- 14 Ring boundary
- 15 "This must weigh —"
- 16 Beret cousin
- 17 Possesses
- 18 Refrigerator sticks
- 20 Max opposite
- 22 Protest song singer
- 24 102, to a centurion
- 27 Look after
- 30 Lei flowers
- 32 Grimace
- 33 Tofu constituent
- 34 List detail
- 35 Detains
- 37 Looks at
- 38 Cote murmur
- 39 Vertical
- 41 Hwy.
- 42 Lettuce buys
- 46 Island near Corsica
- 49 Ex of Frank
- 51 Claim on property
- 53 Tosses
- 54 Relatives
- 55 Like early LPs
- 56 A lot
- 57 Took a load off
- 58 Crawling insects
- DOWN
- 1 Sine — non
- 2 Gold Rule preposition
- 3 Rock star, to some
- 4 District
- 5 Flag lady
- 6 Ms. Thurman
- 7 Wrap-up
- 8 Hair curler
- 9 Investor's concern
- 10 RN assistant
- 11 Oui, in New York
- 19 Unmatched
- 21 Financial magazine
- 23 Roomy
- 24 Make a footnote
- 25 Caesar's worst day
- 26 Doctrine
- 27 Bulling bull
- 28 Kind of dollar
- 29 Society-column word
- 31 Rush off
- 32 Rain gear
- 33 Bands
- 36 Fix the table
- 37 Sault — Marie
- 40 Use mantras
- 41 Poison-ivy symptom
- 43 Gluck of opera
- 44 — & The Belmonts
- 45 Mailed out
- 46 Graceful tree
- 47 Costello's name
- 48 Telly network
- 50 — Appia
- 52 Votes against

Answer to Previous Puzzle



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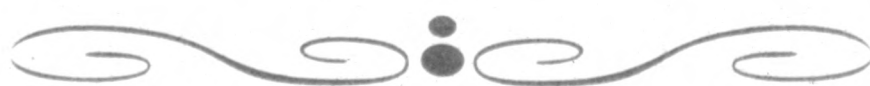
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