

Editor's notes

Prose and poetry

This week marks the annual letters to Santa issue and the poetry sections which are fast becoming a staple of the holiday season here at the Mercury.

The staff always enjoys the letters to Santa because most of the time, the kids themselves write them. And that's how they're printed, as they are written. Picked up by a few hints from them for writing my letter to Santa.

The poetry entries fell a little short of last year, which might indicate that people are so busy they don't have time for poetry any more. I didn't, but you can bet my booties I wouldn't forget my letter to Santa.

Dear Santa...

My name is Jeff and I'm 29 years old. For Christmas I'd like a tool chest, a new pair of boots and \$1,000,000. If that's too much, forget the tool chest.

I don't have a fireplace but the floor will be open because the lock doesn't work. I imagine you'll be tired of milk and cookies so I left some other stuff in the fridge for you.

Don't ask me if I've been good this year and I won't ask you, dear! And if you leave me any more of those electric blue socks, me and you are going to have a get-together and a talk about it. They may be chic at the North Pole but around here they're strictly from Squaresville.

Have a nice flight and Merry Christmas.

Oh, to be young again...

While cleaning out the closet the other day I found a steel ball bearing, the kind we used to throw in schoolroom marbles as dirty rollers.

If I'd had that thing 20 years ago I might be Martie King of Kentucky by now. That is, if I could have gotten past the kid whose dad had the paintball machine franchise in my home town.

He always got some extra paintballs and just rolled all over the rest of us. You'd better believe his marble collection was something to see.

You don't see much marbles played any more. Asphalt, concrete and Star Wars have all taken their toll. But I'm shipping my dirty roller just in case.

Two for the price of one

Mr. Joe Frank Conley was a little reluctant to have his picture taken Saturday with Nicholas County Judge/Executive Reese Smoot, Rep. Adrian Arnold, and Sen. Ed Ford.

It wasn't the company he protested, but he had been photoed the day before at the library. Two of my pictures in the Mercury, he said, and you won't sell a copy.

We went ahead and took that chance anyway and to top it off put both of 'em on page one. Might as well go for broke if you're going to go at all. And Mr. Conley was one of the few people who did show up to hear the two lawmakers discuss what they feel will be the issues in the 1980 session of the Kentucky General Assembly.

5 Free Door Prizes
will be given away
FRIDAY, DEC. 21
at 7:30 p.m.

Sign up Friday Only to be eligible for drawing.

LERMANS
COMPLETE FAMILY DEPT. STORE
New Home, Men, Men's, Kid, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

performance TELEVISION

Personal TV with Designer Styling

performance TELEVISION

Slim, attractive and lightweight, this GE 12" (diagonal) black and white TV is the answer to many a space problem. It may be the perfect "second" set for you. The 1099 sold state chassis is designed for performance. Its 1099 reliable. Each channel "clicks" into position, even THF, and all controls are front for simple adjustment. The sleek, attractive "Designer" cabinet features a molded-in carrying strap. Little as size but big in performance.

Only \$8800

GARRETT'S
Furniture Co.
Carlisle, Ky. 289-2308

Open Friday Night till 8 p.m.

Letters to Santa

To Santa Claus,
My name is Nicky Pope. I am three years old. I want a Darth Vader, some little cars and trucks and a little red wagon!

My little sister Faya is two years old. Would you please bring Faya a little hat, but she's not good but she is only two years old. Thank you for the toys from last year.

My brother Tim, age 9, is writing this for me. He won't write one because he does not believe in Santa Claus.

The Pope's
Dear Santa,
My name is Millie Russell, 61 yrs. Please bring me a Dressing table for dolls and a Swingomatic Swing for dolls and a Baby Wew-Care and a jewelry box.

Dear Santa,
I am a little girl 5 years old. I have tried to be a good girl. I would like for you to bring me a De' Drill 'n' Fill, a Life-Size, a Super Teen Skipper and an Operatilis game.

My little brother is 2 years old and his name is Kyle. Bring him a Farm Set.

Poetry Section

The Mailman's Gift

A year ago I wrote an ode called "Wonder".
I thought of someone that I'd like to see;
Now since that time the wonders finally over,
And the mailman brought the welcome news to me.

It looked the same as any other letter,
I didn't even give it too much mind,
But once I opened it and started reading,
The story all began to turn inside.

"I'm pleased to tell you... we have found your sister."
The first line that my eyes met simply said,
"Here's her name," kept phoning, and here's her address."
They signed it "Love, look now, and go ahead."

I'd like to thank the mailman for that letter,
When he put it in the box he couldn't see,
For now he's brought on that day in October,
From Nova Scotia all the way to me.

Mrs. Gayle Vanlandingham

A Star

A star led the way to the King who lay,
In a manger so bleak and cold,
For men from the East who traveled far,
With frankincense, myrror, and gold.

In a stable low with animals' track,
He came to rest, the Savior of earth,
A star was born, the Savior of earth,
To bring to the world God's light.

June Roe
Maysville, Ky.

I Think If I Tried I Could

I think if I tried I could
Be a better friend,
Help those in need,
And forget my own troubles.

I think if I tried I could
Be a better mother,
Listen to my children,
And help them thru life.

I think if I tried I could
Be a better wife,
Think of my hard working husband,
Comfort him, when he is tired.

I think if I tried I could,
Be a better neighbor,
Visit them more often,
Invite them over for dinner.

I think if I tried I could
Be a better Christian,
Become more active in church,
And I think if you tried,
You could too!

Mary Elizabeth Minton

Tobacco Farmers' Special
10% off
on all Carpet
including Special Carpet
Now on Sale.
This sale now thru the
month of December.
Heritage, Royal Scott
and Patcraft.
Expert Installation.
References furnished.

Dee Fraley Carpets
225 High St., Paris, Ky.

Chain Saw and a Basketball and goal.
We love you and will leave something under the tree.

Don't forget Sara Ellen and all the other boys and girls.

Your Little Girl,
NIKI Smoot
Box 41, Ewing, Ky.

Dear Santa,
My name is Farrah Raye Snapp, and I'm 2 1/2 years old.
I have tried to be a good little girl this year, but sometimes it is hard to do, because I am a little bit spoiled.

I am always good on Sundays when I

Love,
Farrah Snapp

ON THE SUNNY SIDE



Attention Golfers!

All golfers interested in the Florida trip from Feb. 17-24 are asked to meet at Carnico Country Club Dec. 27 at 7:30 p.m. so that final plans and arrangements can be made.

Christmas Special

10 to 20% Savings on

Major Appliances,
TV's, Lamps
and
Vacuum Cleaners.
Thurs., Fri. & Sat.
Store Hours: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

WESTERN AUTO ASSOCIATE STORE
124 E. Main St. - Phone: 606-289-2598

Notice To Tobacco Farmers

We are buying tobacco at top prices every day. If your tobacco is ready you don't have to wait until Jan. 7 to get your money. Haul as soon as you finish stripping to

Grower's or Banner Warehouses
Maysville
and go home with the cash. Premium paid for the best leaf.

Also we will be buying good clean scrap.
Call 564-3900 or 564-6532 for details



KET tree

KET staff members Patty Brij (left) and Sherre Boston decorate KET's Christmas tree located in the lobby of the studio center in Lexington. Staff members recycled scrap paper, old newspapers, colored posters and office supply boxes for inexpensive, but effective, tree decorations and wrapped packages. —KET photo.

East Kentucky names manager

*Continued from page one

ment cooperative for 21 years, where he served as transmission and distribution engineer and assistant general manager for 14 years before being named to the chief executive officer post in 1971. He has a varied engineering-related background and is a registered Professional Engineer in Iowa.

"He has held several national offices in the energy field and is currently serving as President of the Washington-based Cooperative Finance Corporation board of directors."

His civic involvement has included the Chamber of Commerce, Industrial Development Corporation, Planning in Winchester area.

and Zoning, and has held an elected office on the Wilton (Iowa) City Council for four years.

Norris and his wife have three married daughters, and plan to locate in the Winchester area.

"The liberty of the individual must be thus far limited: he must not make himself a nuisance to other people." —John Stuart Mill

Everyone loves a Gift from...
BAKER'S DEPT. STORE

St. Nicholas County

Rev. Herman Kamage of the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe thinks Nicholas County is a special place around Christmas because of the Christmas saint St. Nicholas, from whom Santa Claus sprang. Father Kamage passes out his Christmas card which contains the legend of St. Nicholas.



The legend of St. Nicholas dates back to fourth century St. Nicholas was made a bishop, a noble child, and became the patron of children.

A legend has it he gave bags of gold to three daughters to marry them, and when the dowry was found, he hid the gold in the chimney, and caught the children on December 6, the feast day of St. Nicholas. In most countries this custom has been transferred to Christmas.

St. Nicholas is known by many names: in England he is Father Christmas; in France, Le Pere Noel; in Germany, Kris Kringle; in the Netherlands, San Nicolaas; and in the United States, Santa Claus.

St. Nicholas was brought to the United States by the early Dutch settlers and is even usually dressed in the medieval Dutch costume. The American conception of Santa Claus comes from Clement C. Moore's "The Night Before Christmas," first published in 1822 and Thomas Nast's famous portrait in 1860.

Jackets zap Devils

By Kay Conley

Deming played really well," said Bluejacket Coach Mike Kenney following last Friday night's 85-67 victory over the Bowling Devils here. "They did some things that really hurt us in the first half."

Nicholas County indeed felt the pinch of a "burning" first half as the Devils set fire to the Jackets' string.

The Bluejackets set the pace for an early first quarter lead when David McCaffrey went to the board after a passing assist from senior Steve Davis.

An outside jumper from Mike Hutton, who shot 100 percent the first half, hitting six out of six goals, gave the Bluejackets a slim 6-2 advantage.

Deming soon tied that lead up, but Nicholas refused to be dominated. A hook shot by Jerry Edwards and a three-point shot by Mark Vice helped add points to the Jackets' side of the scoreboard.

A lay-up by Mike Sewell was good for two and the quarter ended 7-6.

It was evident that Nicholas had the Devils with their own pick'n'roll in the fourth quarter. Deming would not lay down and die, however, as they attempted to loosen the con-

fortable advantage Nicholas held. Shots by Mitchell did chip the lead but they weren't enough as Nicholas walked off the court with a 65-67 win over Deming.

Davis opened up a four-point lead for Nicholas, 43-38, to end the half.

An action-packed third quarter brought the Bluejacket fans to their feet as Nicholas displayed fancy footwork and constant motion to the basket for scores.

"In the second half we were fortunate to get Deming a little out-of-synch for a few minutes. I'd like to think that our defense and team movement kept them from getting a set-up in their offense," said Coach Kenney.

"Confused" was slightly an understatement as Nicholas went into a team rally while Deming stood in utter disbelief and shock. That rally provided the Jackets with a 16-point lead, 57-41.

A midway through the quarter, a hook shot by Jerry Edwards and a three-point shot by Mark Vice helped add points to the Jackets' side of the scoreboard.

A lay-up by Mike Sewell was good for two and the quarter ended 7-6.

It was evident that Nicholas had the Devils with their own pick'n'roll in the fourth quarter. Deming would not lay down and die, however, as they attempted to loosen the comfortable advantage Nicholas held. Shots by Mitchell did chip the lead but they weren't enough as Nicholas walked off the court with a 65-67 win over Deming.

The first Christmas card was sent in 1843.

The motif used in conversation in English is "Ho, Ho, Ho."

Open Sun., Dec. 23 Only

10 to 6 p.m.

Jerry's I.G.A. Carlisle

Don't accept anything but the best for Him or Her!

Men's Suits & Sport Coats: Stanley Blacker, Austin Hill, Stanley Blacker Varsity Style

Women's Suits: Stanley Blacker, Austin Hill

Sweaters: Pendleton, Thane

Women's Sweaters & Slacks: Robert Scott, David Brooks, Dorothy Z

Higgins Slacks

When undecided, give Him or Her a Gift Certificate from Carter's.

Free Gift Wrapping!

Carter's Men's Clothier Carlisle, Ky. Phone: 289-2328

Opening Dec. 7th Open from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.