

O, Holy Night

Let us glory in the celebration of the birth of Christ, and know the joy of His presence. Grateful thanks to our loyal friends.

Nicholas County Judge/Executive, Reese Smoot

We send warmest wishes to all our faithful friends for a bright, glowing holiday.

Nicholas County Sheriff's Office
I. W. Ecton, Sheriff, Ralph Brookshire, Deputy
Imogene Green, Secretary

a Bountiful CHRISTMAS

A bushel of warm wishes to our loyal friends and patrons.

Merry Christmas.

Ky. Food Store
Millersburg Market

HOLIDAY CHEER

Delivering loads of fun to you this Christmas. It's been our pleasure to serve you.

Nicholas County Feeders Supply

Cawood Comments

By the vice of the University of Kentucky Wildcats
Cawood Ledford

THE BEGINNING OF THE END

LEXINGTON — It ends Saturday night. The Kentucky-Notre Dame game that has been played in Louisville each year since 1960 will be played for the last time. At least it will be the last time under the old contract. The annual game has become one of the nation's basketball classics. I hate to see it come to an end.

It happened for two reasons. When the late athletic director at Kentucky, Bernie Shively, and his counterpart at Notre Dame, Edward "Moose" Krause agreed on the game, it was extremely attractive to both schools. They would meet each December in Louisville's Freedom Hall and split the profits 50-50. It was a success right from the start. It was great basketball and it was extremely profitable for both schools. The figures were never made public but it was generally believed that both teams left Louisville some \$25,000 dollars richer. That was a handsome payoff indeed for a basketball game in those days.

Since the inception of the Kentucky-Notre Dame series, both schools have built new arenas. Notre Dame's Athletic and Convocation Center is still smaller than Freedom Hall. Smaller by about 5,000. Kentucky's Rupp Arena is the biggest basketball arena in the country.

It was Notre Dame, though, that wanted out of the contract. Freedom Hall was conceived as a neutral court for the series. It is not Kentucky fans, many of whom can't get tickets to games in Lexington, who want Freedom Hall. If anything, it's even a more boisterous U.K. crowd than the one in Rupp Arena. That's perhaps the biggest reason that Kentucky has won 17 of the 20 meetings in Freedom Hall. It's also the reason Notre Dame wants out of the series.

Saturday's game is the last one on the old contract, but the two schools have agreed another two-year agreement. Kentucky can play next year's game with the Irish at either Louisville or Lexington. Lexington will play it in Louisville. The 1982 game is set for South Bend, Ind. on Notre Dame's home court. I don't expect the series to continue past 1982.

Saturday's Kentucky-Notre Dame game may not be bad, but it's the beginning of the end. That great basketball series is about to become a part of history. I think it's a shame.

Santa Letters.....continued

Dear Santa,
My name is Mark and I would like for you to bring me a big truck, a radio-controlled truck and anything else you would like to bring me. Also I would like you to bring me a Mickey Mouse Talking Phone, a Little Pigs Watch, table and chairs and anything else you would like to bring.

I have a brother, Jared Wesley, who is 3 months old and he would like an activity center, a crib mobile and a Winnie-the-Pooh crib toy.

We have both tried to be very good and look forward to seeing our toys Christmas morning. We will leave you something under the tree.

Don't forget Mammaw Snappy and Mammaw and Pappaw Lavagood and all the other little boys and girls.

We love you,
Dana and Wesley

Dear Santa,
My name is Jennifer Lynn. I am 4 years old and I live in Carlisle, Kentucky. I have tried to be a good girl this year. I would like you to bring me a stove, refrigerator, sink, a baby doll and a guitar for Christmas. Don't forget my two older brothers. I will leave some cookies and eggnog by the tree for you.

Love,
Jennifer

Dear Santa,
My name is Patrick Sparks. I am 3 years old and have been a pretty good boy this year. I am having my mommy write this letter for me, while I tell her what to write.

For Christmas this year, I would like to have a tractor and a wagon, a Elcho-Sketch, a Hungry-Hippo game, and anything else that you would like to bring to me. I will leave some milk and cake under the tree for you. Oh! Don't forget all of my cousins. They have also been pretty good this year. I will be waiting for you.

Your Pal,
Patrick Sparks

Dear Santa,
Hi, Santa, my name is Kristy. I am 2 years old. My mommy is writing this for me. I would like to tell you what I want for Christmas. I would like to have a chalkboard, a talking telephone, a rocking chair, a doll and anything else you would like to bring. Santa, please remember my cousin Mary Ann, my Aunt Brenda, my Mommaw Mammaw. And all the other little boys and girls. Bye for now Santa. I'll have something under the tree for you.

Love you Santa,
Kristy E. Stone

Dear Santa,
I am a little boy 5 1/2 years old. I have tried to be a good little boy this year, although it has been very hard.

For Christmas I would like for you to bring me some Star Wars men, a Star Wars Spaceship and some clothes. You can also bring me anything you think I would like.

Don't forget Mammaw and Pappaw Hampner, Pappaw Cawood, Mommaw and Daddy. Please bring my little dog Buffy a nice big bone.

Please bring my teachers Mrs. Baird and Ms. Janette something nice. Remember all my friends at school and at church.

Don't forget all the other little boys and girls in the world.

I will leave you something to eat and drink under the tree.

P.S. Have a safe trip Christmas Eve. Love, your little boy,
Mike Cawell

LERMANS

FAMILY GIFT HEADQUARTERS

Gigantic Selection! MILLION DOLLAR

It's the season for Gifting

It's shoe time! Come stock up on super style for the entire family...at buys too big to pass up! See!

Men's, Women's and Children's
SAVE! 35% to 75% OFF
(OVER 20,000 PAIRS (in all stores) **MUST GO!** LERMANS

Christmas Joy

May you celebrate this special season in the true tradition of love.

Hughes' Grocery

Marilyn & Debbie Hughes

BLESSED NIGHT

Let the light of the radiant Christmas Star cast its glow upon you and those you love.

Home Hardware

May the enduring joy of this joyful season bring you happiness and fulfillment.

To cherished patrons, our warmest thanks and a

HAPPY CHRISTMAS

Lau's Garden Center

Santa Letters

continued

Dear Santa Claus,
I'd like for Christmas a stuffed dog and a typewriter ribbon and a Baby Cries for You doll and don't forget my little dog Puffy. He wants a bone and a toy to play with. I've tried to be good. Thank you.

Love,
Brenda Gaid Barber

GLAD CHRISTMAS TIDINGS

Rejoice, as we share His message of love and understanding. Thanks.

Nicholas County Clerk's Office

Nicholas County Taxes for 1855

Off: Allen Paine

To the Sheriff of Nicholas County, Dr.

To 232 Acres of Land, Lots, & Slaves, 11 Horses, Mules, Cattle, &c. Cash, Ac.—Total \$ 13440 at 17 cts.—\$ 2287.20

Value of Carriages, Ac. Watches, Plate and Finances, &c. at 30 cts.— 600.00

2 County Levy, 237.60

Received Payment, 1077.1855 \$ 237.60

W. Humphreys Deputy

Nicholas County Taxes for 1856

Off: Allen Paine

To the Sheriff of Nicholas County, Dr.

To 227 Acres of Land, Lots, & Slaves, 9 Horses, Mules, Cattle, &c. Cash, Ac.—Total \$ 12320 at 17 cts.—\$ 2094.40

Value of Carriages, Ac. Watches, Plate and Finances, &c. at 30 cts.— 120.00

1 County Levy, 120.00

Received Payment, 2174.40 \$ 30.20

W. Humphreys Deputy

1855 Taxes

The above are photocopies of an 1855 and 1856 tax bill on a farm owned by David and Rosa Allen on Old Flemingsburg Road in Nicholas County. In case it is a little difficult to read, in 1855 Mr. Allen paid \$25.48 in taxes on 232 acres of land, 46 cattle, 10 horses, and 8 slaves. There is also pictured a bill dated on Alfred W. Allen for his 60 acre farm. These photocopies were submitted to *The Mercury* by Helen Scott, who received them from William I. Goodwin of Lexington. Mr. Goodwin was a step-grandson to David and Rosa Allen.

Santa Letters.....continued

Dear Santa,
We are boys and girls in "Miss Helen and "Miss" Lois's Head Start Class. We have tried to be good boys and girls, but you know how that is if there is plenty of boys and girls to play with.

We hope you will come and visit us on Christmas Eve anyway.

We're just telling you in this letter one thing we would like to have. Eric Martin wants a warm jacket; Amanda Capps would like a stuffed cat; Susan Goodson wants a diaper bag and accessories; Charles Jolly would like a backhoe; Chuck Holder would like a Ken doll; Amy Castings would like a new outfit; Patrick Morris wants a toy cow; Kim Denkins a perfume maker; Steve Zornes a new pair of shoes; Stephanie Malone would like a baby doll; Chris Campbell team America; Robbie Boyce wants a camera; Edward Jolly would like a tractor and trailer; Jackie Flora a Star Wars man; Melissa Crain a play telephone; Crystal Sexton wants a baby doll; Nate McCutney wants a tractor and wagon; Jennifer Willoughby wants a record player and

Santa, don't forget the other Head Start Class.

Thanks again,
Head Start

GREETINGS

Here's to a sleighful of happiness this Christmas. May you enjoy its many pleasures and treasures.

Hunt's Ashland Station

GREETINGS

Here's a bundle of good old-fashioned wishes for the best holiday yet! As we take off for another exciting Christmas, we let abundant thanks to our friends and neighbors.

Wells Produce

See Jay Auto Parts

IT'S YOUR heart forever.

A forerunner of the modern computer was created in 1642 when Blaise Pascal built for his father a small machine that could add and subtract and was worked by geared wheels.

Here's hoping that Santa's jolly spirit embraces your holiday and that everyone around your tree shares its special delight!

Cheers and thanks.

Clark's Big Tee Burger

LERMANS

GIFT HEADQUARTERS

BUY NOW... before Christmas

AFTER CHRISTMAS CLEARANCE

at after Christmas savings!

Men's, Women's, Children's and Infant's Winter OUTERWEAR

- ★ Flannel Shirts & Nightwear Sweaters, Gloves
- ★ Holiday Dresses & Sportswear Fur House Shoes
- ★ Christmas Cards Christmas Wraps Decorations Novelties CANDY
- ★ All Christmas Gift Sets Gifts for the Home AND MORE!

25% TO 70% OFF

SALE NOW IN PROGRESS!

You Must see these Fantastic Savings... FOR LAST MINUTE SHOPPERS

LERMANS