

# The Carlisle Mercury

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### Portrait of the 'river rats'

Twelve passengers and a crew of two spent a week rafting down the Colorado River August 11-17. From left: Cliff Shumate, Bill Hopkins, Bill Young, Bill Young, Frank Reynolds and guide 'Bullie' Rock, Wayne Shumate, guide Tom Tom.

Dick Letton, Dave Huffman, Dick Elbert, John Elbert, Tom Wallace and Paul Cokerman. The 'OH, Kentucky' shirts were compliments of Kentucky Featiles.

## 'River Rats' return

...from rafting adventure down the Colorado

By Emily A. Wolf

The question: Why in the world would a dozen grown men want to chuck civilization for a week of playing modern-day Huck Finn on a wild river and not want to land on each pulled off from Lee's Ferry, Arizona until they boarded a helicopter and one half day and 182 miles later, a party of 12 mostly Nicholas County natives experienced the ultimate outdoor adventure, straddling the rapids in the Colorado River.

Variety described as "unpredictable," "unbelievable," and "not to be missed." The August 11-17 trip was even more exciting and primitive than any of the ones expected.

Without a radio, television, telephone or any contact with the outside world — save other rafters who were in the same boat, so to speak — aside from being after the first few days?

Not a chance, they all agreed. The contrary, plus the ever-changing

scenery along the canyon walls from Marble Canyon, the Grand Canyon and the Inner Gorge provided rough entertainment and spectacle to last a lifetime.

IT ALL STARTED on a good note. Wayne Shumate, who more or less organized the trip after reading about it last summer, arrived in Las Vegas ahead of the others. While waiting at the airport for one plane to arrive he dropped a coin in a slot machine and came away \$100 richer.

Vegas was arrival and departure rendezvous for the self-described "river rats," including Nate Young, Bill Hopkins, Dave Huffman, Dick Elbert, Dick Letton, Cliff Shumate and his father Wayne, and Carlisle, former residents Frank Reynolds of Washington, N.C., Bill Young of Dallas, Paul Hopkins of Southbury, Ct., John Elbert of Albany, Ga., and Tom Wallace of Martha's Vineyard.

After checking a George Burns nightclub act Saturday, it was off to bed for a 9 a.m. one and a half hour flight in a Piper Cub to a dirt airstrip at Lee's Ferry, where the journey

begins.

THEIR RAFT was made of sturdy woven fiber 14 position bridges, modified to accommodate rafting parties of various sizes to provide insulation from the burning sun.

Temperatures rose well over 100 degrees every day, and only "cooled off" to about 80 degrees at night.

Wearing apparel consisted for the most part of bathing trunks or shorts and a cotton shirt to ward off the ever-present sun. Those who never once rained, they were constantly wet from splashing water and spray as they shot the some 160 rapids and riffles along the course of the river.

A typical day began shortly after sunrise (7:30) and ended at sundown (about 7:30). In between there was a hearty breakfast, lunch and dinner, cleanup details and the loading and unloading of supplies and gear.

Complere was a nose so food was prepared by guides who called themselves Tom Tom and Bullie on

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## Tax rate hearing Sept. 12

Nicholas County Fiscal Court will hold a public hearing on Thursday, September 12 at 10 a.m. to receive comments on the proposed county tax rate of 13.6 cents per \$100 assessment for tax year 1986.

At the same time, the court will also be hearing on a proposed 17.2 cent per \$100 tax rate for the Hospital Bond Sinking Fund for the coming year.

The 1985 county tax rate would be assessed the same as in 1984 which produced \$11,700 for the General Expense Fund, however, due to the increase in the county's taxable base, 1985 taxes would generate revenue of \$12,875.

Nicholas County Board of Health will also be a higher figure than \$154,441 required by law when the tax rate is set at a higher figure than \$154,441.

The 1984 Hospital Bond Sinking Fund rate is 17.2 cents per \$100. The proposed increase of 1.4 cents increase would yield \$154,441 a year revenue from \$147,000 a year ago. The compensating tax rate revenue from a 16.4 assessment rate figure for Nicholas County would translate into an expected \$149,000 in revenue.

COURT ADOPTED a Flood Hazard Ordinance following a second reading at the August 20 meeting. KRS Chapter 67 delegates the responsibility to local governments to "adopt regulations designed to promote public health, safety and general welfare of the citizens, and to maintain public and private homes due to flood conditions in specific areas of the county."

The ordinance, to be administered by Judge/Executive Reese Smoot, applies to all areas of the county basins as identified by the Federal Emergency Administration in its Flood Hazard Boundary Map dated November 25, 1977.

All future development in these areas will be reviewed by the Judge/Executive before a permit is issued. A copy of the ordinance is printed elsewhere in this issue.

In the only other business to come before the court, Ewell (Bud) Lyles was appointed to the Carlisle/Nicholas County Parks and Recreation Board. Lyles is the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award at the Green Academic



### A useful trophy

Former NCHS football coach Ben Pumpfrey displays the coveted A.B. (Happy) Chandler Trophy presented him by the former governor at Saturday night's first annual Thoroughbred Bowl in Lexington.

## Football honors Gentleman) Ben

The Nicholas County figure prominently in the first annual Thoroughbred Bowl played Saturday night in Commonwealth Stadium at Lexington. Ben Pumpfrey, who retired last season as football coach at Nicholas County High School, was the recipient of the first A.B. (Happy) Chandler Trophy to be given as an outstanding contribution in Kentucky football on the high school level.

The idea for the bowl, setting top teams from throughout the state, is the brainchild of one of Pumpfrey's former players, Joe Bull. Bull, now an assistant coach at Fairleigh Dickinson at Rutherford, N.J., was a member of three Pumpfrey-coached teams beginning with his first year on the job here in 1972.

THE AWARD was presented by former Governor Chandler during the football doubleheader which saw Ft. Thomas Highland top Harrison County 14-0 and Cactus defeat Lafayette 17-0. Pumpfrey currently serves as volunteer assistant at Harrison, coaching the offensive line and defensive secondary.

"I'm overwhelmed," Pumpfrey said the reward of 1,000 people who jammed the stands.

"I'm not sure enough to think I deserve such an honor, however, I'm delighted to accept this tribute in the following 1. the high school and college coaches who contributed to my learning this game and entering the profession; 2. the people who loved to coach and supported my team; 3. the coaches and players who formed my opinion; and 4. the players and coaches who helped me and played for me.

"Thanks for the award. It is dear to me as a person presenting it to me. It's been one of my life's goals to see a little boy."

PUMPFREY compiled a 128-115-7 record during his 12 years as head coach. His teams were 63-32-2 at Fairport from 1954-64; 12-4-2 at Bellvue in 1965 and 47-31-2-0 at Paris from 1967-71; 7-1-3 at Bell County the following two seasons, and 65-33-6 NCHS.

See Pumpfrey, page 4

## Walkin' Bob Waugh is remembered fondly...

By Clyde Kerns

Everyone who has read the Mercury for a few years knows that I enjoy remembering old times and old friends and things that happened when I was a boy in Nicholas County.

I like to remember about everything that ever happened in or near our area, and I was glad to see that you're dropping back to the late 1940s and 50s years — we might have

### Judge voids election at Myers

The December 4, 1983 writ election in Myers precinct has been voided by order filed August 29 in Nicholas County Court.

Circuit Court Judge Jack Arnold heard the motion filed by attorney Gregory Jenkins on behalf of Attorney A. Bretz and others. Attorney Jim Williams of Winchester, representing Clay Fryman, who operates Valley View Liqueur Store on Myers Road, said his client plans to appeal the judgment.

The order, signed by Arnold, reads as follows:

In accordance with the ruling of the Supreme Court of Kentucky rendered July 3, 1983 on the appeal of the election case and upon the advice of the attorneys, (Clay Fryman, A. Bretz, et al.) the Petitioners, (Clay Fryman, et al.) and the Petitioner, (Clay Fryman, et al.), and in furtherance of that order, the election held on December 4, 1983 in Myers Precinct, Nicholas County, Kentucky is hereby voided and declared null and

voided letter for people my age. 20 years into the middle brought up the names of Virginia, Richmond, Pauline Jucker, William (Hollister) Jucker, Glenn Clay and Holmes. My, all involvements of mine since the 1930s term of Moorefield High. It reminded me of a trip we took to Carter's Creek in the Autumn of 1934, riding a fall-flooded creek.

Just remember part of the trip for me was being nearly fished to death by a bunch of girls during the return trip. Virginia was a ringer and one of those who sat on me. I couldn't get away, while others took off my shoes and kicked my feet. Thought I died!

THE AMOUNT of the Rev. Albert Swenney's speech at the Historical Society meeting last night with me, too. His memory of Carlisle beats mine. I must admit, but there he lived there and I only visited on rare occasions.

I do recall having my feet completely soaked in my cream

at Letford's Drug. It was strawbery, a single slip in a cotton paper coat in a silver holder, served a little round table with water was set beneath a hot ceiling fan that utterly fascinated me.

It was rather surprised that he didn't mention "The Little House on the Big Hill" because I'm fairly sure it was an operation at that time. The Big Hill was just a little house, built for its purpose, and I dearly loved its bowls of vegetable soup, served with a second bowl of oyster crackers. (Why am I always thinking of food?)

The winter of 1935-36 probably was a great time for standing on the hill streets of Carlisle, but for some of us in the country, it was a terrible time. The blizzard came on Christmas Day, and on that same day my grandmother was stricken with an illness that would prove fatal on March 7, 1936. During that period, she had to visited several times a week by

Dr. Luther B. Holmes, of Moorefield. Because of the difficulty of obtaining snow and sheaths of ice that covered the old county road, it was unable during the first several weeks, to use his car. He had to get help from them return him to his house. We figured he had to get help from them, using some snow and pig carting, and we made out for a "real" winter. There the good doctor would ride through muddy streets and four-block snowdrifts, covered with slush and heavy rain.

ALL BUT IT was a different story for me. I was a year-old boy. I sat in my bed in the country, where there was a pony shed from my face and the fine, dry wind from my face and the fine, dry wind from my face and the fine, dry wind from my face, and when I was about four months old, my mother would reach for Holmes' horse (next to the old schoolhouse) and put me on it. I could not speak clearly.

See Walkin' Bob, page 9



Walkin' Bob Waugh (left) with wife and son, and other members of the family, at the Thoroughbred Bowl in Lexington.

## Lions Horse Show Sept. 7

Fourteen classes — three less than last year — will be featured in the 11th annual Lion's Horse Show scheduled Saturday, September 7 at the Nicholas County Fairgrounds.

The shortened program will allow the exhibitors to have a more enjoyable day even to get home as a pleasure horse and the walking horse class.

Classified include: 1. yearlings where ribbons and a silver dollar will be awarded to the winners; 2. Western pleasure, three year old yearling, 3. yearling, pleasure class 17 to 24 years old.

calling race, quarter horse halter for yearlings, pleasure class 11 year and under, Nicholas County pleasure, fat barrel race, country pleasure, three-year-old, pleasure and pleasure and the walking horse class.

Jimmy Richardson of Owingville will again serve as showmaster. Mayor Frankie Hatcher will serve as ringmaster.

Lion George Garrett is chairman of this year's show.

### Friendly game of horseshoes

Walkin' Bob Waugh (left) with wife and son, and other members of the family, at the Thoroughbred Bowl in Lexington.