Opinion

Simon LeStockman and the farmers

No one ever said that the truth is painless. Sometimes it can be so painful that it can be counterproductive unless it is delivered with consummate grace. Unfortunately Budget Director David Stockman has a gift for uttering harsh truths with such gracelessness that his proclamations bring no enlightenment — only panic and negative reactions.

When he pointed out the other day that many of the nation's now hard-pressed farmers willingly had engaged in land speculation during the inflationary boom of the late '70s, and did so with cheap federal credit, he was absolutely right. And he was correct to wonder why ordinary taxpayers and businesses without access to such credit programs now should bail them out.

So, said Stockman, let 'em eat cornbread. What the OMB director was willing to leave unsaid, however, is the other truth: **Namely that it was the federal government that had created the primrose path that lured these farmers to their financial ruin — and it was the federal government and the Federal Reserve that had pulled this primrose carpet out from under them in the last four years.**

The Fed generously inflated the U.S. currency between 1977 and 1980, and drove the U.S. dollar down to its lowest level in history (pushing U.S. farm prices way up). At the same time, President Jimmy Carter slapped a grain embargo on these same speculating farmers. That virtually destroyed their world export market overnight — a process finished by the soaring dollar.

Then in 1981 the Fed turned around and applied the brakes. It cut monetary growth from 15 percent to less than five percent, and often to zero for months on end. Consequently the U.S. dollar's value soared more than 60 percent in three years and U.S. farm prices plummeted more than 50 percent.

All of which is to say that government farm policies have been a mounting disaster, ever since the nation decided in the '20s and '30s to treat farming not as an economic, but as a socio-political activity, and to socialize its risk with the U.S. taxpayers.

Ironically, the purpose of that activity — to save the small farm — has utterly failed. More than 80 percent of subsidies and the market now go to the larger farm operations that represent only 26 percent of the farmer owners. The economies of scale and the massive development of the U.S. retail distribution system made it inevitable that farming would become a highly mechanized and capitalized industry, with average farm acreage now more than 1,400 acres.

The Grant Wood days have been replaced by corporate farm days, with the lion's share of the industry dominated by million-dollar farms whose productivity gains have given Americans the lowest cost food in the world.

Since 1950 the share of our total personal income going to food has fallen from 26 percent to 18 percent — the lowest in the world, and our major health problem today is not malnutrition but obesity. Consumers have benefited enormously from what many scorn as "agribusiness," while taxpayers have paid a fearful price for the failed efforts to preserve the family farm. The sooner we move agriculture off the dole and into the market, forcing it to protect itself with such normal market risk-mechanisms as commodity futures, the better all of us are going to be.

But it won't be easy. A University of Missouri econometric analysis for the Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute shows that, under a total free market plan, net farm income could fall another 30 percent to 40 percent before the system purges itself of superfluous operations that live on government subsidies.

So while we should attempt to push agriculture back into the free market, we must find gracious ways to date such a policy and implement it. The primrose path created by Uncle Sam has more potholes than smooth pavement, and splashing ice water on farmers victimized by these policies simply will delay the day of serious reform.

EVERYONE KNOWS WHERE TO CUT THE BUDGET...

Agree or not

Expect gasoline tax hike

by S.C. Van Curon

Frankfort — Old man winter has left his calling card in the form of an expensive bill for repair of county roads and city streets, a problem that will be presented to the 1986 General Assembly in a request for an increase of 2.5 cents per gallon in the gasoline tax.

The hike in taxes would generate about $50 million more to go with the approximately $41 million that now comes from present taxes, said Otto Ingram, deputy secretary of Transportation and rural roads commissioner, in a lengthy interview.

Present gasoline tax is levied on a basis of 10 percent of the wholesale cost at the pump or a minimum of 10 percent of the price, whichever is greater. This tax was changed back in 1979 during the gasoline shortage scare and prices were changing almost daily.

Ingram said with the additional revenue it would not be necessary to take any more money from the other rural and secondary roads as designated by the commissioner of highways.

GASOLINE TAX money presently is divided in this manner to the three road funds:

22.2 percent, approximately $41 million, for rural secondary roads — the old farm to market roads.

13.8 percent, approximately $30 million,for county road aid to support roughly 40,000 miles of county roads.

6.7 percent, $12 million, for approximately 5,000 miles of city streets.

The balance goes to the general road fund.

Gov. Collins gave the counties more than a million dollars out of the rural and secondary road funds last week as part of their expense for snow removal.

Ingram painted a gloomy picture for the rural road system unless further aid is forthcoming.

"We're in danger of losing our investment in blacktopped roads in the counties. We're going to have to do something about it or let them go back to dirt," he said. "It's a shame to lose that investment that we have spent more than 60 years accumulating."

HE WENT ON to explain that when many of the county roads were built, no one envisioned the amount of the present amount and weight of traffic.

Ingram said he is expecting support from the County Judge-Executive Association for it is the counties that will benefit.

However, Joe Pearman, president of that organization, said in an interview that the association has taken no formal action on the proposal, but he expects it may be discussed at the next meeting. He was in Frankfort last Thursday to head a committee from his group that called on the governor for aid for snow removal.

RURAL ROADS and city streets are only a part of the problem with our highways. The primary, interstate and toll road systems are also in dire need of funds.

Funds for the next quarter are being dipped into now to pay for the damage done by the winter storms and for snow removal. The assessment of damage is just now beginning to draw

Kentucky's toll road system is all more than 15 years old and maintenance and repair costs are climbing. Russell Romine, commissioner for maintenance and equipment, said Transportation will need an additional $150 million over the next several years. Jack Finch, executive director of Kentuckians for Better Transportation, echoed that statement. But that's another story.

Florida got it, too

Just when it appeared we were destined to brush the winter "stranded" in Florida because of the high snow drifts that blocked our road and driveway at Lake Carnico, the phone rang with news that a couple of good samaritans, **Doug Garrett** and **John Hamilton Jr.**, had gone to the rescue with a backhoe. (Thanks, guys, I think!)

So, having finally run out of excuses to prolong our stay yet a third time, we hit the long road home to Snowstorm Bruter. What you poor people must have gone through. From what I've seen of the drifts yet remaining this storm might have been worse than the 1956 deluge which was mentioned here late last fall and alluded to by **Reese Smoot** in last week's paper.

I won't presume that you are ready to read about how great the weather was in Ft. Lauderdale...only a couple of sprinkles and two or three cool days and nights out of 54 while we were there.

But you probably can relate to the citrus growers in north central Florida who lost all, again, during the freeze that totally destroyed their orange groves. Utter devastation...for years to come, should growers decide to plant new trees and wait for them to produce.

The price of tomatoes and yellow squash, for example, almost doubled overnight after the late January freeze. But at least these produce farmers have two growing seasons a year to try and recoup their losses.

•••

On the chance that you might forgive me for dwelling on our good fortune of escaping the worst of winters, to date, anyway, it might be pointed out that Mother Nature didn't spare us here completely. Just like last year, our pipes burst in the basement.

As plumber Clay Mysear pointed out, shutting off the water would be far smarter and the basement a lot drier, at this point.

•••

Our accomodation this year took me back to my childhood, when it came to cooking. Instead of a stove,we had a two-burner cooktop, and no oven. Suffice it to say we did a lot of improvising, coming up with one dish, stove top recipes. One was quite good: ground beef, green peppers and onions sauteed in a skillet, to which is added a can of Franco American spaghetti and a can of cream-style corn. Let it simmer and serve with a green salad.

In place of oven-heated rolls, John came up with the idea of putting them on top of the lid to warm.

The recipe was a favorite of a neighboring cook who had limited kitchen facilities. We ate a lot of Italian spaghetti, canned chicken and rice and tuna and noodle casserole...anything that took no more than two burners to prepare.

(We also ate out a lot, too.)

•••

At one point present and former Nicholas Countians totally took over our motel (Ocean Harlendale), with the exception of one other couple and they were from near Covington.

Asked the manager: "Is Carlisle one of your state's largest cities?"

•••

Double!

We were joined by **Bob** and **Bert Darden, John** and **Linda Soper, Bill** and **Jayne Parker** (over Super Bowl weekend) and **Jess** and **Vivian (Barlow) Rawlings** for a quick overnight visit from their winter home in Clearwater. We had planned to repay the visit

*See Here Abouts, page 2

Here Abouts

...with Emily A. Wolf

Letters from our readers

Collins pledges ag support

To The Carlisle Mercury:

In this critical time for Kentucky's farmers it is imperative that we stand together and speak as one. The nature of the crisis demands it. Not only are there powerful forces in Washington arrayed against agriculture, but the intricate and vital system if a farm credit rests on a shaky foundation.

To confront these challenges successfully, we must be united in purpose; the farm associations, businesses and banks, our congressional delegation, our farmers and those of us here in Frankfort who know that agriculture is a bedrock of Kentucky's economy.

Agriculture Commissioner David Boswell and I have heard your concerns and are working together to see that your interests are represented in the proposals that are evolving so rapidly in Washington. Since the policies of the federal government determine the markets for farm products, the federal government has a responsibility not to abruptly change its policies in a manner that disrupts the economic stability of a farm state such as Kentucky.

In Washington on Feb. 24-26, I will be an advocate for Kentucky agriculture before the National Governors' Association meeting. Governors from all 50 states will be present, which makes the conference an effective forum. Policy positions adopted by the governors will be a forceful tool for promoting the interests of the states to the Congress and the President.

After the conference, Commissioner Boswell and I will continue to work with members of our congressional delegation and interested groups to move toward a resolution of current threats to the farming communities that are so much a part of our Kentucky heritage and of the economic fiber of this state. I urge those who share these concerns to work together. There is much at stake and every effort will help.

Sincerely,

Gov. Martha Layne Collins

Proud of Miss Dollie

To The Carlisle Mercury:

"The Little Town With the Big Heart" should be extremely proud of our former resident, Dollie Gatewood Galbraith, who recently received the third annual LOV Award as Lexington's Outstanding Volunteer.

During the late 1930s she was known as "Miss Dollie" by about a dozen girls who were members of her Girl Scout Troop which met regularly in the basement of the St. John's Catholic Church.

Even at that time she combined homemaking and the raising of her first child, Judy, with volunteer work. Those of us who had this long ago opportunity to be associated with "Miss Dollie" I am sure have frequently called upon those particular learning experiences in our lifetime.

I am proud to have been a member of her Girl Scout Troop!

Louise Swinford Wieman
1029 North Broadway
Lexington, KY 40505

Down Memory Lane

Hunter heads fire trustees; Armstrong leaves police force

Thursday, March 6, 1965

Nicholas County would receive approximately $89,100 for improvement of education during the next fiscal year if Congress approves Title I of President Johnson's Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, according to Dr. J.M. Dodson, KEA executive secretary. Title I funds are designed to help children from low income families.

The Nicholas County Fire Department answered a call Tuesday about 2:30 p.m. to the tenant house of Leslie Farah on the Upper Jackstown Road. Damage was estimated at about $200. Al Warner had lived there three or four months. The fire was reported to have started from an open grate.

Marketing quotas for the next three crops of burley tobacco were approved by growers voting in the referendum February 25, Harvey Wagoner, chairman, Agricultural and Conservation Committee, announced. Tabulations show 1,840 out of an estimated 2,200 eligible voters, voted, with only six voting "no" in Nicholas County.

Elizabeth Ann Clay, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Clay, and Rita Hunter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Billy Hunter, were winners in the student division of a sewing contest sponsored by the Community Woman's Club and the Carlisle Junior Woman's Club. Mrs. Billy Duncan and Mrs. Ralph Taylor won the woman's division.

The Nicholas County Fire Department is now under the direction of three trustees after their appointment by Judge Floyd Clark last week. Billy Hunter was elected chairman, Roy Blount secretary and Rubel Williams treasurer. Temporary officers Harold Letton and Harvey Wagoner, co-chairmen, and Charles Watkins, treasurer, have turned their papers and records over to the new trustees.

BORN — To Mr. and Mrs. Ewell Gibson, a daughter, Lisa Ann, Feb. 24 at Nicholas County Hospital. — To Mr. and Mrs. James R. Henderson, Mt. Olivet, a daughter, Lisette Faye, Feb. 24 at Nicholas County Hospital. — To Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hurst Jr., a daughter, Marianne, Feb. 26 at Nicholas County Hospital. — To Mr. and Mrs. Donzie Fitzhugh, a son, Thomas Bayham, Feb. 26 at Nicholas County Hospital. — To Mr. and Mrs. Roger Vaughn, a daughter, Vickey Teresa, Feb. 27 at Nicholas County Hospital. — To Mr. and Mrs. William Earl Feeback, a daughter, March 1 at Nicholas County Hospital. — To Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Henderson, Mt. Olivet, a son, Stanley Earl Jr., March 1 at Nicholas County Hospital. — To Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Hurd, a son, Steven Reynolds, March 1 at Nicholas County Hospital. — To Mr. and Mrs. Dean Bope, Cambridge, MA, a daughter, Nancy Lillian, Jan. 30.

MARRIED — Miss Rebecca Barlow and David Edward Searcy, Feb. 24 at the Lindenwood Christian Church, Memphis, TN. — Miss Maude Ann Mullins and Floyd Wayne Russell, Feb. 20. — Miss Judy Biddle and Jimmie Evans, Feb. 27 by the Rev. Frank Simons.

Thursday, March 8, 1945

The executive committees of the Nicholas Legion Auxiliary met Monday night and selected officers for the Recreation Center. They were Mrs. Frank Henry, chairman; Mrs. W.H. Buntin, co-chairman; Mrs. Grimes Gaynes, secretary; Mrs. W.B. Murray, treasurer.

Chief of Police Malcolm Armstrong tendered his resignation on Tuesday night to the City Council after more than two years service as chief of police of Carlisle.

Dallas Crutcher Keller Jr., son of Maj. D.C. Keller, located at Ft. Leavenworth, KS, was wounded in action in January while serving with United States troops in Belgium. Keller is the grandson of the late G.R. Keller, former editor of The Carlisle Mercury.

MARRIED — Miss Imogene Shannon and Pvt. Marcus Boyd, March 2 at the Christian Church parsonage.

DIED — Charles T. Cray, Feb. 28 at home near Craytown, Fleming County. — Mrs. Elizabeth Tressa Tune, 85, March 1 at Johnson Memorial Hospital.

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Op-Ed page

Blame it on the feds...

snow surplus just another Washington boondoggle

RUSS METZ

"The reason we are having such a surplus of snow is because it is federally subsidized," one of my brighter friends was telling me the other day.

"It's what?" I asked.

"It's a federal thing," he said. "Everything we have a surplus of is because the feds got their fingers in it."

"That so?"

"Darned tootin'," he rambled on. "For years the U.S. Weather Service has been taking it on the chin for bum predictions and it was easy for the snow lobby to get their backing to support a few heavy snow items. The salt and road grader equipment lobby is a powerful bloc, you know."

"I didn't know."

"You do now, sonny," he said. "It was easy for the Weather Service to get the national space freaks to direct their orbiting satellites behind storm fronts in Siberia and push them over the U.S. of A.

"But the counties don't have enough money to buy $250,000 road graders and all the salt barges got ice-locked in the Mississippi River, so those dinged snow storm lobbyists scheme backfired on them."

"Then you'd think the feds would push the clouds away and we could have pretty weather again," I said.

"That isn't the way the feds work. Once they get into a program, they never quit. After the bureaucracy is in place, you can't root them out."

"Maybe we could get President Reagan to put a stiff tariff on these snow imports, or subsidize the public with free snow shovels, or open up a national snow cone factory, or dye it green and feed it to cattle, or..."

"Forget it," he said. "You can't sweep it up and burn it and you can't include it in commodities for poor folks or put it into school lunches. And you sure can't hide it and sell it to the Russians because that's the only thing they have a surplus of."

"What is the answer then?"

"Maybe we could ship it all to Washington and build a giant igloo over the city," he said. "Our only hope for salvation is to put that town in cold storage until a cure for it is found."

The last I saw of him he was walking through a snow drift with only the propeller on top of his beanie showing.

— RM —

Some observations hilberto unrevealed by the American Medical Association for those who recently spent a few days in a hospital:

— You don't get much of a view from the back of an ambulance, but you really don't care.

— When your doctor stops to see you at 7:30 a.m. and is back at your bedside 12 hours later to discuss your case you cease begrudging him any country club membership he may hold.

— Nurses are very special people. It's a shame you have to be ill before realizing it.

— When you are alone at night and a little scared about what's happening, a nurse's reassuring pat and soft word of assurance is some of the best medicine you can get.

— RM —

You may have heard about the three couples who went out for a drive and their car went off a cliff. When they arrived at the Pearly Gates, St. Peter said he had a few questions to ask.

Turning to the first couple, St. Peter wanted to know what the man had done for a living back on earth. The man said he had tried to be a good provider for his family, saw that his children had an education and tried to see that everyone was happy.

St. Peter said that was swell, but also reminded the man that he drank too much. "Why, you even picked a woman to marry whose name is Sherry."

St. Peter turned to the second couple and asked the man the same question. This man also said he had tried to be good for his family's sake and believed in attending church.

"But you were a greedy man," St. Peter said. "You even married a woman with the name of Penny."

With that, the third man turned to his wife and said, "Come on, Penny, there's no point in hanging around here."

— RM —

The man planned to sail around the world in a small boat. He did well until he got to the South Pacific and was caught in a storm. He waves dashed his craft about for days and it began to sink. Strapping on a life vest, he jumped overboard.

Hours later, he found himself on the beach of a small island. He had no idea where he was and decided to explore. As he crept through the vegetation, he heard angry, guttural voices, but couldn't make out the strange mutterings.

Frightened but curious, he got down on his hands and knees and with great stealth made his way towards a small clearing, wondering if he had come upon some strange native ceremony, perhaps a forbidden sacrifice or a headhunters' camp.

"That's the stupidest thing I've ever seen."

"It was your lead."

"And I dropped a heart."

"You smeared it with my card."

"That's what I mean about stupid. Whoever taught you to play sheepshead, you jerk?"

"Talk about dump plays."

"How about a punch (POW) in the nose, you twit?"

"I'll bash (WHAM!) your head in, you big dummy."

The man sighed with relief.

"Thank my lucky stars," he said to himself. "I've made it back to civilization."

— RM —

A few observations I have come to view as truth during my stay in the hospital:

— Most of the things your mother tells you, you can take to the bank. Disregard the part about eating liver to live longer, however, It's not worth it.

— Many of the people who will tell you they love you won't really mean it. Especially if you're in the hospital hours earlier in a bar.

— Life is not fair. That's what makes it so interesting.

— Going to church on Sunday morning, even if you don't have the foggiest notion of what the preacher is talking about, will make you feel better no matter what you did on Saturday night.

— The best things in life really aren't free. Ask any poor person.

— Never buy anything from a man who jingles his change.

— Sleep is precious.

— RM —

This fellow was suffering with a terrible headache when a friend asked him what was wrong.

"This throbbing starts inside my head and no matter what medication I take, it won't go away for hours," he said.

His friend allowed as how that could be a devastating problem when he had to be at this beat to meet clients.

"You must get headaches sometimes," the sufferer said.

"What do you do for them?"

"Well, what works for me without fail is to give my wife a bag. She gives me a bag. I give her a squeeze. She gives me a squeeze. And my headache is gone in 10 minutes flat," he said.

"You should give it a try."

Two weeks later they met again. The guy with the remedy wanted to know if his friend had tried his technique.

"I sure did," he said, "and it worked like a charm."

"Glad to hear it."

"And by the way," the former headache sufferer said, "that's really a pretty nice house you got there, too."

Onward, upward.

Ford's Footnotes

by Senator Ed Ford

February was the first month since the organizational session of the 1985 General Assembly and provided a full agenda of interim committee meetings. All of my committees scheduled meetings this month and have met with the exception of Education which is meeting on Friday.

Our Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee met to discuss the possibility of Kentucky losing "primacy" or the right to regulate and inspect our own coal mines to the Federal government. This is significant to our area simply because coal provides a huge portion of the tax for our General Fund. It is alleged by the coal industry, and not denied by the Federal authorities, that if we are regulated by the United States Office of Surface Mining that our production would be severely affected. This, in turn, would reduce our tax revenues and could even increase unemployment in the coal fields.

Even though we don't mine one ton of coal in Central Kentucky, we have a tremendous stake in this game of Russian Roulette between the State and Federal authorities regarding which jurisdiction is to regulate Kentucky coal.

Another agriculture related subject that is of even more interest to us is tobacco. Our special tobacco task force has met three times around the state holding public hearings relative to what should be done to save the program. Our committee also testified before the International Trade Commission ordered by the President to investigate the impact of imported tobacco. I don't think we are the reason, but because of the unified concern for saving the tobacco price support program, the President is now softening his opposition. Only a month ago the administration was saying they were opposed to any compromise.

According to Senator Joe Prather, President Pro-Tem of the Senate, in a speech before the Governor's Local Issues Conference, the Road Fund must be put on the front burner in the 1986 session. He said that Kentucky has a huge investment in our roads and can't sit idly by and let the system deteriorate. According to some members of the Highway Department and Transportation Cabinet, this may have been one of the most neglected areas during the previous four years. To many, delay or neglect of maintenance is the most wasteful approach to saving money. When routine maintenance is neglected or postponed, the cost is compounded.

The present weather conditions are making the situation even worse. The Cabinet has exhausted its allocation for

* See Ford's Footnotes, page 12

Here Abouts

Continued from page 2

enroute north til the bad weather hit here and we were in limbo as to any departure date.

Friends from Minneapolis, Lima, Ohio and Maysville rounded out our usual group who annually gather for 10 days or so in the sun and a glimpse of a full moon coming up over the ocean. We had a tragicle assist. In fact, we were so close to the ocean he could almost make one up. I'd think of moving somewhere less noisy...then turn over and go back to sleep, immediately!

•••

In a letter from Ewing dated Feb. 4, my sister **Ann (Griffith)** described the first of our snows this way: "It is gorgeous — the sun shining on the snow makes it sparkle and the slivers of ice sparkle like diamonds. It looks exactly like snow they use in store windows...round and thin, almost like fish scales. Don't know that I've ever seen any just like it."

She had no such comment to pass along after the second batch of "fish scales" hit.

•••

Marching right along — Tomorrow is March 1 and while we're not out of the weather woods yet, it won't be long. Surely.

The district basketball tournament is underway and before you know it baseball practice will occupy the afternoons at the high school.

Speaking of hardball, the Georgetown College baseball brochure arrived this week, and freshman **Steve Anderson's** picture leads off the roster of Tigers who hope to bring the school another KIAC championship and a top finish in NAIA District 22.

Steve faces some strong competition from rebugging lettermen and All-KIAC performers but he's mentioned as one of coach **Marvin Stringfellow's** top recruits. The ex-Bluejacket is projected as a pitcher, first baseman and designated hitter.

The Tigers open the season Saturday, 1 p.m. at Morehead, weather permitting. Two weeks later it's off to Hawaii for eight games in five days with Hilo and Pacific College.

Billy and **Brenda**, keep me posted. Steve, send a postcard.

Aloha.

•••

Catching up — While the news of a couple of our special friends being hospitalized was obviously upsetting, we were warmed by the outpouring of praise in last week's Mercury for the folks who went that extra mile to help out during the heavy snowstorm. We'll have more about this later...Congratulations to the NCHS cheerleading team for a splendid showing during the district cheerleading tournament here last Wednesday night. Although Bourbon County won the overall winner, there were those in the almost capacity crowd that thought the Jackets had it was after an exceptional performance by the gymnasts...Have heard nothing but rave notices for **Jim Fooks'** contribution to the Lexington Woman's Club Follies of the earlier this month at the Opera House in Lexington. His "Hello, Beautiful Lady" solo in Act II was a showstopper, we're told. In fact, Tim has been invited to sing with the Lexington Singers March 17 at Memorial Coliseum. Tim, son of **Mrs. Annette Flora**, spent three seasons (while in college) in the cast of The Stephen Foster Story in Bardstown, after winning his share of accolades while a student at NCHS. He's now working in Lexington...

•••

Duty calls — A contemporary of mine at UK, **Anne Pardue**, covers the Frankfort scene for the Courier-Journal. This by-lined article, with strong local flavor, is reprinted from the Sunday, Feb. 17 edition of Sateline:

Some National Guardsmen in Nicholas County, who were put on active duty during last week's snowstorm, are ready for another chilly assignment — two weeks of winter training in northern Minnesota.

Company D of the 201st Engineer Battalion will leave next Saturday for Camp Ripley for an intensive program that will include using skis and snowshoes, spending a few nights in tents in temperatures that are usually below zero, and briefings on hypothermia and frostbite.

The 144 guardsmen from Company D and 14 others from the battalion are looking forward to the trip, said Sgt. **Wayne Capps**, unit administrator.

"It's different. We've never done anything like this. We're pretty well-prepared," he said.

Capps said about 18 guardsmen spent most of last week building roads in Nicholas County, one of the areas in the state hit hardest by the storm.

"They ought to be warmed up" for the training after last week, said Capt. **Gordon Nichols**, a Guard spokesman.

Kentucky guardsmen who went to Minnesota for training last year drove through a blizzard and were stranded at a rest stop for a night, Nichols said.

Nichols, who is with the Guard's public information detachment, will go to Panama in April for his annual two weeks of training.

"That jungle is looking better all the time," he quipped last week. — Anne Pardue.

—EAW—

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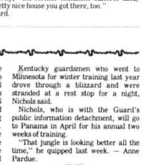

Eye Openers

By Dr. Robert F. Pretzsch, Optometrist

Bifocal Contact Lenses

Bifocal contact lenses have improved substantially, but they are still not for everybody.

There are several ways of fitting soft contact lenses for a patient who needs both distance and near correction. The procedure to be followed is determined in consultation with your optometrist. Two of the most common methods:

1. One eye is fit with a soft contact lens for near vision; the other eye is fit with a soft contact lens for distance vision. The patient learns to use each eye separately for different visual distances.
2. There are now several types of soft bifocal contact lenses. One type uses two concentric circles; the inner circle is for distance vision; the outer circle is for reading. Another type is similar to the no-line bifocal eyeglass. The distance and near zones blend together.

The greatest difficulty with bifocal contact lenses is learning to use the small, distinct spheres of correction for seeing. At present, it is estimated that only about 25 percent of patients who wear traditional bifocals will adjust to soft contact lens bifocals. But you may be one of them. Discuss this with your optometrist.

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All Pepsi Products 8-16 oz. Plus Deposit PEPSI $1.59
MAXWELL HOUSE COFFEE lb. can (50¢ Off With Coupon)
Van Camp 16 oz. cans PORK & BEANS 3/$1
IGA 5 lb. bag SUGAR (34¢ Off With Coupon)
Sandwich, 20 oz. loaf IGA BREAD 59¢
PINK Boy Beauty SALMON 15 oz. (60¢ Off With Coupon)
25 lb. bag, Self Rising MARTHA WHITE FLOUR $3.99
★ Coupons Available In Store & In This Week's Mailer.

Think PRODUCE
Idaho Potatoes 10 lb. bag $2.19
TableFresh Slicing Tomatoes lb. 79¢
Navel Oranges 4 lbs. $1.99
Red Delicious or Red Rome Apples 5 lbs. $1.79

IGA Large Eggs Doz. 59¢
Dairy Fresh 24 oz. Carton Cottage Cheese $1.29
Dairy & Frozen
Shoestring 20 oz. Ore Ida Potatoes 99¢
5 Varieties IGA Pizza 10 oz. 79¢

Think BAKERY DELI
Fresh Doz. Glazed Donuts $1.69
Kahn's Deluxe Club Bologna lb. $1.99
Hickory Grove Kahn's Ham lb. $3.29
Split Longhorn lb. $2.89