Opinion

Financial victory

We were impressed last spring when it became apparent that the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee and its then-chairman, Peter Ueberroth, would succeed in staging a magnificent olympiad without having to send taxpayers the bill. But no one guessed just how well Mr. Ueberroth's plan for private-sector financing would work.

The latest LAOOC audit shows that the summer games generated a whopping surplus of $215 million. And this sum will likely grow to $250 million by next summer as Olympic coin sales continue and $2 million in interest is added to the total each month.

All of this money will be going to good causes — the U.S. Olympic Committee, youth and athletic programs, and amateur American sports groups. In addition, the Los Angeles committee's board voted to donate $6.8 million to foreign Olympic committees, reimbursing them for their delegations' housing costs in Los Angeles last summer.

All of this, of course, stands in stark contrast to the financing fiasco in Montreal eight years ago. Citizens there will be paying off their $1 billion public debt for decades to come. And there were no surplus funds to help sustain amateur athletics in Canada and Olympic committees elsewhere in the world.

Our guess is that privately financed games will sooner or later become routine in the Olympic movement. The huge success of the 1984 Summer Games in Los Angeles makes the privatization option more attractive than ever.

Freeing up Atlantic air travel market

Flying to England will be a lot easier on travelers' pocketbooks this winter.

That's because the U.S. Justice Department has decided it won't protect a previously established trans-Atlantic air fare.

U.S. officials have informed the government-owned British Airways it can cut winter fares between London and New York by 35 percent without fear of triggering a U.S. government antitrust suit against the airline.

The practical effect is to provide more leeway for competitive forces to determine trans-Atlantic fares. Other airlines flying the same route as British Airways are legally entitled to match the reduced fares. The trans-Atlantic traveler will reap the rewards.

A similar assurance from the U.S. government could be given to the airlines flying Pacific routes.

In the past, government-subsidized airlines have been suspected of being too predatory whenever they cut their fares, but there's even more damage done to consumers by protecting artificially high international airfares.

SNAKES! Alive and frozen too...

MERCURY VAPOURS
Warren R. Fisher

Having been asked Monday was I gonna have another Vapour column, and replying that at that moment it was rather doubtful, I was apprised of all those who might miss it. Since I was doing pictures for this issue and had asked Mrs. Duncan (Janie) what the tape measure was doing dangling down near the fender of a Chevrolet on one of the negatives, she told me it was a snake. Frankly in the negative it looked like cane and a crooked one at that, but it rang a bell;

I am most forgetful and can only hope that Mrs. Leslie Morris, Route 3, Crooked Creek Road, hasn't given up all hope of ever seeing in print the item she called to tell us about on Dec. 29 concerning snakes and cabbage from her garden.

But first I'd better dispatch Janie's frozen surprise, it would be worse than terrible if I forgot it. Henry White and his brother Steve found this snake on the East Union Road Friday morning, Jan. 11. It had been run over and was frozen solid. White believes the snake to be a cow sucker and it measured 36 inches in length. The Whites were much surprised to see a snake out, if not about, at this time.

Well, back to the Crooked Creek Road story which was relayed to me by the better-half, still no excuse for changing names (Mrs. Morris had killed three snakes that December week with a pitchfork. As I understood, the snakes must have thought the change in the weather signaled spring. I know that a three-in-one apple tree in my backyard tried budding.

The four heads of cabbage were or had been covered by snow which no doubt saved them, since they were edible.

—MV—

On things edible

During the Christmas holidays I was

*See Vapours, page 2

Letters from our readers

Something on your mind? Write a letter to the Mercury

To The Carlisle Mercury:

Dear Mayor Hughes:

Over the last several years, the Carlisle-Nicholas County Chamber of Commerce has acquired new Christmas decorations for the downtown shopping area. This was done not only as a gesture of good will, but also to make the central business district a more attractive, appealing area.

It is our pleasure to officially donate the entire collection of Christmas decorations, valued in excess of $5,000 to the City of Carlisle. The decorations have been displayed yearly, with the cooperation of Kentucky Utilities, and are presently stored at the old jail.

We are very pleased to make this donation, and hope that the citizens of Carlisle and Nicholas County enjoy the decorations for many years to come.

Sincerely,
Rob Hester, President
Interim Board of Directors
Chamber of Commerce

To The Carlisle Mercury:

How right it seems for Kentuckians to embark on a new year, a time of resolute beginnings, so soon after the death of a most determined Kentucky citizen.

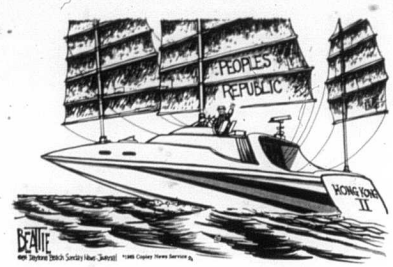
Edward F. Prichard Jr. was a wise and giving man whose dedication to the commonwealth knew no bounds. His service on behalf of public education was marked with the same courage and determination he showed in every phase of public and private life.

Ed Prichard dared to dream. His dream for Kentucky was a public school system worthy of the children it serves. He worked hard toward making the dream come true.

As we begin 1985, I can think of no more appropriate tribute to Mr. Prichard than a resolution by Kentucky's citizens to continue the quest for better schools. I urge every Kentuckian to join in the effort and to continue the progress that is being made in public education. This is one resolution we must keep if Kentucky's children and Kentucky herself are to have a bright future.

Kentucky must say goodbye to Ed Prichard, but we can take some comfort in knowing that every improvement in every school in our state will be a monument in his memory.

Sincerely,
Alice McDonald
Supt. of Public Instruction



Agree or not

Long-dreamed-about independence

by S.C. Van Curon

Frankfort — Legislators are approaching that long-dreamed-about status of independence more so for the 1986 session than any time since the real transformation began in 1968 under Gov. Louie B. Nunn.

Election of the majority Democrat leadership came about without any interference from the governor's office or any other branch of government's influence, the legislators proclaim.

Speaker Bobby Richardson who was replaced last week by Donald Blandford, a veteran of 12 years from Owensboro, closed the last choice made explicitly by the governor. Gov. Julian Carroll picked Richardson as majority floor leader and he was moved up to speaker by Gov. John Y. Brown Jr. when Speaker William Kenton died.

Blandford's election is being attributed to his promise that the individual members will have more input and be kept better informed about legislative actions.

The status of a member's bill during legislative sessions has been one of the major complaints of the members. Their bills were sent from committee to committee and the members were never able to get them to the floor for action. The maddening thing was they were never informed the why of the action.

Blandford has promised that a member will be notified ahead of time when his bill is returned to the Rules Committee after it has been assigned to a committee for action.

There won't be any "graveyard committee" as such, he promises. For years the State Government Committee was the graveyard to which Rules originally assigned bills. This happened after the rule was established that Rules could hold a bill only a set number of days before sending it to a committee for action.

Then, if Rules wanted to kill the bill, it was assigned to State Government where it died without explanation to the member. This is part of how Blandford explains members will have more input. From a layman's viewpoint, his legislator should be able to give him the status of a particular bill and the why of the situation.

Rules has always been the most powerful committee and is the traffic cop, so to speak, in directing legislation through the process. All bills go to Rules after being introduced and then are assigned to a committee handling that specific subject matter.

Nunn gets the credit for starting real legislative independence although he did control the legislature and passed his program. He increased the sales tax and got his budget passed by putting enough money in the legislative budget for legislators to establish the interim-committee system and start interim pay for legislators.

Wendell Ford followed Nunn and Carroll followed Ford, and both of these dominated the Democrat-controlled legislature. The governors chose the leadership and committee chairman and woe be unto a legislator who crossed the governor.

Brown spent little effort in trying to control the legislature and Gov. Martha Layne Collins hasn't appeared to try, but in the absence of control from the governor's office, it shifted to the leadership and Richardson's method of handling it apparently irked too many members.

When it all boils down to where the power appears now, it gets down to the leadership, but the membership majority must be satisfied or the members will vote out the leaders.

Down Memory Lane

Kendall awarded Silver Star

Thursday, January 21, 1965

Moorefield School Soil Conservation essay contest winners were Doris Darrell and Mary Ann Kendall, first and second place winners in the sixth grade, and Beverly Jolly and Joyce Mitchell, first and second place fifth grade winners. They were presented certificates and prizes last week by W.F. Threlkeld of the USDA Soil Conservation Service. First place in each grade was $5 and second place received $1.

Mr. and Mrs. A.V. Allison, Woodrow Wilson, Frankie Hughes, James Ledford and Goble Henry are in Washington attending the inauguration of President Lyndon Johnson.

Nicholas County High School senior O.K. Curry has been awarded 13 official National Forensic League points for his work in the Kentucky District Student Congress that convened in Winchester January 9. This is the largest number of points ever awarded a NCHS student.

Sally Wilson, Jo Ann Bush, Dick Letton, Elizabeth Ann Clay, Carolyn Trapp, Camille Earlywine and Linda Frances Clay, members of the Future Nurses Club, are studying introductions, interviews, how to win and keep friends, dating, proper dress for different occasions and personal grooming habits.

BORN — To Mr. and Mrs. Donald Mullikin, Mt. Olivet, a daughter, Patricia Carol, January 12 at Nicholas County Hospital.

MARRIED — Miss Lola Bussell and Charles Davis, January 16 by the Rev. Frank Simons. — Miss Alma Sue Schultz, Mt. Sterling, and Edward Glenn Grimes, Sharpsburg, December 31 at First Methodist Church, Mt. Sterling. — Miss Linda Carol Caragianis, Lexington, and Matthew James Kennedy, Lexington, January 1 at the Epworth Methodist Church. — Miss Mary Ellen Roe and Ollie J. Bussell, January 18 by the Rev. Frank Simons.

DIED — William F. Gilley, 54, January 19 at home on High Street. — Mrs. Wilburn H. Secrest, Jacksonville, Fl., January 19. — Mrs. Osie Frederick, 69, widow of Wyatt Frederick, January 14 at Bourbon County Hospital. — Henry S. Blount, 70, January 15 in an Ogden, Utah nursing home. — Mrs. Betty E. Dotson Jackson, 34, January 11 at home in Evansville, IN. — Harry Rogers, 76, January 13 at Nicholas County Hospital.

Thursday, January 25, 1945

The Nicholas County Junior Red Cross has shipped the following articles this week: 10 scrap books to Fort Eaustis, VA, five pair of bedroom slippers to Rolling Field, D.C. and five lap robes, 20 utility bags, two scrap books and 240 crossword puzzles to the Eastern area storeroom in Oceandrive, VA.

First Lt. Fred J. Kendall, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Kendall, has been awarded the Silver Star for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against the enemy while serving as executive officer of a Marine rifle company on Siapan, Martanas Islands.

An Associated Press report from Antioch, CA states a young Navy gunner related that he and two other servicemen were "bumped off" an Army transport plane because a dog had a higher travel priority than they did. The dog was being shipped across country by Col. Elliott Roosevelt to his wife, the actress Faye Emerson, in Hollywood.

ENGAGED — To Pfc. and Mrs. Charles McWhorter, a daughter, Patricia Charleen, January 13 at Good Samaritan Hospital, Cincinnati, OH. — To Mr. and Mrs. Harold McClanahan, a daughter, Jean Dudley, January 22 at Johnson Memorial Hospital.

DIED — Matthew Thomas Kennedy, 68, January 17 at home near Morning Glory. — Miss Bell Crockett, January 17 at home in Mt. Sterling. — Samuel D. Thompson, January 16 at home in Charlotte, NC. — Mrs. Anna E. Brierly Skeen, 62, widow of Charles C. Skeen, Tuesday at home near East Union. — William H. Reed, 71, Tuesday at home in Versailles. — George K. Henson, 36, a fireman first class in the Navy, Friday in the Mare Island Hospital, CA.

Letters to the editor policy

All readers of The Carlisle Mercury are welcome to submit letters to the editor, and it is asked that the following guidelines be followed when writing to us.

Letters sent for publication should be originals addressed to the Mercury, not copies of letters to some third party. All letters must contain the letter writer's signature, address and telephone number or the phone number at which you can be reached.

Poems and cards of thanks will not be published as letters to the editor.

Brevity will help and we reserve the right to edit or reject any letter we consider libelous or in poor taste.

No fee is charged for publishing a letter to the editor.

If possible letters should be typed and double spaced and if written in longhand, please write as legibly as possible. Deadline is Friday.

Letters to the editor should be addressed to:

Letters to the Editor
The Carlisle Mercury
POB 272
Carlisle, KY 40311

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(Mrs.) Libby J. Moss ..... *CompuWriter Operator*
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Op-Ed page

Counterfeiter could have done worse...

like putting $1 corners on $20 bills

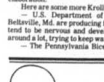
A man in Morgantown, W.Va. admitted to police that he had taken almost 1,900 college science textbooks worth more than $60,000 from bookstores at West Virginia University. He claimed the theft was in the interest of national security. The books, he said, contained information which would be used to make nuclear weapons and he wanted to keep them from falling into the wrong hands.

That's one of the items in a new paperback book, "No Comment," by Edwin Kroll, who is the editor of "The Progressive" magazine, has collected strange news stories from all over and offers them to the bemused reader with elaboration.

Here are some more Kroll discoveries:

— U.S. Department of Agriculture researchers at Beltsville, Md. are producing featherless chickens. The birds tend to be nervous and develop stomach ulcers. They run around a lot, trying to keep warm.

— The Pennsylvania Bicentennial Commission decided



RUSS METZ

against a plan to invite citizens to rededicate themselves to American ideals by signing copies of the Declaration of Independence. "If you sit down and read it," said George Ebner, the commission's executive secretary, "you'll find it's a pretty radical document. There may be a lot of people unwilling to sign it."

— The New York Department of Mental Hygiene produced and distributed a free-page illustrated memorandum on how to split an Edsel muffin.

W.C. Galinat, a research professor in genetics at the University of Massachusetts, developed a square ear of corn "so it won't roll off the plate."

An entrepreneur in Desmuter, Ark. sells cockroaches to tenants who are vacating their apartments and have been ordered by the landlord to "leave the premises exactly as you found them."

— Sam, "Mr. Clean" Silverstein of Pittsburg, Pa. advised the Federal Election Commission he was running for president on a platform that included abolishing Wednesdays, decreasing the velocity of bullets by 36 percent and eliminating the Postal Service deficit by issuing 10-cent stamps featuring nude photographs of famous Americans.

— James B. Saunders of Baton Rouge, La. described by the sentencing federal judge as "the most inept counterfeiter I ever heard of," was given five years probation for cutting the corners off a $20 bill and pasting them on a $1 bill to make a bogus $20 bill.

— A bill to legalize prostitution in the state of Washington provided that licenses be issued "only upon satisfactory proof that the applicant is of good moral character."

— In Bogota, Colombia, during a protracted strike by nurses and physicians, the death rate declined by about a third.

— Major Gen. Charles F. Kuyk Jr. told the Wall Street Journal that despite many production snags, the Air Force was pleased with the C-5A cargo jet, although "having the wings fall off at 8,000 feet is a problem."

—RM—

Alexander A. Cunningham, executive vice-president of GM's North American Passenger Car Operations, uses a humorous story to illustrate the idea of defining objectives and setting priorities:

"If you are indeed going to do the right things right, it's important to start by figuring out just what the right things are. And that reminds me of a story — true, by the way — that came to my attention recently on a trip to Canada.

"It seems that in some of the outlying areas of British Columbia, the farmers have been plagued by wolves killing their livestock. There were meetings of environmentalists, farmers and concerned citizens. Most of the local people were in favor of shooting or poisoning the wolves. But at one meeting a lady took the microphone, listed her credentials — which were impressive — and explained her solution.

"Vasectomy," she said, "is the answer. Simply trap the wolves humanely, neuter the males and release them."

At that point one grizzled old sheep farmer rose to his feet. "Ma'm," he said, "I don't mean no disrespect, you bein' an expert...but them wolves is killin' my sheep — not makin' love to 'em!"

—RM—

I have made a list of what will or should be out for 1985:

Fruit cakes: Until someone comes up with a logical and foolproof way of disposing of them, there is no reason for making them.

Cordless telephones: Don't get us wrong. The telephones are in. What's out is having your friends call you and say, "Guess where I'm calling you from." They sound like they are in the middle of the Holland Tunnel with a mouth full of M&Ms. Is this what the phone company means when it advertises "Reach out and touch someone?" Let your friends know you have a cordless and they'll track you down with crank calls — yea, into the sanctity of your bathroom.

Salad bars: There used to be a novel way to get your meal started. But now everybody's got them. Even hardware stores and automobile dealers. And to make matters worse, the last time we were at a State Department reception in Washington, the salad bar was out of blue cheese dressing.

Movies on cable TV: No...wait, we take that back. We missed "Smokey and the Bandit" the other night and it's nice to know they're going to give us 67 more chances to catch it before February.

Neckties: They are useless, expensive and slowly strangle you to death. I am constantly dripping food on mine and never is a matching color of my tie. They will be replaced by red bandanas, chest hair implants, sweat streaks or some other practical accessory. Tie manufacturers who have specialized in making uncoordinated shades will soon be hanging themselves with their own grotesque creations.

Mathematics for women: They already know how to divide their ages by two, double the price of their dresses, triple their husbands' salaries and add five years to the ages of their best friends.

—RM—

Thoughts:

Nobody ever thought that violence in the streets would surpass violence on TV.

The world doesn't owe us a living. A simple apology will do.

The fight against drunk driving, which kills and maims so many, would be fortified if the right of the suspect to refuse a drunk test would be removed. That provides a loophole that doesn't exist for other serious crimes.

We have a new generation of youngsters who believe trivia is knowledge.

The amazing aspect of the lawsuit charging that Michael Jackson pilfered a song is that somebody will admit writing those rock songs.

Why don't dentists change the term "root canal" to something else? The name implies something horribly uncomfortable.

Why do service stations lock the restrooms and leave the cash registers unlocked?

Is it really necessary for bowling balls to be that heavy?

And what the hell are those little green things in fruitcakes?

Onward, upward.

Communications scholarship deadline March 15

Junior and senior class high school students who are interested in applying for $1,000 college scholarships should request applications by March 15, 1985 from the Educational Communications Scholarship Foundation, 721 N. McKinley Road, Lake Forest, Illinois 60045.

To receive an application, students should send a note stating their name, address, city, state and zip code,

appreciate grade point average and on the basis of academic performance, involvement in extracurricular activities and need for financial aid.

Fifty award winners will be selected

Vapours

Continued from page 2

presented with a figurine supposedly of pure chocolate by two friends from an adjoining county — I told the better-half that I could photograph it or I could eat it or better still I could give it to someone else. Well, it didn't take long to see that it wouldn't do to photograph, it was much too much chocolate for me to tackle, besides our faithful CompuWriter operator Libby Moss knew just the person to give it to.

—MV—

Of promises and resolutions...

I haven't gotten any more house cleaning done (office cleanup). After all it wasn't one of those New Year's resolution, nor was it a promise, all of which reminds me of a card I received with my name on it touting that it was a reminder from Abraham Lincoln, James Russell Lowell and Charles Dickens:

IF I'M UNHAPPY...

Most folks are about as happy as they make up their minds to be."
Abraham Lincoln

IF I'M WORRIED...

"The misfortunes hardest to bear are those which never come."
James Russell Lowell

IF I'M LONELY...

"No one is useless in the world who lightens the burden of it for anyone else."
Charles Dickens

I promise myself I won't forget those words.
Sign Here)

Needless to say, I didn't sign it. But do hope I can remember it.

—MV—

Only one call...

Everett J. Beers of Owensboro called Monday night to say that the parade picture on the front page of last week's Mercury was held at a bond rally in 1918, and that the small tank carried one to three persons.

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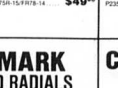

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