Opinion

A remarkable collection

One of the most extensive baseball card collections anywhere around belongs to an industrious eight-year-old second-grader by the name of Chris Kelley.

Chris started his collection two years ago and has amassed what he estimates to be over 100,000 cards, autographs and other memorabilia from some of baseball's greatest stars — Babe Ruth, Rogers Hornsby, Mickey Mantle, Pete Rose and you name them, he has them, including six of Woody Fryman of nearby Ewing.

How has he come by so many so fast, you ask? Chris is quick to tell you it helps to have family members who lend a hand.

His parents, Bobby and Peggy Kelley have encouraged his hobby by helping address envelopes to the players, although Chris does the actual letter writing. Enclosed will be a card picturing the player which came with a bubble gum purchase, for example. Chris asks for an autograph and always includes a stamped, self-addressed envelope for the hoped-for reply. It most always comes.

Sometimes he's lucky enough to snare an autograph while attending a Reds game at Riverfront Stadium. On the second of two trips to see Cincinnati play the Mets this season, Chris found a way to get in the visitor's dugout, coming face to face

CHRIS KELLEY

Here Abouts

...with Emily A. Wolf

with Lenny Dykstra. The first visit resulted in a ball presented him by Rafael Santana during the pregame warm-up. Visiting teams are more generous with their autographs, Chris finds.

The Kelleys get to the ballpark early to watch batting practice. They most always have good seats, thanks to mom. Peggy works for a U.S. attorney in Lexington and gets tickets through the credit union.

While Chris has a Pete Rose card he doesn't have his autograph. But that's about the only one that isn't in his possession.

His most valuable card? No question about it, an original Babe Ruth, printed in 1933 by the Goudey Gum Co. of Boston. It was a Christmas gift from his parents and grandparents, Gene and Opal Kelley, and is valued at $500. But Chris wouldn't part with it for any amount of money. In fact, he won't let go of any of his cards unless he has more than one of a particular player that someone wants to trade for who has a card Chris wants.

Speaking of Ruth, Chris has one album that contains 19 pages of clippings on the "Sultan of Swat." They were given to him by Mrs. Thelma Linville Havermale who had saved them since the Babe's death on July 16, 1948 at the age of 53.

Other valuable cards in the collection include Joe Nuxhall, Sparky Anderson, Billy Martin, Mike Schmidt and Ken Cey as rookies and an uncut sheet of cards from Topps bubble gum. Of sentimental vase is a picture of Mickey Mantle and Chris taken during the Book Fair in Frankfort this past winter.

His favorite player? Probably Oddibe McDowell, now in his second season with the Texas Rangers, his favorite team.

Chris, a 3.85 average student, not only likes reading about his baseball idols he also likes to play the game. He's a first baseman for the Minor League Pirates here and with the T-Ball Giants in Paris.

Monday is the last day of school and Chris and his dad plan to celebrate the occasion by, you guessed it, seeing the Reds and Cubbies at Riverfront. After that they're ticketed to see the Astros, Cards and Dodgers.

When they're not at the ballpark, they follow baseball wherever it's played, via satellite in the comfort of the Kelley home.

That's what you call dedication to the game, baseball fans. I wouldn't want to bet that he doesn't end up with one Peter Edward Rose's John Henry before his collection is completed.

•••

I've always thought California would be a nice place to live, since a number of former residents now call it home. Marion Rose, for one has been well-documented here in recent months. Now comes a phone call from Jimmy Ockerman, who chose Ma Bell over the postal service to change the address on his Mercury subscription from North Hollywood to Gardena, which is nearby.

Jimmy (he's probably called Jum these days) is a manufacturing engineer for Northrop Aircraft in suburban Los Angeles. He says he doesn't seen or heard tell of him since way back when he was the heartthrob of more than one Carlisle High School teenager.

Jimmy has received The Mercury every year since he joined the Navy in 1941, compliments of his mother, Mrs. Jesse (Fay) Ockerman, another valued subscriber who now makes her home in Custerville, Indiana with her daughter, Mrs. Jean Whaley and family.

Jimmy's younger brother Paul has been an east coast resident (Southbury, Ct.) until just recently when he was transferred back to Pittsburgh, where he's a vice-president with Westinghouse. The transfer was so recent, in fact, his Mercury is still being sent to Southbury.

Thank you, Ockermans, one and

* See Here Abouts, page 2

The Benedict Arnold ...to Joan Rivers

for the Dear John letter she forgot to send

Without the usual fanfare of television cameras, movie stars and weirdos that go with awards presentations, I simply lay back and announce my Annual Dubious Distinction Award winners and let the buffalo chips fall where they may.

The Imelda Marcos High Fashion Award to my wife for trying to outdo the fashionable former Philippine first lady in the shoe closet.

The Larry, Curly and Moe Simpleton Award to the Israeli Intelligence Service for hiring an American Jew to steal secrets they could have just for the asking.

The Don Rickles Tackiness Trophy goes to Phyllis George for suggesting that Gary Dotson and Cathleen Webb embrace on national television to show everyone they were just funnin' after he served six years on a conviction of raping her, and then she swore under oath that she had made up the entire story.

The Uncommon Sympathy Award to that British judge who, after hearing the case of a man who cut his wife into small pieces and cooked them, sentenced the bloke to six years in prison, commenting that "a man of reasonable self-control might have been similarly provoked and might have done what you did." The chap didn't say which way he preferred her: medium rare or well-done.

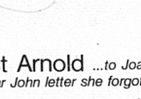
The Can't Hit a Bull's Rear With a Bass Fiddle Award goes to television's A-Team, who has used enough ammunition to invade all of Central America and has never yet hit anyone.

The Grand Forfeiture Fiasco Award to Adlai Stevenson III for defaulting to his ex in a house inherited with LaTouches and declaring he will move across the tracks where his bedfellows have no critters coming out of the woodwork.

The Handicapped Hall of Fame Award is given to a New York woman, who filed an unemployment discrimination suit charging that she was denied employment because he was a habitual smoker. She claimed that her smoking addiction qualifies her as a "handicapped" person in the sense of the New York State Human Rights Law. You hack! tell 'em, honey.

Snitch of the Year goes to Mrs. Barbara Walker, ex-wife of convicted spy John A. Walker, who said his espionage was motivated more than "good business." Barb blew the whistle on him after using a screw driver to pry open his desk and finding Soviet instructions on how to pass along some of the Navy's most sensitive secrets. Bet he was the only thing she was able to fix around the house with that screwdriver.

"The World Family Planning Award of Achievement to Farouk Kaddoumi, the PLO political chief, who told the press that Leon Klinghoffer was tossed overboard by his wife so she could collect double indemnity on his life insurance policy.



The Mother Dearest Award to Vice-President George Bush, who announced on his 60th birthday that he was now grown up and would never again eat broccoli, asparagus, brussel sprouts and all that icky stuff the women folks have been pushing on him to make him grow up strong and healthy.

The Most Explicit De-Tail Award goes to the defendant who was sued for comparing the plaintiff to that portion of the human anatomy that serves as the exit for the large intestine. In his brief, he described the anatomical reference in explicit detail and argued that the plaintiff did "in truth and fact" fit that description.

The You Never Take Me Anywhere Award to Wally Schirra, the former astronaut, who revealed that once the novelty wears off, people won't be much interested in space travel. He said, "The view is lousy at least half the time. There aren't many window seats, and no stewardesses. And once you get there, you can't even go out to dinner."

The Annual Offer You Can't Refuse Award goes to Geraldo Rivera for digging up all that dirt on Al Capone's secret vault and packing it into one tight, boring hour of prime time television.

The Kiss and Tell Award goes to David Stockman, whose supply-side economics is supplying him with a bundle of side money from his experience as a financial advisor in the Reagan administration.

And, finally, the Summa Cum Learne Award goes to San Diego High School, which has posted a sign in its counseling office that reads: "If you think school is boring, wait till you sit around an unemployment office."

— RM —

A businessman was also president of his local symphony orchestra. There was one concert he couldn't go to, so he gave his tickets to his company's efficiency expert.

Subsequently, he asked the efficiency expert how he had enjoyed the performance. The expert handed him the following memo:

"The undersigned submits these comments and recommendations relative to the playing of Schubert's 'Unfinished Symphony,' as observed under actual working conditions.

"A. For considerable periods, the four oboe players had nothing to do. Their numbers should be reduced to two, and their work spread over the whole orchestra, thus eliminating peaks and valleys of activity.

"B. All 12 violins were playing identical notes with identical motions. This is unnecessary duplication and the staff of this section should be drastically cut. If larger volume of sound is required, this could be obtained through electronic amplification.

"C. Much effort was expended in playing 16th notes, or semi-quavers. This seems an excessive refinement since most of the hearers are unable to distinguish such rapid playing. It is recommended that all notes be rounded out to the nearest 8th.

"D. No useful purpose would appear to be served by repeating with horns the same passage that has already been handled by the strings. If all such redundant passages had been eliminated, the concert would have been reduced from two hours to 20 minutes, with great savings in salaries and overhead. In fact, if Schubert had attended to these matters, he probably would have been able to finish his symphony."

— RM —

My wife gets a little uptight when we are seated in the non-smoking areas of airplanes and restaurants. After years of living under the smog of my pipe, she can't stand fresh air.

Tobacco smoke doesn't bother her — and I suspect a lot of others who demand segregation away from us nicotine freaks. But one thing does physically bother her: heavy perfumes and other cosmetic lotions. She is allergic to them and they make her start hacking and coughing.

Maybe we should demand a non-odor section when we go out." I told her.

"Why not? You know what it does to me," she said.

That was the maitre de would have reason to carry in nose out of joint. He'd be snitfully every person coming into his beanery to get them in the right section. Maybe we could get the Surgeon General to demand warning labels on all strong perfumes and lotions: "Caution. This product will make you smell like a French floozie and may be obnoxious to those around you."

In trying to save us from ourselves, I think the all-knowing feds have opened a Pandora's box. There is absolutely no end to people's prejudices. If they insist on segregating us, restaurants will begin to look like the Chicago stockyards.

Along with smoking and non-smoking sections, we need odorless areas, non-drinking, straight and gay sections, Protestant, Catholic and Jewish sections, cash and credit card, vegetarian and meat-eaters, dieters and pig-out tables, ad nauseum.

Now you know why, when I light up my pipe, I blow the smoke under my arms.

Onward, upward.

Down Memory Lane ...from the Mercury files of bygone years

10 years ago

Thursday, June 3, 1976

Loving cups were presented Thursday night to parents who had served 100 hours or more as Head Start volunteers. Mrs. William Hunter, parent coordinator, made presentations to Mrs. Beatrice Buckler, Mrs. Beverly Irvin, Mrs. Mae Tucker, Mrs. Linda Sparks and Mrs. Velma Bellamy.

MARRIED — Paula Vice and Eugene Glass, May 21 at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Trieni Vice of Moorefield.

DIED — Jesse Barnett, 82, May 26, 1976 at the V.A. Hospital, Lexington. — Mrs. Jane Shrout, 64, wife of Albert Shrout, Lewisburg, Ohio, May 20, 1976 in Washington Courthouse, Ohio. — Victor Varner, 78, Cynthiana, May 21, 1976 at home.

20 years ago

Thursday, June 2, 1966

Miss Judy Millian Clinkenbeard and Marion Kent Mann were elected by the student body as the 1966 Mr. and Miss NCHS. Judy is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ewell Clinkenbeard and Kent is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Clay Mann.

The Nicholas County Hospital is in basic compliance with the requirements of Medicare and is eligible to participate in the program effective July 1, 1966, Roger C. Womack, chairman of the board, announced. Robert M. Nash of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare advised Mr. Womack certain recommendations which were made at the time of the survey would have to be met in order to continue in the program.

The Nicholas County Education Association is proud to introduce its president, Eleanor Faulkner Talbert, who was born in Barbourville, Knox County, Kentucky. In 1941 she married R.L. Talbert, teacher-coach at Benham, Harlan County. They have three children, Susan, a junior in nurses' training at the University of Richmond, and Francis Wasson, (Teddy), who graduated from NCHS this week, and Jane Ellen, a sophomore at NCHS.

Eight hundred fifty-three people in Nicholas County received a total of $535,104 in social security benefits in March, Ellis Faulkner, district manager of the Lexington Social Security Office, revealed. This is an increase of $53,588 and 56 people over the year before.

The Carlisle Alumni Banquet was held at the Methodist Church annex on Friday, May 27, 6:30 p.m. The nominating committee, composed of chairman, Mrs. Jerry Cameron, class of '56, and Mrs. Carroll Hall, class of '51, reported the selection of the following for officers for 1966-67: president, Ralph Shearer, class of '41; vice-president, Charles Carter, class of '53; secretary, Mrs. Sam Reynolds, classuil '46; treasurer, Mrs. W.R. Buntin Jr., class of '42.

BORN — To Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Burnard, a son, Woodie Lee, May 27 at Nicholas County Hospital. — To Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Curtis, a son, May 30 at Nicholas County Hospital.

MARRIED — Miss Elaine Hughes and Charles T. Duncan, May 14 at the Hillside Wesleyan Methodist Church, Marion, Ind. — Mrs. Nina Baugus announces the marriage of her daughter, Pauline Garrett, formerly of Richmond, and Francis Wasson, Thursday, May 26.

DIED — Mrs. Ernest Ward, 72, wife of Ernest Ward, Lexington, May 26 at Good Samaritan Hospital. — Gobel Henry, 66, May 27 at home.

40 years ago

Thursday, June 6, 1946

A flag which has flown over the capital of the United States, was presented Nicholas Post No. 17 American Legion by Congressmanble Virgil Chapman in behalf of his colleague, Joe B. Bates, at the conclusion of a Memorial Day speech made here by Chapman Thursday. The flag, which was flown during a historic meeting of Congress, was accepted by Elva Kendall, post commander.

Approximately 1,000 boys and girls throughout Kentucky will attend Junior Week June 10-14 at the University of Kentucky campus. Nicholas County delegates are Ann Wagoner, Evelyn Callahan, Betty Crockett, Carolyn Linville, Eva Varner, Dorcas L. Watkins, Harold Honaker, James Brady and Ralph Havermale.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year at the annual Alumni Association banquet of the Carlisle High School Thursday night: president, Mrs. Jimmie Hardin; first vice-president, Mrs. Emery Clark; second vice-president, Miss Dorothy Hughes; secretary, Mrs. Clay Richey; treasurer, Miss Lil Martin.

The Cincinnati Enquirer Saturday gave the following account of plans for the presentation last Sunday of the Legion of Merit to the Very Rev. Emmett P. Crane, rector of St. John's parish here: "The Legion of Merit will be awarded the Very Rev. Emmett P. Crane, rector of the Mission House of the Redemptorist Fathers at Carlisle, Ky. at a Pontifical Mass at noon tomorrow in St. Mary Cathedral, Covington.

Miss Eleanor Reynolds, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. B.F. Reynolds, was one of 122 seniors who received the Bachelor of Arts degree at the commencement exercises of Agnes Scott College, Decatur, Ga., Monday. Miss Reynolds was this year a member of the Glee Club and the Christian association of council.

BORN — To Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Morris, a daughter, June 1 at Johnson Memorial Hospital. — To C.Pfrn. and Mrs. Paul Thomas Bishop, Cherry Point, NC, a daughter, Vivian Diane, May 30.

MARRIED — Sgt. Anna Campbell and Cpl. Gilbert Beck, at Post Chapel of Lawson General Medical Hospital, Atlanta, GA.

DIED — Emerson E. Ramey, son of the late William F. Ramey and Mrs. Ramey of Bristol, VA., June 2 at home in Baltimore, MD. — Robert Henry Williams, 56, Lexington, May 27.

50 years ago

Thursday, June 4, 1936

James B. Leer, son of Sheriff J. Clarke Leer Jr., is a member of this year's graduating class of the United States Military Academy at West

*See Memory Lane, page 3

Letters from our readers

Why not have Kindergarten graduation?

To The Carlisle Mercury:

Why does the Nicholas County Elementary School feel they no longer need a Kindergarten graduation ceremony?

In the eight years Kindergarten has been taught by the Nicholas County school system, they have had a graduation ceremony, but this, its ninth year, as Kindergarten becomes a mandatory class, it will not be held.

I feel this is an injustice to these students as they begin their education. Schools are to not only stress education, but also teach morals, manners and be an exciting, enjoyable place for learning. This one small ceremony can have a lasting impression on a child's life then? Maybe the classes are larger now, but can't they practice separately, putting the final production together with a minimum of preparatory time. I know there are other class performances throughout the school year which must include some preparatory time and aren't these disruptive?

So why not a Kindergarten graduation? Let's show our children we care before they reach the final high school graduation. After high school the local public school system's job of educating your children and refine is over. Let's show them we care before it is all over.

Junior Terrell
830 Miller Station Road
Carlisle, Ky. 40311

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Here Abouts

Continued from page 2

all, for contributing to this week's column. Besides, you've all been special friends through the years.

Here 'there

When Betty and Shy Abnee attended the Indianapolis 500 over the weekend it marked Shy's 40th time to be in the stands. Too bad the race had to be postponed...Plaudits to Linda Soper for the tender loving care she gives the patio plantings at the Depot, and to Jessie Conley for her all-around devotion to the Historical Society, especially writing the time consuming newsletter...The annual deposit of sand for the swimming beach at Lake Carnico arrived just in time for the holiday weekend. Too bad the weather wasn't a bit nicer.

Memory Lane

Continued from page two

Point, New York. Young Leer is probably the first Nicholas County boy who has ever graduated from West Point. He was appointed to the Academy by Congressman Fred M. Vinson after he had graduated from Millersburg Military Institute and attended Berea College.

With a total of 1,429 head of livestock on the market Tuesday, sales conducted by the Farmers Stockyard Company were the largest of the season. Prices received on Tuesday's sale were: Cattle-heifers, $5.20 to $6.40; steers, $4.95 to $5.80; cows, $4.40 to $5.50; bulls, $53 to $60; calves, tops, $8.80; others, $7.40 to $8.75, hogs, heavies, $9.60; medium, $9.85; lights, $10.80; shoats, $6.30 to $10.30; sows and pigs, $27 to $56.50; sheep and lambs, top lambs, $10.70 to $11.40; good lambs, $9.40 to $10.65; medium lambs, $7.50 to $9.35, ewes, $5.50 down.

The fire department was called Friday morning to the home of Allen Hopkins on Sycamore Street, where sparks from a burning trash pile had set fire to the roof of an outbuilding. The blaze was extinguished with slight damage.

Sugener Kash, son of Dr. and Mrs. C.W. Kash, who will graduate from the University of Kentucky Friday, will leave Friday night for Norton, VA., to take a position on a newspaper.

BORN — To Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Walton, a daughter, Jane Marie, Tuesday at the local hospital.

DIED — James W. Norton, 47, last Wednesday in Lexington.

Family vacation for $165 a day

AAA reports that the 1986 suggested vacation budget, based on two adults and two children vacationing by car, rose only 0.6 percent since 1985.

The slight increase can be attributed to lower energy prices which offset higher lodging and meal costs.

AAA's suggested vacation budget for 1986 allows $148 per day for meals and lodging and $17 for 300 miles of daily travel.

The budget includes $79 per day for meals, not including tips and cocktails, $69 per day for lodging and $5.80 per 100 miles for gas and oil with the car averaging 23 miles a gallon.

Two adults vacationing without children should deduct $10 per day from lodging costs and $10 per day from meal costs.

When vacationing, remember that costs may be up to 80 percent higher in large metropolitan areas and resorts, and 30 percent lower in small towns and rural areas.

AAA offers these tips to reduce vacation costs:

* Have the car in top mechanical condition;
* Lower meal costs by eating at fast-food restaurants or picnicking;
* Have the main meal at mid-day to take advantage of lower lunch prices;
* Plan sightseeing carefully and visit worthwhile attractions;
* Make lodging reservations or arrive early in the day to allow yourself a wide selection of rates.

Band award

Kristi Fryman, daughter of Mr and Mrs. Bobby Fryman and a sixth grader at NCES, was recognized as the outstanding member of the junior high band this year. She received the 1985-86 Director's Award for Band in recognition of her selection. —

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Newly Remodeled Cosmetics Department
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