

**FOCUS**

**Bond's Broadcast**  
By Hank Bond



It was a great Saturday afternoon celebration on the courthouse lawn in Carlisle. There was a nice crowd on hand, especially with the weather hovering near the cold mark.

The temperature never got above 40 degrees, which wasn't all that bad, but the wind chill made it tough to stand around for the afternoon's activities.

Although the weather played havoc with the planned celebration, things went pretty much the way they were supposed to.

Kristi Sidles was crowned as Snow Queen in 1987. She was chosen queen among five contestants. The nominations and voting all took place at Nicholas County High School.

The contestants were announced by Chamber of Commerce President Frankie Hughes.

Hughes received some big help from Barbara Hopkins, also a member of the Chamber, who played a big role in making the contest a success.

It's true to point out, most things are only as successful as the people working on them, and her help would be impossible to replace.

Thanks, too, should go to members of the National Guard, who acted as escorts for the queen candidates. In addition, those young men with their convertibles had a cold ride, along with the candidates.

The Nicholas County High School band played a big part in making the day a success.

**Miller's Message**  
By Chip Miller



**Christmas time is 'good'**  
baking time

It's December and Christmas is only two weeks away, so it's that time of year when mom is in the kitchen baking.

Cookies, candy, cakes and pies radiate from the kitchen and the appetizing odor streams throughout the whole house.

How many of us eat these goodies even when we aren't hungry? How many of us wish we hadn't eaten after the deed is done?

Still, it just wouldn't be Christmas unless we did, you know? And Christmas wouldn't be the same old reliable holiday if mom didn't bake all those tempting treats.

I can remember holidays past when I used to wait for those cookies to come out of the oven. I thought, and still do, that the warm, gooey ones were the best.

Mom used to try and save some for Christmas by putting tins of them in the freezer.

Didn't work. They wouldn't make it past the kitchen table.

Can you remember decorating the shaped cookies with colored icing? I used to love doing that. It almost (I said almost) made the cookies I decorated too special to eat.

And how many have ever liked to eat the cookie dough when it was raw? Mom always tried to hide the bowl of dough from me as she was baking.

Never worked though.

But probably the best part of her baking was me getting to lick the bowl and beaters. I was allowed to do that. It wasn't as challenging as trying to sneak a bite from the raw dough bowl, but it tasted the same.

And it still does.

Shawn Parrish has done a tremendous job in turning the NCHS band into a fine performing unit.

This is not only true of the band as a marching unit for home football games and band contests, but as a concert unit as well.

The band performed for nearly an hour on the courthouse lawn, and did a very fine job.

Although the band is young, as is its director, and things will only get better as both mature.

The band was scheduled to be in Frankfort, Tuesday, to perform for Kentucky's new governor. Although there will be many bands in the parade from across the state of Kentucky, it is quite an honor, and indeed a pleasure, to have the Nicholas County High School band represent the school system and the county in this parade.

While Santa listened to the hopes and wishes of the children in a rocking chair placed on the courtyard just for him, members of the Community Woman's Club handed out balloons and candy to children.

Santa arrived on the old City of Carlisle fire truck, while his helpers arrived on the Nicholas County fire truck. Sirens and bells led the way as Santa made his way to greet the children.

Members of a community choir, under the direction of Tom Metcalf, braved the cold to sing a portion of their Christmas music, along with a long list of traditional favorites for the crowd to sing along.

Even the old man here sang along a little bit with some of the songs, although remembering words is not one of my strong points.

I could hum, when I didn't remember all of the words.

Amy, our 5-year-old, wanted to know why we didn't sing *Frosty The Snowman*, but I don't think the music was available for that one, Amy.

Linda Vanlandingham came through with a fine sound system to assist with the day's activities, and the Nicholas County Firemen stayed in the cold all afternoon selling ham, bean soup, coffee and more to help raise funds toward the purchase of the new fire truck.

Three local residents claimed the three money prizes offered by the Carlisle-Nicholas County Chamber of Commerce.

Although there was some delay in the final celebration with the rain Saturday before last, according to come local merchants, both days were very good for retail sales in the city.

That's something I'm very glad about. It is important to all of us to continue having a strong retail shopping area.

Thanks again to all of those who helped, and happy holidays to all.

And so, for another week, thanks and thirty.

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**Report to Kentucky**

SENATOR WENDELL FORD



U.S. House, Washington, D.C. 40410

**SENATE BILL COULD KEEP MORE FARMERS ON THE LAND**

Hardpressed Kentucky farmers could benefit greatly from the farm credit bill passed last week by the Senate. I have every hope that we will see an acceptable version of the bill, including my amendment on cross collateralization, signed into law by early next year.

My amendment, which has been incorporated into the Senate bill, requires no more than a simple change in the procedure of the Farmers Home Administration. But it could help farmers obtain the credit they need to survive a prolonged farm recession.

Existing procedures prevent many farmers from taking advantage of a guaranteed-loan program being promoted by Farmers Home. These farmers already have direct loans from the federal agency. They aren't allowed to use the same collateral, such as farm land and buildings, for bank loans or other private loans guaranteed by Farmers Home. My cross-collateralization amendment simply would permit a borrower to use the same real-estate collateral for more than one loan—direct or guaranteed. This provision would apply in numerous cases where the collateral for a long-standing direct loan is more than sufficient to cover a new guaranteed loan.

This change is important at a time when Farmers Home, the federal lender of last resort, is rapidly moving away from direct loans toward guaranteed loans. Just five years ago, Farmers Home had a negligible amount of guaranteed farm loans in Kentucky. But such loans accounted for 42 percent of the \$5.3 billion in Kentucky farm loans made by the agency in fiscal 1987.

By allowing more farmers to qualify for guaranteed loans, the amendment will help small farmers, rural banks and rural communities in general. It also would improve the creditworthiness of Farmers Home, which has been considering a cross-collateralization move of its own.

Farmers and their families are concerned about the farm credit legislation that now goes to conference for the resolution of House and Senate differences.

The legislation would strengthen the nation's Farm Credit System, so weakened by the farm recession that it has requested assistance to avoid collapse. The Senate version authorizes this crucially important farm-lending network to sell as much as \$4 billion worth of federally backed bonds to raise the money.

The bill would keep the system from foreclosing on any loan if it could be paid from other sources. The bill also would protect the ability to follow a restructuring plan. It also would protect the stock of Farmers required to invest in the system in order to borrow from it.

Farmers Home borrowers who have been through foreclosures would be given an opportunity to repurchase or rent their farms. A National Appeals Division of Farmers Home would be created to ensure that farmers' rights are protected in foreclosure actions.

The bill also would establish a secondary market for farm loans, freeing up capital for new loans.

These and other provisions could help to keep experienced and hardworking farm families on the land. And that would benefit all of us for years to come.

**Mitch McConnell**

OPTIMISM MARKS FIRST DAY OF TOBACCO SALES

I was in Lexington at the 4th Street Tobacco House to watch the first day of holiday tobacco sales. As the sales of barley were being auctioned off, I talked with many farmers about this year's crop and about their cautious optimism that this would be a good year for tobacco sales. A big boost came with the announcement by Philip Morris that they would be buying an additional 30 million pounds of American grown barley this year.

Despite a poor curing season and lack of color in the leaf, prices went out on about last year's level. Additionally, very little tobacco went into the pool. Since opening day, the market has continued to be strong, and needed rains have given growers a chance to strip more tobacco with a much-improved color.

The opening strength of the tobacco market reflects a number of reasons for optimism in the barley industry. The reforms enacted in the new tobacco program have made U.S. tobacco more competitive in world markets. Old crop pool holdings from 1982, 1983 and 1984 that were slated to be sold were recently auctioned off. New pool holdings are at their lowest levels in years.

I am a strong believer that the future of one tobacco industry lies in developing and expanding overseas markets. It is no secret that domestic tobacco consumption is shrinking. One of the main priorities as a United States Senator is to help open new markets for Kentucky tobacco. I have traveled to Japan, South Korea and Turkey to break down trade barriers and promote our barley tobacco. As a member of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, I have met with leaders of the Kentucky tobacco industry to increase sales of manufactured and unmanufactured tobacco. These efforts have begun to pay off.

Foreign markets that were closed to U.S. tobacco are expanding at a rapid pace. For example, cigarette exports have grown by over 50% from last year. Over the past several years, the emerging markets has grown substantially from last year. Over the past year, we have gone from 1% to 10% of Japan's \$2.4 billion tobacco market. The value of U.S. cigarettes shipped to Taiwan has increased 30 fold over last year. As consumers begin to improve tobacco products, they will hopefully utilize more high-quality American barley.

Tobacco is the foundation of Kentucky's agricultural economy. By developing and expanding overseas markets, we guarantee the future of our state's most important agricultural product. As your Senator, I remain committed to working for the future, both here and overseas.

**Deadlines**

In order to best serve our readers and advertisers, The Carlisle Mercury has the following deadlines:

- Display Advertising - Monday - 5 p.m.
  - Classified Advertising - Tuesday - 11 a.m.
  - Editorial Deadline - Tuesday - 10 a.m.
- We appreciate your cooperation and support.

**SOME OUT -OF-TOWN SPECIALS ARE REALLY NO BARGAIN**



The next time you're tempted to travel to the city or out-of-town shopping mall, stop and think of the real cost. Be sure to add mileage, cost of meals, babysitter expense, time and other incidentals.

Money experts say that each dollar will turn over as many as four or five times in a community like ours, which means that a dollar

spent somewhere else will take away \$4 or \$5 in trade, wages, local taxes, etc.

Your friendly merchants at home probably have just what you want anyway....and often cheaper than stores in the city. Shopping at home is easier and quicker, and you won't have to spend \$78 for a shirt.

**SHOPPING AT HOME CAN SAVE MANY THINGS . . .**

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