

Covering Your World Regional & State Report

Rockwell to lay off 64

WINCHESTER (AP) - Rockwell International is laying off 64 hourly employees and an undisclosed number of salaried workers, according to a statement released Friday by plant manager Tom Lewis.

He said the layoffs are the first direct impact of internal strategic decisions made some three or four years ago.

Lewis explained that newly designed products whose components have been toolled at other Rockwell automotive facilities, are being introduced into the marketplace to replace the product currently manufactured at the Winchester plant.

While this transition in the market will continue to negatively impact the Winchester employment levels over the next two years, recent cooperative steps taken by local labor and local management have dramatically improved the opportunity to bring new business to the plant, Lewis said.

Frank Roncella, Rockwell personnel manager, said Friday would be the last day for some workers, with all layoffs effective by Sept. 6. Next week will be a vacation week shutdown at the plant, he said.

Roncella said no further layoffs are anticipated through the rest of the year.

The cutback will reduce to approximately 440 the number of hourly employees at the plant and total employment to approximately 538.

Warner likes contest

LOUISVILLE (AP) - Billy Warner has been entering and winning burley tobacco competitions for 25 years, and the 1988 Kentucky State Fair continued that tradition.

Even in 1983, when the burley crop was severely damaged by drought, Warner and his family had 21 entries. Although they have no irrigation on their farm, they still managed to win 20 blue ribbons and hundreds of dollars.

Warner, 61, of Nicholasville, Ky., said he likes the competition and prize money. It's a sport that makes him feel "like a child who looks forward to Christmas," he said Thursday as he waited for the judges to pick this year's winners.

When judging was completed and the ribbons attached to the entries, the Warner family had at least 18 ribbons, six of them for first place. The family's prize money could total more than \$1,000.

Gas won't be higher

LOUISVILLE (AP) - Kentuckians won't be paying any more for their Labor Day weekend gasoline than they did last year, according to the Bluegrass and Louisville Automobile Clubs' latest fuel gauge survey.

The survey, released Thursday, said the overall cost of gasoline in Kentucky has jumped three cents since the end of June and is now even with the average cost for last August.

The average cost per gallon at full-service pumps was \$1.14 per gallon for regular, \$1.21 for regular no-lead and \$1.27 for premium no-lead, the survey said. Self-service prices ranged from 15 to 22 cents less.

The average price per gallon was 97 cents for regular, 99 cents for regular no-lead and \$1.12 for premium no-lead.

Diesel prices dropped three cents to an average cost of \$1.06 for full-service and 98 cents for self-service.

The survey said that 89 percent of the service stations will be open on Labor Day. Twenty-two percent are operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The survey was taken of stations along the state's major highways.

Drought part of cause

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) - Some exhibitors blame the drought for a slight decline in size and quality of farm products competing for ribbons at the Kentucky State Fair.

A pumpkin that Ray Martin brought in weighed 150 pounds, but he said they exceed 200 pounds.

"Because of the heat and everything, they're kind of light," said Martin of Valley Station.

Martin grows his pumpkins with a variety of seed called Atlantic City, the world record setting pumpkin hybrid. He has taken first and second place in the contest in five out of the last six years.

Judging started Thursday, opening day of the fair. Mike Stivers, a state Agriculture Department employee and assistant superintendent for the tobacco show, said this year's leaf "looks as good as what we've had."

Weather Summary
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Kentucky Utilities announces program

To help local police and medical personnel

Kentucky Utilities Company today announced a new program which will help local residents receive emergency assistance from police and medical personnel when it is needed.

Radio Help uses the radio equipment at KU's service vehicles as a link to local authorities or agencies.

"During the normal course of business, our radio-

equipped vehicles are in touch with the local office," said John Burke, manager for KU at Carlisle. "One of these vehicles could be the first to arrive upon the scene of an accident, fire or other emergency."

KU employees who observe an accident or other emergency will use the vehicle's company radio to report the location and nature of the incident to the local KU office.

Office personnel, in turn, will contact the appropriate authority—fire, rescue, or police. Through the company's

efforts, emergency response time will be reduced and lives or property may be saved.

A yellow and black Radio Help sign will identify the 413 vehicles across the company's service territory which are participating in the program.

Employees have received instruction to highlight their awareness of emergency situations and teach them how to respond quickly and effectively.

Radio Help utilizes two of our valuable resources—employees and radio-equipped vehicles," said KU Senior

Vice President Lynwood Schrader. "It's another service we can offer to those living, working or traveling in our service area."

Schrader added that Radio Help shows the company's concern about being a good citizen and is a compliment to the WinterCare program, which provides heating assistance to those who deserve it, and the Gatekeeper program, which helps link the elderly with the social service agencies that can follow up and provide assistance where needed.

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GENERAL NEWS



Award winner Heather Mathes, former writer for The Carlisle Mercury, was recognized by Schools Donald G. Elder for her efforts in covering Nicholas County Schools, the students and programs. She received the certificate citing her contributions to the school system last week. Heather, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Mathes of Carlisle, was also awarded a scholarship by The Carlisle Mercury to pursue her education at Berea College beginning this month. — Bob Givens

Ford's Footnotes

By Senator Ed Ford

The Interim Joint Committee on Education began holding public hearings this week as we journeyed to Pulaski county on Monday evening.

Monday for schools became a major statewide concern recently when Franklin County Circuit Judge Ray Corn ruled the state's current funding method is unconstitutional. Few will dispute this aspect of his decision.

However, the ruling has not been without some strong disagreement. Although most agree that education is inadequately funded in Kentucky, some have taken exception to the implication of Judge Corn's appointment of a special committee to investigate alternative methods of funding.

President Pro Tem John "Eck" Rose of Winchester and House Speaker Donald Blanford issued a joint statement on behalf of the General Assembly questioning the impingement of Judge Corn's committee into the "separation-of-powers" as set forth in the Kentucky Constitution.

Some legal scholars feel that the court ruling is a mandate to the executive branch to implement the court committee's "legislative" program which may, in fact, require the Legislature to enact specific laws in the area of public financing of education.

Most of us feel that the constitution is very clear in that legislative action is reserved for the General Assembly, the people's branch of government.

In order to assess the current status of education in our state, and to focus on school funding, it was decided that we, the Senate and House Education Committees, should go into the state and take government to the people in an attempt to find out how the people themselves feel.

We plan to hold 10 more public meetings in addition to our meeting held in Somerset on Monday.

Part of the problem surrounding adequate funding for education stems from the fact that property taxes are the primary source of local revenue for schools in Kentucky.

Many people feel that local property taxation is an unfair

way to raise local funding. Many of our counties are faced with school districts which cannot raise adequate funds because they do not have sufficient highly valued property.

It is logical to assume that high property values in Lexington and Louisville produce relatively abundant revenues for schools in their counties.

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 - 87 PONTIAC GRAND AM - 2 door, 15, 48 equipment, new tires, black with grey interior, 28,000 miles.
 - 86 BUICK ELECTRA 304 - 4 door, black with dark interior, all power, 37,000 miles.
 - 85 OLDS DELTA ROYAL BROUCHARM - 4 dr., 4 cyl., all power, V18, 41,000 miles.
 - 84 CHEVYER 3TH AVENUE - brown/brige cloth int., full power.
 - 84 CHEVETTE CS MODEL - 4 sp., 4 dr.
 - 84 OLDS DELTA ROYAL BROUCHARM, 3 way blue, local car.
 - 84 NISSAN PICKUP/KING CAB - 4 dr., p.a., brown metallic, 30,000 miles.
 - 85 GMC CUSTOMIZED GLADIATOR VAN - blue, all power, 80,000 miles.
 - 81 CHEVETTE MALIBU - 2 door, hard top, V18, 4 cyl., p.a., 2 tone grey, 46,000 miles.
 - 81 DODGE MIRADA - 2 dr., hardtop, 4 cyl., black w/red interior, full power, 67,000 miles.
 - 80 CHEV. SCOTTSDALE PICKUP - hard top, 4 cyl., 4 dr., p.a., red and white, 30,000 miles.
 - 80 CADILLAC ELDORADO BARRIETA - 1981 yellow, local car.
 - 79 THUNDERBOLT - 4 cyl., white, white/black int., 84,000 miles.
 - 78 FORD LTD II - 2 dr., hard top, full power, burgandy, 4 cyl., 4 dr., 41,000 miles.
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