FOCUS

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Hank and Marilyn Bond, Co-Publishers

Lisa Doyle ..... Assistant To The Publisher
Jeff Spradling ..... Managing Editor
Josh Shepherd ..... Associate Editor
Pam Bowles ..... Sales Manager
Marsha Livingood ..... Composition
Carol Bond ..... Writer/Photographer
Beth Bond ..... Writer/Photographer
Matt Theiss ..... Photographer
Rachel Mastin, Jimmy Tincher ..... Circulation
Jennifer Hardin ..... Typesetter

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The Carlisle Mercury/Josh Shepherd

The champions

The Nicholas County Lady Jackets won the first-ever district championship for the girls team, with a 61-57 win against Paris March 2. Holding the championship trophy are Nikki Smoot, left, and Chrisa Ausser, the team's only senior. The team improved its record to 22-4 with the win.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We want to express our appreciation for the recent attention given to the heritage and future possibilities for Nicholas County.

Hank Bond's Feb. 22 article "Here's a challenge," The *Nicholas County Today* booklet in the Plus Monday of Feb. 26 and the Mercury article by Jeff Spradling on March 1, "Organizers seek to bring tourism dollars to county" have each helped to raise our awareness and enthusiasm.

Since the Feb. 26 meeting, many people, including the mayor and county judge, have volunteered their time and support in establishing a tourism commission. Working with the Historical Society, the Main Street Program and the established civic groups, we can offer an exciting package to visitors, who come to the county. Our gifts to them include beautiful scenery, the charm of slower-paced living, unique turn of the century buildings and homes and a feeling of stepping back into yesteryear.

The stepping stones of the past have brought us far. The time is here to mold the path for the future.

Gladys Shrout
Julie Metzger

Got something to say? Write a letter to us, today. 234 N. Locust, Carlisle, Ky., 40311

Would you like some advice about opinions?

In The *Chigger Patch*

With Jeff Spradling

My dad once wrote a letter to me when I was a freshman in college. In it was some words of wisdom that stuck with me. "No advice is worth a dime, including what I'm about to give you," he wrote.

The statement really hit home. The advice he gave didn't; so much for imparting words of wisdom when you are trying to get a point across. My guess is that Dad knew those words would live long after his advice had faded.

I think of those words just about every week when I put the editorial page together for The Carlisle Mercury. And here's an additional phrase that's fitting: The trouble with opinions is that everyone's got one.

Now, for the point in this matter. Even though most everyone has an opinion about something, **I am really not** bothered by that fact. What troubles me more is people who will not put their names to their opinions.

I'll digress slightly by pointing out where opinions fit into the way we think.

If you look at how strong our thoughts are about things, you will come up with the following ranking.

The weakest on the scale is an opinion. It is the most easily changed. I can change your opinion about something like a statewide election by giving you my most convincing pitch for candidate "X." Changes of opinion are a common occurrence.

The next hardest thing to change, which comes directly from our opinions, is an attitude. After that, backed by our opinions and attitudes, are our beliefs. Lastly, and this is the strongest on the scale, is values. While you can change the first three, it's generally unlikely that values will change. It takes years to formulate them, and a long time to change them, if at all.

It is my opinion that opinions are still important even though everyone has one. That is why newspapers bother with publishing editorial pages. They are a marketplace for ideas. And when it comes to your opinion, I will defend your right to express it to the bitter end. But I have a real attitude problem when it comes to opinions without names, such as unsigned letters to the editor. And let's make a distinction here. There's a difference between quoting an anonymous source in an article and not publishing an anonymous letter. Quite often it is necessary to protect the identity of a person in an important story. However, I see no need to give any privileges to someone who cannot put his or her name with an opinion.

It is my belief that allowing anonymity in the course of reporting furthers the public good. The reporting on Watergate is a good example.

All the instances that support this notion deal with facts and that's where the line must be drawn. I believe that opinions, which may or may not be based on facts, are different.

In short, I value the effort put forth by someone who takes the time to write a letter to the editor, signs it and mails it to the newspaper to be published on the editorial page.

So, here's my advice to all those people with anonymous opinions, who think the newspaper is the place to send them: Save your time and your stamp. Without a name, it won't get published.

MERCURY MEMORIES

5 Years Ago

Thursday, February 28, 1985

Nicholas County cheerleaders won the gymnastics competition at the 37th District varsity at-large cheerleading tournament February 20 at NCHS gym. Squad members are Anessia Hunt, Kelly Howard, Jill Irvin, Tracy Hollar, Amy McFarland, Angie Buckner, Alison Knapke, Melissa Ritchie, Russanna Arnold, Cami Clark, Leslie Thornton. Sponsor is Annette Davis. NCHS finished third in overall competition behind Bourbon and Harrison County teams. Paris finished fourth.

A snow bank below a second story window in the Nicholas County Courthouse helped cushion the fall of a local 16-year-old juvenile who escaped from custody Tuesday, February 19.

Costs associated with the removal of ice and snow dumped by The Storm of 1985 could hit the five-figure mark in Nicholas County. While all the bills have not been received, the outlay could exceed $10,000, The Mercury has learned.

A TTI freight train dumped an expected surprise on the town of Millersburg Saturday in the form of six freight cars loaded with coal. The cars derailed just south of the TTI bridge crossing Hinkston Creek, leaving cars strewn along both sides of the track and tons of coal spilled in the backyards of houses adjacent to the track.

BORN - Brian Allen Craig, February 8, 1985; Terry Ray Fulton, February 9, 1985; Amber Dawn Marshall, February 15, 1985.

DIED - Thompson (Toppy) Anderson, 86, Monday, February 25, 1985; Thelma Hensley Bruce, 70, Thursday, February 21, 1985; Mary Alice Bryant Buchanan, 79, Sunday, February 17, 1985; Emery Elias Clark, 75, Friday, February 15, 1985; Harold Don Feeback, 52, Tuesday, February 12, 1985; Herbert Llewlyan Sahler, 86, Saturday, February 9, 1985.

10 Years Ago

Thursday, February 28, 1980

For the Nicholas County Bluejackets, it had not been achieved for 31 years. That achievement was a 72-69 win over the Harrison County Thorobreds in overtime last Saturday night at Cynthiana.

For four senior girls at Nicholas County High, last Thursday night was a sad affair. Deanna Darrell, Clarnita Williams, Kathy Wade and Tammy Roser, who abstained from action due to injury, faced their last home game.

Eugene Letcher, chairman of the Nicholas County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee (ASCS) announced that burley tobacco growers will again decide whether quotas will be in effect on their next three crops. Letcher said quotas were last approved by a 99 percent majority of growers for 1977-79 crops.

BORN - Kelly Lynn Davis, Wednesday, February 13, 1980.

DIED - Ruby Crawford Ritchie, 53, Wednesday, February 20, 1980; Gladys Fitzgerald Pieratt, 62, Tuesday, February 19, 1980; Arthur L. George, 86, Wednesday, February 20, 1980; Lucile B. Powell, Saturday, February 23, 1980; Stone Parker, 87, Friday, February 22, 1980; Nicholas Westfall, Jr., 70, Saturday, February 23, 1980; Martin Whirles, 48, Monday, February 18, 1980.

20 Years Ago

Thursday, February 26, 1970

State Representative Austin Wenz, along with three of his colleagues in the Kentucky House of Representatives, yesterday introduced a bill requesting the Kentucky Department of Parks to build a lodge at Blue Licks State Park.

Nicholas County won only one of three games last week, but help is on the way. Perhaps the hottest team around is Bill Anderson's B-team. The baby Bluejackets defeated Bath County's B-team 37-33 Monday night for their 7th straight win and 9th in their last 10 games.

Flags are to be sold in Carlisle by the Jaycees with a new idea! Three years maintenance will be part of the deal. With the sale to Carlisle merchants of a 3 by 5-foot American flag, Jaycee member Gayle Kelley, assured this reporter that Jaycee members would not only put up the brackets, they would place the flag in the holders on those National Holidays requiring the use of a flag, take the flag down in the evening and store it at the Jaycee clubhouse until it was needed again.

DIED: Willie Colemire, 73, Friday, February 20, 1970; Emma Reid Smith, Friday, February 20, 1970; Beverly Jean Wells, two months old, Monday, February 16, 1970; Marshall Ruddell, 66, Thursday, February 19, 1970; Clarence Dudley Craycraft, 67, Sunday, February 22, 1970.

40 Years Ago

Thursday, March 2, 1950

A comedy, "The Perfect Idiot," will be presented Tuesday night, March 14, at 8:00 in the Carlisle High School Auditorium. The cast is as follows: Taylor Mathers, Catherine Capps, Billy Jo Morrison, Dottie Dotson, G. C. Myers, Vera Walker, Charles Harper, Kay Fisher, Jack Dayton, Herman Dayton, Emily Van Bever, Betty Sue Woodall, Noel Williams, Joe Frank Stephenson, Sue Terrell.

Paratrooper Pfc. James E. McCarty, son of Allie Mc-Carty of Carlisle, will be a member of the first Airborne Assault Force to fly from continental United States to an overseas base.

W. R. Buntin Jr., has been named chairman of the 1950 Lloyd George Post No. 8666, VFW sponsored Central Kentucky Horse Show to be held in Carlisle this summer. Billy Layson and Ed Saunders are assistant chairmen and Johnny Feeback, secretary-treasurer.

Billy Hillock, Georgetown College freshman basketball star, will bring his fraternity basketball team here Saturday night, 8:30 at the Army, with the idea of stopping the local VFW winning streak.

Dr. Edie Asbury, Cincinnati surgeon, and Lewis Crosley, Cincinnati, spoke Friday night at a Farmer's night dinner meeting of the Carlisle Rotary Club.

Allie Clinkenbeard, local veterinarian, was gored on the upper lip Saturday evening by a heifer he was treating on the Wills Brothers farm. Six stitches were taken.

BORN - David Holmes Myers, February 21, 1950; To Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Stanfield, a son, Tuesday; Phyllis Ann Hardwick, Tuesday; Robert Michael Mavity.

MARRIED - Pauline Lewis Linville and William Shankland Caldwell, Friday; Mary Edna Ayres and S-Sgt. Marcus Fields Boyd, February 19.

DIED - Samuel Rosen, 69, Friday; W. J. Hook; Wilma Jackson Crawford, 10, Saturday; George B. Taylor, 70, Saturday; William Newton Harney, Sunday; George C. King, 75, Wednesday; John Henry Ferguson, 48, Sunday.

50 Years Ago

Thursday, February 29, 1940

Grand jury recommends

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Prozac implicated in violent behavior

Editor's note: This article was authored by the Citizens Commission on Human Rights, established by the Church of Scientology. The group's purpose is to help protect the rights of patients receiving psychiatric treatment and to investigate the misuse of psychoactive drugs.

Victims of a murderous rampage in which eight people died and 12 people were wounded have petitioned Congress to investigate whether a psychiatric drug the murderer was taking could have turned him violent.

The requests followed the national release of documents by the Citizens Commission on Human Rights, which show that Eli Lilly concealed damaging information about the drug, Prozac, from a coroner's investigation into the mass murder committed by Joseph Wesbecker in Louisville, last September.

The Food and Drug Administration documents, which were released to CCHR under the Freedom of Information Act, show that Lilly forwarded reports of Prozac-related violence to the FDA months prior to Wesbecker's murderous rampage.

The coroner, Dr. Richard Greathouse, called Lilly after tests showed that Wesbecker had a high blood level of Prozac when he went berserk.

Greathouse said at the inquest that Lilly told him the company had received no documented reports of violence from Prozac.

Yet the documents released by CCHR show that months prior to the mass murder, Lilly had received several reports of violence perpetrated by persons on Prozac. According to the documents, Lilly had forwarded the reports on to the FDA as required by federal law.

"The psychiatric industry is creating and promoting drugs which can and do make people violent and can turn them into killers. It seems clear that psychiatrists and drug companies will not tell what they know about these drugs, regardless of how many people are permanently injured or even die," said Sanford Block, national director of CCHR.

"The psychiatrists responsible for Prozac being on the market, and those psychiatrists who prescribe Prozac should be held civilly and criminally responsible for the damage which follows, including the murders perpetrated by Wesbecker," Block said.

GENERAL NEWS

Reforms

Continued from Page 1

ing occurs within a month of the school year, and it is hard for a young child to break the label, Williams said.

The reason for a poor test score may have little or nothing to do with a child's intellect, but rather with maturity and test-taking experiences, Williams said.

Williams efforts to reform the testing procedure have been channeled through the Kentucky Project, a group of educators and officials lobbying for early school age assessment reform.

Williams has sent letters to primary level teachers in Nicholas County to ask their support for a better assessment method.

Kentucky Project members hope reforms will be administered when the General Assembly gathers to pass education reform bills for the restructuring of Kentucky's education system.

Williams said Kentucky Project members are using to a 3-pronged approach to get their suggestions implemented.

•First, the group will present petitions signed by educators asking legislators to remove the CTBS in K-3.

•The second step will be to garner support for the plan in Frankfort.

•Third, the group will ask parents of young children to write their representatives and senators supporting the Project's goals.

Signed letters will be sent to the chairperson and co-chairperson of the House and Senate Education committees and to local House and Senate representatives.

Williams said the aim of the group is not to change law because it states, in flexible terms, that children must have an appropriate assessment of their progress.

"What we would like is to have the term appropriate assessment exclude standardized testing. We want the regulation, of laws re-interpreted," Williams said.

Early signs from Frankfort have given Williams hope the Kentucky Project's goals will be achieved.

The Department of Education has advised Kathy Crum, state department kindergarten consultant, to re-write the statute requiring appropriate assessment for school age children.

"I do not know how the statute will be re-written, but it may be a good sign our message has been heard," Williams said.

Elderly

Continued from Page 1

be a single-story, 1-bedroom apartments designed according to guidelines set by the Farmer's Home Administration.

"The guidelines we are using are very stringent. These apartments will not be cheaply made because we want them to last for now and for a good deal in the future," Vice said.

Commission Attorney Billy Hopkins said the area discussed for construction is in the county, therefore no zoning restrictions are applicable, however he advised Vice and Snapp to consult state subdivision regulations.

Commissioner Clarence Cord said Vice would also need to consult with Carlisle City Council about sewer and water line extensions to the complex.

Hopkins agreed to draft an official letter stating the area is not subject to zoning.

Hopkins also informed the commission of H&R Construction's plans to construct a senior citizen dwelling on the grounds of the old Carlisle School.

ON THE RECORD

Nicholas District Court

Hon. Wayne McGee Feb. 28, 1990

John D. Mitchell, DOB 5/21/69. Opr. on susp. lic. Guilty plea. $250 fine plus costs. 60 days jail, susp. 2 years probation. Review 3/36/90.

Hon. Wayne McGee Feb. 15, 1990

James A. Wiley vs. Louise Orme. Jury trial. Jury trial held. Judgment for plaintiff.

Hon. Don Wells March 2, 1990

Stanley Crouch, DOB 12/27/45. Harrassing Communications. Case set for jury trial. Jury previously notified of agreement in case. Alleged victims and defendant to sign mutual $500 peace bonds, unsecured, to stay away from each other. Sheriff's fee ordered paid. Case cont. for review and setting for trial or dismissal on Sept. 17, 1990, at 9:30 a.m.

Hon. Don Wells March 5, 1990

Brenda L. Thompson, DOB 6/20/65. (1) Speeding. (2) No reg. plate. PTA.

Patty Hatton, DOB 7/18/58. Theft by unlawful taking over $100. D/M W/O prejudice.

Dennis R. Roberts, DOB 6/30/48. Contempt of Court. Waived right to a hearing. Court finds in contempt of court, 30 days jail. Credit for 5 days, 5 days to serve. 20 days conditional discharge to pay $200 by 3/19/90 to set up payment schedule 11 a.m.

Donnie H. Gee, DOB 9/26/56. No ins. Non owner, proof. Presented ins. in force on violation date. D/M.

George Sosby, DOB 5/11/22. No ins. Not guilty plea. Pretrial 3/19/90 at 11 a.m.

Ronald Zamenski, DOB 7/12/66. (1) No opr. lic. Valid KY lic. presented. Comm.

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Advertising

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ing levy would be easy to administer and collect.

Fred Paxton, president of WPSD-TV in Paducah and publisher of The Paducah Sun newspaper, said he has been warned that national advertisers will retaliate against Kentucky because of general opposition to advertising taxes.

"They're going to target you and they'll murder you," Paxton said he was warned.

Paxton also said the Revenue Cabinet's contention that an advertising tax will be easy to collect is not realistic.

"This is a gargantuan problem," Paxton said.

School notes

Editor's note: If you have an item for School notes, please contact Josh Shepherd, phone 289-2464. Item's should be of a calendar nature, such as club meetings, or announcements that have general relevance to the school and students.

Writing Fair

The Writing Fair Steering Committee meeting will be held at 3:30 p.m. **March 8** in the sciene laboratory at Nicholas County Elementary School.

Board of Education

The monthly meeting of the Nicholas County Board of Education will be held **March 12** at 8 p.m. at the Board of Education office.

Dance

The Junior High Dance for grades seven and eight will be held **March 16** from 7-8 p.m. at the Nicholas County Elementary School gym.

MERCURY MEMORIES

Continued from Page 2

final court and jailer immediately correct unsanitary conditions in the jail quarters, provide necessary bedclothes and make necessary repairs.

Jack Bowen, seventh grade student in the Myers consolidated school, won the county spelling bee held at the courthouse Saturday afternoon.

W.G.P. Ledford purchased at master commissioner's sale Friday the Howard farm of approximately 108 acres near Miller Station at $81 per acre.

BORN - To Mr. and Mrs. Walter Flora, February 23, a daughter; To Mr. and Mrs. Goebel Guy, February 26, twins, a boy and girl; To Mr. and Mrs. Harry H. Vice, February 20, a son.

MARRIED - Alberta Green and Hudson Snapp, February 29; Opal Jackson and Freddie A. Gaunce, March 1.

It's in your stars

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