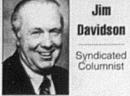


Commentary



Do you have class?

Some time ago, my wife and I attended a graduation exercise for a class of nurses at one of our fine hospitals in nearby Little Rock. Near the end of the program, the head instructor read something titled, "What is class," that was so good that I went to her afterwards and asked for a copy of it.

In today's times, we often hear it said of someone that they have "class," but have you ever thought about what the word "class" really means when it's used in this way? Well, in layman's terms, the person who has class is just someone who has good manners in all situations, especially when they are hurt or wronged in some way. As you read this article about "class," it might be well to think about it as it relates to your life.

CLASS "Class never runs scared. It is self-confident and confident that you can meet life head-on and handle whatever comes along."

Class never makes excuses. It takes its lumps and learns from past mistakes.

Class is considerate of others. It knows that good manners are nothing more than a series of petty sacrifices.

"Class bespeaks an aristocracy that has nothing to do with ancestors or money. The most affluent blue blood can be totally without class, while the descendant of a Welsh minor may once class from every pore."

Class never tries to build itself up by tearing others down. Class is already up and need not strive to look better by making others look worse.

Class can walk with kings and talk with crowds and keep the common touch. Everyone is comfortable with the person who has class, because he is comfortable with himself. If you don't have it no matter what else you have, it doesn't make much difference.

To me, the contents of this article has a way of penetrating to the depths of my very soul. I especially like the thought "class never makes excuses, it takes its lumps and learns from past mistakes."

See CLASS on page 5

THE CARLISLE MERCURY Editorial Board

Jack McNeely Publisher, Kim Hamilton News Editor, Denver Brown Sports Editor

Letters to the editor, and other guest editorials and the "Question of the Week" represent a broad range of opinions and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Carlisle Mercury. All letters must be signed and include the writer's full name, address and telephone number. We reserve the right to edit any letters for space reasons, and ask that they be written in good taste, and no more than 250 words. If you have a suggestion for the question of the week, feel free to contact The Carlisle Mercury at 859-289-2464.

Send letters to: The Carlisle Mercury, PO Box 2212, Carlisle, KY 40311

Viewpoint



Traveling 'Vomit Ridge' a ride!

Recently the Board of Directors of Kentucky Folk Art Center, Inc., held the regular business meeting in the new Louisville Community Arts Center in Elliott County, and for many of the directors the trip was an eye opener.

For more than half, it was the first journey into Elliott County, and the first time across US 32, "Vomit Ridge," the twisting highway across Brown's Ridge from Morehead to Sandy Hook and on to Louisville. They had been warned, though, and unanimously voted to leave the 14 passenger van parked in Morehead and ride in smaller vehicles.

Still, by the time we reached Louisville, there were queasy stomachs aplenty, plus a growing understanding of where the artists we serve live and do their work.

At the time we reached Louisville, there were queasy stomachs aplenty, plus a growing understanding of where the artists we serve live and do their work.

To help offset costs, the artists and leaders are selling the old bathroom floor, one tile at a time. Each tile now bears a Minnie Adkins painting.

Head of the Holler



They've also done a bake sale. Plans call for a gallery to display and sell the work of the artists, but people like Sharon Boggs, who was instrumental in helping the Center get organized, also has other plans. A computer room, a newsletter, workshops in writing, art, or whatever anybody needs, and a place for the entire community to gather.

One offer they made our Board of Directors was a tasty one: A communal meal of chili, soup, sandwiches, and a whole table full of cakes and pies greeted us, temptation enough to cut a meeting as short as possible.

The Center is close to the site of Louisville's best known arts event, the annual "Day in the County" hosted by Minnie Adkins and Herman Peters at their home just up the road. It's set for June 30 this year, the last Saturday of June, and about 40 folk artists will gather for the day.

Minnie also has an out a new book, "Bliss Where You Are Planted," a remembrance of her life and artistic career. Copies are \$20 each at the Kentucky Folk Art Center's Museum Store.

The work the people of Louisville are doing, building a community center, has benefits far beyond the selling of folk art.

It's a larger living room, essentially, a place where the community can gather for whatever reason draws them together, and the homey location suits the personality of the area.

We brought the KFAC Board of Directors back to Morehead, slowly, and some even took a route less curvaceous.

I took the unused van back to the motor pool. I can't be too critical of the people who were wary of the ride. Two years ago, rushing back to Morehead for a meeting, I made myself sick by driving too fast on US 32.

Contact the author at garrybarker@netscape.net or visit www.angelfire.com/kybar/

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Magistrate Jeff Randolph, Magistrate Steve Hamilton

BAT JACKETS from 1

semifinals ended Nicholas County's "unbelievable" season. In the final State Tournament Nicholas County was ranked 24th in the polls - the final results propelled them way higher.



Grant said, waiting his turn to face the pitching machine in the batting cage. "Maybe, we'll be better. But that can wait against you, too."

"If we don't play as well at the beginning of the season people will start to doubt our ability. But we've only been outside two days so far, that's hard to get an idea of where we are."

Anderson's club gets in a scrimmage this Saturday with Franklin, Ohio. The teams will play at Bourbon County High School. The regular season opens Monday, March 26 at home versus Pendleton County. The opening pitch is set for 4:30 p.m.

"With new people, new positions and even greater expectations. Yeah, and we expect to get back to the State Tournament."

The Bat Jackets lost their top hitter Josh Earlywine 417 and their home run runner (Davey Anderson 29 stolen bases), but there's a crop of firepower in this year's lineup. Big bats highlight the roster. Grant, Fryman, Tinscher and Smith all smacked more than 20 hits and were well over a 300 average.

The Bat Jackets' skipper looks for good things from his newcomers, too. "Hopefully we'll have a few surprises this year," Anderson said. "The one thing about having a lot of kids back, though, is that we already know what they can do. We've seen them play."

Anderson again this season is former Bat Jacket Travis Sims. Sims will be taking the junior varsity and coaching bases for the varsity. Sims, a 1992 Nicholas County graduate still boasts

CLASS from 4

Wouldn't all be better off if we could learn to do that? I know many times when I have failed to do something, I usually try to find a way to justify my actions. Then I say, "I did it because..."

In some cases, I've said myself, "I wouldn't have done that if it hadn't been for this reason." All I was doing was trying to transfer the blame for my own failure to someone else.

We should never be too hard on ourselves, because if we do that on a regular basis, all we are doing is putting ourselves down and the result will surely be low self-esteem.

We never, however, need high standards because it's the only way to improve.

TRUITION from 4

This fall can put themselves on our new KAPT Priority List. Priority List members will receive regular updates on the progress of the program and will mailed the application materials as soon as they are available this fall.

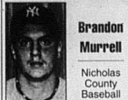
To join the Priority List, sign up on our website, www.kytruition.com, or call our toll free number, (866) 333-KAPT.

Kentucky KAPTians: When the program introduced this fall, we will launch an extensive grass roots marketing campaign across the state. To ensure that every PTA, civic club and other gathering of parents is covered, we are seeking the help of volunteers.

Kentucky KAPTians - who are willing to speak about the KAPT program to groups in their communities. To become a Kentucky KAPTian, sign up at the website.

Sports

Player Profiles



Brandon Murrell, Nicholas County Baseball player.

We're back!

It's that time of year again, baseball time! The Nicholas County Bat Jackets have been practicing non-stop about a month, getting prepared, hopefully, for another winning season.

My name is Brandon Murrell and I am one of the nine seniors on this year's roster. Practicing so far this year has been a struggle, the weather has kept us inside the gym for most of the winter. When we have to stay in the gym we fire up the batting cage.

Our season begins on Saturday, March 24 at 11 a.m. at Bourbon County High School where we face Franklin High School from Franklin, Ohio for a scrimmage. The regular season gets underway Monday, March 26 at 4:30 p.m. at home. In the opener we take on Pendleton County.

With 30 scheduled games and four tournaments to play in, we have a full season to look forward to. And we hope to live up to everyone's expectations. With the great pitching talents of returners Shane Smith and Josh Fryman, along with other talented seniors and underclassmen, we hope to return to the State Tournament once again.

We believe, as a team, that this just may be the year to go all the way!



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IT'S YOUR MONEY Jonathan Miller State Treasurer

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