



Things have changed, and I am afraid, not for the best. An old country song by Merle Haggard had a line that asked, "are the good times really over for good?" It looks more like it every day. You readers that are over 70, do you remember all that stopped someone from breaking into your house? Let me refresh your memory -- a screen door and common sense. Now you are lucky to escape harm with an expensive alarm system and sitting in your living room. Saying that brings me to this week's story.

The year was 1964, it was in the month of June. School was out, and the gang was headed to our favorite river to catfish, the Rockcastle River, between Laurel and Pulaski counties. Being from families of means, the 5 of us usually went and did the things that teenagers did at

that time. Unlike kids of today that look to steal and do drugs, we did real things. Hanging on the Rockcastle during the summer was one of them, the best of anyone's world.

Swimming, getting tan, meeting the girls in their new-fashion swim suits; they went from their one-piece to a two-piece -- oh, yes, the world was changing. Then around nine at night, we would hit the river. We fished the narrows. I understood why it was called the "Rockcastle". We camped at a place called "Bee Rock". Legion has it at one time the wild honey bees that made the cliff their home, could blacken out the sun, there were so many.

Well, my Dad, who was an avid sportsman, always kept a couple boats; one he said was for river fishing, the other was for lake fishing. The boats were different as east is from the west. Dad went across the state line (remember we lived within a stone's throw of Virginia) and bought a new V-Bottom aluminum fishing boat. The old one setting in the yard was for me to use, a Jon Boat, that was flat bottom and had a 10-horsepower motor.

When dad bought the new boat, the dealer threw in a new Coleman lantern, a new Coleman stove, and a new tent. Needless to say, my dad was well pleased with his purchase.

The gang got ready to head to the river. As we were loading, Dad said, "take your Jon Boat, and your camping equipment. I don't want you to tear up my things."

Dad's new boat had real seats, was twice the size of mine, had a 25-horsepower motor, and a steering wheel. Roger, my best friend growing up and was always with me, said, "now, with the girls around, wouldn't we look cool in your dad's new boat? How can we look cool in yours?"

I found Mom while dad was gone, and asked her if we could take dad's new boat, instead of mine. Her answer, "sure, just don't put is scratch on it." Off we went, two weeks of nothing but fun-filled days and nights.

We had been there about a week, here came a thunderstorm. It stopped right at dark, but the river was fogged in. In our wisdom, we decided to go fishing anyway. Hootie, another of the gang said, "I will take this lantern, lean over the bow, and watch for rocks, all will be fine." Wrong, about midnight the fog was so thick we had to cut your way, and the boat came to a sudden stop. I saw the light, Hootie, and Roger go over the front of the boat, then a splash. Dad's new lantern was gone, and my two friends were overboard.

After we sat there for what seemed like all night, trying to figure the damage, we decided we wasn't far from camp. We paddled with our oars to camp. Sleep wasn't in our plans that night. I knew Dad would kill me if his boat was damaged, and I also knew the lantern was at the bottom of the river. That was enough to get me killed.

Daylight came and we looked at a brand new V-Bottom boat that had a dent in the side, about three-foot round. I knew I was living on borrowed time. We left that day, and six hours later, pulled into our driveway. I saw Dad there, he was mad and let me know. He wasn't so much mad about the dent as he was about us taking his boat. Rest of the summer, helping Uncle Lo on the farm. Lesson learned, you have to pay for your misdeeds. Does anyone really pay for their misdeeds these days?

You can email Steve Brewer at <Steve@EstillTribune.com> and message is automatically forwarded.

UK softball coach is impressed with shortstop



by Larry Vaught

ter's) box and makes adjustments like a veteran. I have not seen a hitter this good, this young in a long time. She will make a big immediate impact."

Lawson certainly was right. In UK's opening doubleheader last week at Samford, Coffel homered in the first game and went 6-for-8 in the two games and drove in four runs and scored three runs in UK's sweep. She came back in game three to go 2-for-4 at the plate, scored a run and drove in another run.

That meant in her first three collegiate games she went 8-for-12, drove in five runs and scored four runs.

"She checks all the boxes when it comes to character and talent and work ethic," Lawson said before the season opened. "I've never had a freshman come in in better shape than her. She had the self discipline to prepare and



came here in great physical and softball shape."

Coffel led Bremen (Ind.) to the 2019 Class 2A state title and was a two-time Gatorade Indiana Player of the Year. FLOsoftball ranked her as the seventh best player in her recruiting class nationally.

Despite losing a senior season to COVID-19, she still had a state record 50 home runs in three years, including a state record 22 in 2018 as a sophomore when her team was state runner-up. She drove in 164 runs and scored 191 runs in high school while hitting .627. She struck out just 12 times in 339 at-bats.

"Erin can also play any infield position and the thing I loved watching her playing travel ball was that she is an outstanding shortstop but played at third base and some second base to prepare for either position here," Lawson said. "She could easily start at third or short, especially with the way she hits."

Estill County Engineers

2020-21 Boys Basketball

Jan 8	Menifee County (W)	56-33
Jan 12	Owsley County (W)	45-34
Jan 14	Wolfe County . . . (L) (OT)	54-56
Jan 16	North Laurel (L)	59-89
Jan 19	Trinity Christian	0-0
Jan 22	Powell County (W)	62-24
Jan 25	Wellspring Guardians (W)	59-29
Jan 26	Lee County (W)	50-29
Jan 28	Great Crossing (W)	56-49
Feb 2	Breathitt County (L)	46-52
Feb 4	Garrard County (L)	51-57
Feb 5	Lee County (W)	58-41
Feb 9	Bluegrass United . . . (W)	54-50
Feb 17	Trinity Christian H	7:30
Feb 19	Owsley County H	7:30
Feb 22	Berea H	7:30
Feb 23	Madison Southern . . . H	7:30
Feb 25	Jackson County A	7:30
Mar 2	Wolfe County A	7:00
Mar 5	Powell County H	7:30
Mar 8	Nicholas County H	7:30
Mar 9	Menifee County A	7:30
Mar 12	Model H	7:30

Coach Jon B. Bentley

Calipari wishes for Tshiebwe this year

West Virginia transfer Oscar Tshiebwe was scheduled to start practice with coach John Calipari's team this week. Calipari's only regret — he is not eligible to play and add his physical presence to the team now.

"When I see him and his body and his toughness and his -- I'm like, 'Is there any way? Is that transfer rule immediately? Can we do that now? Can he come and play now?'" Calipari said.

"But he'll start practicing and we'll get a chance to see where he is. It'll be good for these kids to have to go against him every day just because of physicality and athleticism and quickness to the ball and all of that stuff."

Kentucky native Anna Maria Tarullo is sports director at WOWK 13 News in Charleston, W.V. and said UK is "already stacking up wins for next year" with Tshiebwe on the roster.

"He's a front-court presence who can play facing the basket. He will draw defenses in on him and create shots and rhythm for other players. He's got a bigger build and is more physical than players Cal has had," she said. "He goes back to a guy like Karl-Anthony Towns with his size and strength."

"And if you are not making 3-point shots, he's going to rebound. He's going to be tremendous and playing for Cal should be great for him."

TIGER by BUD BLAKE

Panel 1: A character says "AW, HECK!".

Panel 2: A character asks "HELP ME, TIGER?".

Panel 3: A character asks "WHAT'S THE MATTER?".

Panel 4: A character says "I CAN'T MAKE A SNOWBALL STICK TOGETHER".

Panel 5: A character says "FIRST, GET A BIG HANDFUL OF WET SNOW".

Panel 6: A character says "AND PACK IT TOGETHER NICE AND HARD".

Panel 7: A character says "ROUND IT OUT ABOUT THE SIZE OF AN ORANGE".

Panel 8: A character says "SMOOTH IT AND PRESS IT UNTIL IT'S SOLID".

Panel 9: A character says "AND HERE YOU ARE - A PERFECT THROWING SNOWBALL!".

Panel 10: A character is shown flying through the air after being hit by a snowball.

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Estill Lady Engineers

2020-21 Girls Basketball

Jan 7	Model (W)	57-49
Jan 9	Rockcastle County . . (L)	37-52
Jan 12	Owsley County (L)	42-68
Jan 16	Casey County (L)	38-50
Jan 20	Bourbon County (L)	41-48
Jan 21	Powell County (L)	47-48
Jan 23	Buckhorn (W)	45-33
Jan 26	Lee County (W)	62-25
Jan 29	Jackson City (W)	73-45
Jan 30	Leslie County (L)	39-52
Feb 2	East Jessamine (W)	62-58
Feb 5	Lee County (W)	57-24
Feb 6	Morgan County (W)	56-52
Feb 8	Wolfe County (L)	36-39
Feb 9	Bluegrass United . . . (W)	67-30
Feb 20	Hazard H	7:30
Feb 25	Menifee County H	7:30
Feb 26	Nicholas County A	7:30
Mar 1	Jackson City H	6:00
Mar 3	Bath County A	7:30
Mar 6	Powell County H	7:30
Mar 9	Berea A	7:30
Mar 10	Frederick Douglass . . H	7:30
Mar 12	Breathitt County A	7:30

Coach Ruth Hughes