



Times Remembered Betty A. Young

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Going to Church

Growing up as a young boy, my Grandmother always made my Dad attend church every time services were held and all the other activities of the church. He especially liked the social part of church such as Christmas plays, Easter programs, pie suppers and ice cream socials.

As he got older he enjoyed the company of all the girls at church. He and his brother, Uncle Preacher, and cousin "Peck" would have a contest to see who could walk the most girls home from church. As my Dad and Uncle grew old, I enjoyed their visits sitting around the fire reminiscing about their younger days of "courting." It was hilarious just hearing them talk and tell tales.

One particular tale that my Dad told was a true story. He had been to church, as usual on a Sunday night, and walked several girls home from church. He lived on what is now Hinton's Branch, I don't know what the name of the road was back then, but it was approximately 1 or 2 miles from church. He walked up Church House Hill, (which is across from Crooked Creek Christian Church), and turned left on Hinton's Branch, he called it the "Ridge," and down Winding Star hill and up another hill to his home place.

Later, while he was walking down the ridge toward home; he was laughing to himself about how many girls he'd walked home that

night when suddenly something seemed to be following behind him. He said, he could feel the presence of someone or thing; perhaps a wild animal. He was frantic; he knew not to run, but when he walked faster, it would walk faster, if he slowed down, it would slow down. He thought to himself; it must be a wildcat or a panther.

He could feel the hair raise on his neck; his heart pounded hard against his chest as he crossed the creek like a flash at the bottom of Winding Star. Every bad thing he'd ever done in his life passed through his mind as he raced up the last hill toward home. Could this be the devil? He asked himself.

He flew by the barn and the big hickory nut tree and at last he saw a dim coal oil lamp in the living room window; his Mom was still waiting up for him.

Granny said "When Dad came into the house, his eyes were glassy, and he dropped into the nearest chair." It was several minutes before she could understand what he was trying to tell her. He exclaimed, "A Panther followed me all the way home from church! I finally saw him out the corner of my eye. He was huge, but I didn't run because he surely would have attacked me." Granny just couldn't believe it was a panther but she washed his face in cold water and camphor and calmed him; then she put him to bed. She opened the kitchen door, and looked around, but there was nothing out there.

The next morning when Granny went out to the well to get water to cook breakfast; there were huge claw marks on the slate door step by the back door and marks on the wood siding of the house. She said it was a panther or a Mountain Lion. Dad was lucky he wasn't attacked.

Panthers and Mountain Lions have been sighted in Kentucky by several people. They are making a comeback. We have a friend that lives on Crooked Creek that has seen one and took a picture of it in a field. It definitely looks like a Mountain Lion; or the devil dressed like one!!

Bob Watkins' Sports In Kentucky

Sun has shifted to March (Madness); Anniversary for game of shirts 'n skins



Bob Watkins

The sun has shifted left, rides higher, stays longer. Daffodils showed up a fortnight early and, if we listen well, the spirit of Happy Chandler is revving up for his rendition of *My Old Kentucky Home* – first Saturday in March in Rupp Arena.

We have come to college basketball's full summit, arrived too soon seems to me.

For partyers and crazies, it's tournament time. For politicals, sweet relief from finger-pointing hatefulness and blame-game.

For Tribe of Talking Heads time for kooky, quirky, know-it-all and risk sounding stupid – Jay Bilas, Dan Dakich, Seth Greenberg, Bill Walton, Clark Kellogg and clubby experts.

First from my land of logic (and not), a few observations.

1. Anniversary in college hoops. First game ever played by an all-white against an all-black team, was on a Sunday morning in Durham, North Carolina, in March 72 years ago. Hall of Fame Coach John McLendon one-time coach at Kentucky State, arranged for his North Carolina College Eagles to host a team of Pre-med students at Duke University who were unbeaten and cocksure. The Secret Game. Secret because any mix-race game in 1944 was against the law.

McLendon's Eagles won 88-44, but what happened after was most compelling for me.

The teams chose up and played shirts against skins.

Footnote: By 1962 McLendon was coaching the Cleveland Pipers in the professional American Basketball League. Team owner was George Steinbrenner and one of McLendon's best players was former UK All-American Johnny Cox (1959).

2. Isn't the word Bracketology perfect? Joe Lunardi invented it and the ex-sports information director at St Joseph's University is the most prominent face on television this month (aside from Donald Trump). Presumably, Bracketology has made Lunardi rich.

3. Bracket strategy for 2016 Road to the Final Four (in Indianapolis)? Pick upsets. Last week Xavier stung top ranked Villanova igniting No. 1 seed talk for the Musketeers. By Monday Seton Hall had humbled Xavier reshuffled the bracketology deck.

4. Putting UConn on another pedestal, the women's NCAA can be most entertaining ever.

5. March Madness projection: Bluegrass State will send a single to March Madness, Kentucky.

6. Perennials Western Kentucky (14-15), Murray State (16-13) and Eastern (15-16) have shifted already to go-recruit mode.

7. Morehead State (18-11) probably won't beat out Belmont (21-10) for the OVC Tournament bid, but Sean Woods would love an NIT invite.

8. Louisville could, but won't be a Final Four contender.

9. Rumor. Rick Pitino leave Louisville for Nevada-Las Vegas? What for? Scuttlebutt is UNLV can't/won't pay him \$4 million a year. We remember a decade ago and hope Da Coach does too, he said, "I already have all the money I'll ever need."

UofL's coach looks tired,

disenchanted. Self-inflicted stress from sidelines antics alone, has taken a toll. From his blog post: "Thank you seniors — you have restored my faith in a generation tied up with 'me first.' My only regret is I could not coach you for more than one year." Hmmm.

10. Kathy Bay, Brooksville.

11. March Madness projections: Four-seed Kentucky ... three-and-out. Alex Poythress will play in Europe for a season then look for a real job and find one.

12. Trivia Dept. How many Kentucky fans can recite the question verbatim and supply the answer instantly? Q. Who is "... the Kentucky player committed an unsportsmanlike act in violation of Rule 10, Section 3, a Class A Unsporting Technical Infraction and awarding two free throws?"

13. Alex Poythress. Seems to have been at UK since Billy Clyde Gillispie earned his first DUI in Fayette County. Poythress is latest on a long list that includes Dwight Anderson (1979), Richard Madison (1988) and Marvin Stone (2001). Chose the wrong school.

14. Ben Gish, Whitesburg.

15. Hey you! Dept. Fellow who howled relentlessly for Tom Crean's ouster at Indiana, via internet web site, a question: If an invite comes, will he attend IU's basketball banquet next month?

16. Silly celebration this week of his chair throw (31 years ago), whatever happened to Bob Knight?

17. College hoops rules. Fan writes, "Men's game needs to go to four 10-minute quarters like the women." Says here, NCAA tinker team needs to stop fixing a golden goose that needs no fixing.

18. Todd Griffin, Princeton.

19. Coach carousel. Presuming Kentuckians will be in play, this merry-go-round for Spring 2016 could be most intriguing

in years.

✓ Kenny Payne. Logic says six-figure pay at UK is good, but six years as assistant is enough Calipari rant for this life time.

✓ Chris Holtmann. Too early to move in his career, but Butler's coach will be on someone's radar in spite of what appeared to be a freeze-up while his team blew a double-digit lead in minute-and-half at Georgetown.

20. Success Dept. Union College Bulldogs (Barbourville) turned a hat trick, winning their third Appalachian Athletic Conference regular-season and tournament championships in a row to finish 28-6.

21. Richard Deavers, Central City.

22. Jeff Brohm. This year, 2016 is when Hilltopper fans see how capable Western Kentucky's football coach is. Post-Brandon Doughty, wait to see which and how many directors of athletics come waving (bigger) money.

23. Jason Hatcher had a dozen chances left to show NFL scouts his draft-worthiness. Arrested for speeding and allegedly smoking dope, Hatcher is an ex-Kentucky Wildcat ... and newest enrollee at the Johnny Manziel University of Knucklehead.

24. Finally, reminders in sunny March.

"I believe the sign of maturity is accepting deferred gratification." – Peggy Cahn.

And...

"How many are the things I can do without!" – Socrates on possessions

And so it goes.

You can reach me at bob. Watkins24@aol.com.

BOB'S RETIRING

Bob Watkins has announced that he is retiring at the end of March. If you've enjoyed his column, send him a message at the email address above.

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of 2 Chronicles in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. From Acts 9, what dressmaker was restored to life by Peter's prayers? Dorcas, Leah, Jezebel, Miriam

3. For how many pieces of silver did Joseph's

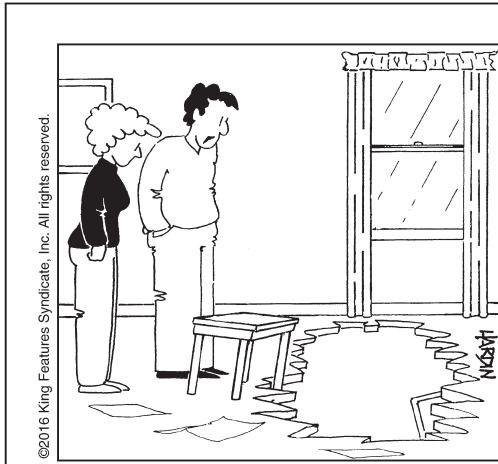
brothers sell him to Midianite traders? 3, 7, 12, 20

4. From Exodus 28, what fruit was used as a design on priestly garments? Grapes, Pomegranates, Pears, Figs

5. Pharaoh gave what burnt city to his daughter for a gift? Cana, Gezer, Joppa, Bethel

6. From 1 Kings, which prophet was fed by birds? Paul, David, Elisha, Elijah

Answers on bottom of Page 13
Wilson Casey's mainstream UFO book, "Swamp Gas & High Hopes 101," is now available from TouchPointPress.com



"On the upside, we'd been planning to move the _____ downstairs anyway."

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Rebuff

PERLE

Forever

AYSLAW

Defy

SISTER

Mark

PINTO

TODAY'S WORD

seeds of Hope



"Help me, someone help me! I've fallen and can't get up. Someone help me, please!" cried a lady in obvious pain and distress. Actually, there was no real person calling for help. It was a television commercial advertising personal security systems for people who live alone and might need help if they were to fall or were having a difficult time and had no one to rescue them.

All of us know that feeling of being helpless, perhaps even hopeless at times. Problems surface, or seem to descend from the sky when we least expect them. We know they are beyond us, recognize our limits and cry out for help. Life's demands are beyond us. They force

us to see that we cannot take care of ourselves by ourselves. We are forced to reach out and up. There is something inside all of us that tells each of us that life is beyond every one of us. That "something" is a gift from God. He wants us to search for Someone. It begins at birth when we utter that first cry for help not knowing who will respond. It only ends when we turn to Him.

Most of us have turned to God recognizing His power and strength and desire to help us. That need for Him is normal and natural because He planted it there when He created us. He knew we would search for Him and He also knew that He would respond in love when we call on Him to make us complete in Christ.

David said those who say "there is no God are fools." Are they dumb or stupid or ignorant? No! They are fools because they choose to live life without God.

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Mountain Mushroom Festival T-Shirts

MOUNTAIN MUSHROOM FESTIVAL



26th ANNUAL IRVINE, KENTUCKY April 23 & 24, 2016

The 2016 Irvine Mountain Mushroom Festival t-shirts will be for sale in Irvine City Hall, 101 Chestnut St., until Friday, April 22 at noon. The festival shirts range in size from youth to adult sizes with a mushroom design to celebrate the 26 years of the festival. The sand color t-shirts are short-sleeve. Prices are \$10 for the youth xx-small to adult XL and adults XXL and XXXL are \$12. During the festival the t-shirts will be for sale in the gazebo on Broadway.

False Teachers Will Be Judged ..

2 Peter 2:119-20

Profane and Blasphemous Seducers

¹⁹While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage. ²⁰For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.

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