



Points East

By: Ike Adams

Travis Maggard, my buddy Dave's baby boy rolled into town from Ohio Saturday afternoon for a month-long vacation with his Dad, Grandparents and whomever else enjoys his company here in the flat lands.

Travis is a big old boy (5'7" 260 pounds) for 12 years of age and when I first became acquainted with him seven years ago, he was spoiled rotten and caught as the pawn in a marriage that was rapidly deteriorating. He's always been overweight and still is but it's not something he has much control over. Travis has this meta-bolic thing where he can eat a leaf of lettuce and gain five pounds. Not his choice but the hand that was dealt him and he handles it better than anybody I've ever met.

In the first place he doesn't worry about it. In the second place he misses about the advantages of being big. He exercises and he can walk most of you skinny, physically-fit, aerobic freaks and leave you standing in your tracks after a mile or two. He figures football may be in his future as in immovable lineman or the dreaded center who sacks the opposing quarterback on every play. It's an eighth graders dream and we will see.

In the meantime Travis has become probably my favorite kid of all time, outside my own, grown fam-

ily, to spend time with. Our close relationship has actually developed over the last couple of years because he used to wine and dine and sulk and exhibit all those characteristics you expect of a spoiled brat.

Now he is easily the most emotionally and physically mature 12 year old I know. Not only that but he can tie fishing line knots, catch bait, sharpen a knife, do the filleting and on and on and on better than most seasoned old timers including yours truly!

Last Saturday night Travis came home with me and we waited until 10:30 PM to hit a certain farm pond where we suspected the bullfrogs were big and plentiful. We put on our worst clothing and our oldest tennis shoes. We made sure the garden hose was connected to the hot water so we could rinse off when we came back home. We counted our 22 rifle shells and we found the biggest fish basked in the garage and we made off into the back country.

We had to climb fences and more than once I was reminded about the proper way to get a firearm safely across a fence. We got to the pond and commenced sneaking up on the bullfrogs and Travis would shake his head when we came upon one that was too small for his liking. And we passed over a bunch of frogs with

legs much larger than you'd find at a gourmet restaurant. A couple of hours later we had 13 frogs and we could have had 100 had we been greedy. It was a team effort. One of us got 6 and the other got 7 because we took turn about with the rifle.

We skinned them out together but Travis could have performed that chore alone as easily as me. Rinsed and now soaking in lemon juice, we have just over 7 pounds of frog legs for the feast we will have tomorrow night.

On Sunday morning we were up at daybreak seining chubs and soft crawdads for bait and we hiked/waded nearly three miles of the lower end of Paint Lick Creek where it skirts the lush bottoms through weeds and flood wash that would challenge those Navy Seals and Marine Rangers you see on the Discovery Channel all the time except we were in pursuit of the every wily small mouth bass instead of bad guys. We did hear (we assume)

Our Readers Write

Dear Editor,

As most of you know I am Tamara Mink, daughter of Roger and Tammy Mink. Roger is better known to most people as Crow. He now lives with Lisa Wynn Mason. I was so hurt, that my father could not attend my eighth grade graduation, yet he was there to celebrate Lisa Mason's son, Anthony Mason, Jr., eighth grade graduation last Thursday night.

It really hurts to know your own dad, puts his girlfriend and her son ahead of his own daughter. I don't know how a parent could do this to his own child. If I had a child it would come first above everything else. I feel he loves other men's children better than he loves his own.

Sincerely,
Tamara Mink
Mt. Vernon, KY

To the Class of 2002,

I just wanted to let you know how much the "Special Tribute" you paid to Suzanne as a part of your graduation ceremony meant to me and her family.

You are a "special, special" group of young guys and gals and Suzanne loved you dearly and wanted what was best for all of you.

Thanks for my bouquet of flowers and her grandma's rose. That was really sweet.

I also wanted to thank all of your

bad guys revving up four wheelers and a shot or two rang out in the distance from time to time but nothing that made us curious enough to go see what they were shooting. It's crop-tending time here in the bottoms and some crops beg for secrecy. We stayed pretty much in the water and Travis actually caught a couple of keeper smallmouth and a few war-mouth. I caught several fish myself and some of them were probably keepers but when it came time (noonish) to turn around and head back upstream, I didn't want to be carrying an unnecessary ounce.

Travis kept his catch and wondered why we had to leave so early. When we got back to the truck I told him that I wished he could drive. He insisted he could but I think I'll wait until he's 16. In the meantime, if you are over 50 and want to have the time of your life, hook up with a savvy 12-year old like Travis Maggard. I'll either kill you or make you feel thirty years younger—or both.

parents for their kind words, their hugs and their prayers. I appreciate it all from the bottom of my heart.

Congratulations and best wishes to "The Class of 2002."

Louise Bengé

"Suzanne Graves' Mom"

Dear Editor,

Project Graduation can be a good thing. However, if the 2003 Project Graduation Committee does not listen to the students, it will be a disaster. This morning my child came a very disappointed. Most of the things they had gotten were junk. The items that were auctioned off were geared more to the needs of the college elite. The prize committee needs to get grip, most of our students are not going to college.

A student survey was sent out as to what the students wanted to bid on. There were gas cards, power tools and tool cabinets on it. All that was bought was three small ratchet sets. However, two or three had put down a coon dog and they had one of them.

My child did not bid on anything because there was no item they were interested in. This is the first year that I know of this has happened. I donated a substantial amount of money and time to Project Graduation this year and in the past.

The other thing that happened was the smoking. Always before they would be allowed to go out every two or three hours to smoke. Ms. Hale you need to get a grip. I do not condone smoking and my child does it. They are now 18 years old and making adult decisions that they have to live with not YOU.

I still think that Project Graduation is a good thing if run right and you keep all the students in mind not just the elite few. My advice to 2003 listen to the students or Project Graduation is on a spiral to no one coming.

Debbie Powell

Dear Editor,

After all the publicity in the national news concerning the violence and corruption in the primary race for the office of Sheriff in Kentucky, I am reminded as a former resident of Rockcastle County how fortunate the people of this county are to have had Shirley Smith as their Sheriff for the past 13 years.

Shirley Smith made history in Rockcastle County as the first Sheriff to be elected to a second term and then go on to be elected for a third term.

Shirley Smith was elected to this office because he was a good and decent man. He wanted to serve this county to help the people, he did not pay nor bribe anyone to vote for him, nor did he choose this office for fame or financial gain he simply chose to

serve the residents of this county.

He upheld the office with honesty and integrity. He will go down in history for that as well. No one has held that record for a long time.

Shirley Smith is a good, honest man in his role as the Sheriff serving the citizens of this county, and as a son, brother, husband, father and grandfather.

I hope the next Sheriff will use his example and keep the office as honest and decent as he did.

Sincerely,

Mrs. P.R. Schwarz
Milford, OH

Dear Editor,

Congratulations Buzz Carlotti, on your re-election for County Judge Executive. Honest, hardworking and fair, you are the best man for the job. Keep up the good work.

Katherine Hubbard, Natasha Mason, Tony Mason, Gail Kirby, Charlotte Hendricks & Sue Chennet

Flag Day June 14th

Woodmen of the World presents flags



Sandy Bullock, field rep for Woodmen of the World presented a flag to RCHS baseball coach J.D. Bussell.



Sandy Bullock, field rep, and Mary Ann McNew, secretary for Lodge 888, presented a flag to Wesleyan College head coach Todd Lillipip.



Sandy Bullock, field rep, Lodge 888 secretary Mary Ann McNew and Lodge 888 member Brad McNew presented a flag to Somerset Twins coach Charles Taylor.

ATTENTION

June 15, 2002 Woodmen of the World Lodges 888 & 901 will join hands with Rockcastle County Economic Development Board Cleanup and Beautification Task Force. All civic groups, clubs and organizations are welcome to attend the first corridor cleanup at 10 a.m. at the Mt. Vernon Senior Citizens Building.

All volunteers will receive free t-shirts and lunch will be provided at the Senior Citizens Building. We encourage everyone to participate and help clean up our roadways and beautify Rockcastle County.

Call for information:

Sandra Bullock, Field Representative

606-758-8058

Mary Ann McNew, Lodge Secretary 888

606-256-4046

Jean Towery, Field Representative

606-256-2560

Smoking Policy Change Announced

Rockcastle Hospital and Respiratory Care Center has instituted a new non-smoking policy effective June 1, 2002 to protect the health and comfort of patients, visitors and staff.

Smoking is not allowed indoors. It is permitted in designated outdoor areas. The policy applies to outpatient, acute and respiratory care program areas, the Home Health Care office, the Medical Arts Building and Rockcastle Health and the Rehabilitation Center, Inc. in Brodhead.

For policy information, call the hospital at 256-2195. For help to stop smoking, call Jessica Ledington at 864-4764.

ROCKCASTLE
HOSPITAL AND RESPIRATORY CARE CENTER, INC.
145 Newcomb Avenue, Mt. Vernon, KY 40456



UNITED WE STAND

I would like to take this time to congratulate our new Sheriff, Darrell Doan, in his win for Sheriff. I also appreciate all the people of Rockcastle Co. to get behind him and his family with your prayers and support. Lord knows he will need it. Congratulations also to the other winners.

Not my will but thy will be done is the way I prayed about running for Sheriff. I accept defeat as being God's will for my life for whatever reason. God knows best.

I would like to say to all those who supported us, in money, time, labor and prayers from my heart, thank you, and may God richly bless you for your efforts.

We had many things to try and overcome in this election, most of them we did. And right at the end, the letter from my grandson's Mother, Erin Kirby (Linville), just killed our chances of winning. Hundreds of our votes were shifted away from us. So I want to address that letter now. First, I'm cut to the heart that she said such things and very sad she feels the way she does about me. After all I have done for her and my grandson, Shane Linville, Jr., whom I love more than life.

In her letter to the paper, she said I had her electric turned off. What she didn't say was I have paid her electric bill for over three years. \$200 a month, and the one I paid just recently was over \$1,000. I will not get into why I stopped paying it, to keep from more hard feelings.

I guess she just forgot, she must also forgot the hundreds of dollars my wife and I have given her the last three years. She must also have forgotten the time I had her car fixed and saved her hundreds of dollars. As for trying to control her life, I was just trying to give her good Christian counsel, because she was and is going down the wrong road. But I won't get into that for fear of more hard feelings. She must have forgot when she was talking about my kids having some drug problems in the past, that she was with them many times doing it herself, but I won't get into that.

Just for the record, my son Josh has never been charged or convicted of any drug charge. My daughter Shawna was charged almost two years ago for possession, of which was dismissed. Both of them have been clean for a long time and both of them have rededicated their lives back to God, and now trying to help other kids who are struggling. Also they both have full time jobs, where there is random drug testing. As for myself, I have stayed over and over whatever I did was before I was saved over 20 years ago. Hopefully, this is the last time people will hear me say this, my record is crystal clear and has been for more than 20 years. So please forgive and forget it because God has. I have spent the last 20 years working for the good of everyone that I can helping and serving my fellow man. I would like to say we all love Erin and we forgive her for what she said about us.

All I ever wanted to do was help her we have all, been through alot with the loss of my son, Shane Linville.

Someone said where will you go from here and I responded, I'll just keep preaching the Gospel, pastoring the House of Refuge Church and help everyone I can. I would like to give special thanks to the more than 700 people that voted for me, in spite of all that has been said. We're still here to protect and serve the people of Rockcastle Co.

Come visit us at the House of Refuge Church at Roundstone where everyone is welcome or tune us in weekly on 1460 AM WRVK at 9:05 Saturday morning for Gospel preaching. Remember, United We Stand, Divided We Fall.

Gary V. Linville