

"TJ's Journal"

(Cont. from A2)

with immorality in the news began and blossomed a few years ago during the trial of O.J. Simpson. The trial was a mass media feeding frenzy, and guess who ate it up? Why? A popular, nationally known sports hero was being tried for the murder of his ex-wife, possibly because his ego couldn't deal with the idea that she was seeing someone else.

The seeds were well sown. This past week alone we've heard about an openly gay man, a native of Lexington, successfully being voted into the office of bishop in the Episcopal church. One man in central Kentucky with the aid of his wife went on a five county sexual immorality spree that involved several children. His own mother had to turn him in to authorities to save the innocence of other children. The "Amber Alert" was activated for the first time in Kentucky this past week. One-teenage girl was kidnapped, raped, and sodomized. These are only a few that stand out in my mind.

Shortly, we will be viewing another O.J. Simpson style trial with Kobe Bryant as the star. If he should be found guilty, it will have a massive impact on the NBA. He has been charged with the rape of a nineteen-year-old girl in Colorado. From all the evidence that has been presented so far, he is a "bad lad". Personally, I hope he isn't found guilty, but he owes something to lower his over-inflated ego. I still remember how he insulted the veteran players at his first All Star game. He also liked to make a point of lingering in the locker room when all of the other players were introduced, only to come out to his own personal round of applause minutes later.

I'm sure we all remember the 9-11 attack on the World Trade Center

and the Pentagon. It was a day I'll never forget. It was the most horrific thing to have ever happened on American soil. In the hours and days following the catastrophe, America was asking why this had to happen to thousands of innocent people. The answer came in part, according to the Muslim world, that America has become so blindly polluted with sexual immorality that we "can't even see the forest for the trees." We are the world's largest exporter of sexual deviancy in music, movies, and the printed page. We are the most feared

nation on Earth, not necessarily militarily or economically, but morally. Will 9-11 ever happen again? Who knows? Sometimes I stop to think that the next time we're struck down like this, will it be from a Higher Power? "He who hath an ear, let him hear."

"Points East"

(Cont. from A2)

cent shopping in three-county district competition. Now we feel sorry for the kids when they don't win foot-

ball, basketball, baseball or softball STATE championships. And believe me, that's just around the corner.

Downtown Mount Vernon still looks today pretty much the way it looked in the seventies. There are a few new storefronts and a few missing. But you don't have to go to Mount Vernon anymore unless you really need to because all the roads through it have been rerouted. But from time to time I need to. I just need to park by the Courthouse and walk up and down Main Street, lean

up against a brick wall and rub the my thumbs. Used to be, I'd know half the people on the street. "How you all doing today?" "Ain't this purty weather" (or, conversely, "Lord ain't this weather awful!"). At least now you can ask, "How bout them Rockers?" and folks don't call the law because they think you're crazy.

When you look at the statistics on poverty and school drop-out rates and like that, Rockcastle County still has the list that might make you raise an eyebrow. All I can say is that the trend is up. When you drive around the county all you see is new homes

recently built or under construction. When you slow down or even drive up into the parking lot of Rockcastle County High School you realize that the tax base is a lot better than it was in the seventies.

I don't know that they would have reached consensus on what the outcome might really look like but I can tell you for sure that the members of the Rockcastle County Improvement Council sure had something like this in mind when we smoked up the conference room at Production Credit Association for several hours a month back in the seventies.

Cox named to top criminal defense organization's board

At the annual meeting of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers recently, Jerry J. Cox, a defense attorney in Mt. Vernon, was named to the board of directors of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

Cox, a life member of the organization, serves as chair of the NACDL Audit Committee. He is past president of both the Kentucky Bar Foundation and the Kentucky Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. In addition, he is a member of the Public Advocacy Commission and the Kentucky Criminal Rules Committee.

A graduate of Berea College and the University of Kentucky Law School, Cox was in private practice in the firm of Clontz & Cox, LLC. He is a National Board of Trial Advocacy certified criminal trial specialist.

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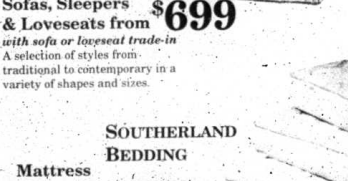
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