

8: 978
V.6
No. 1

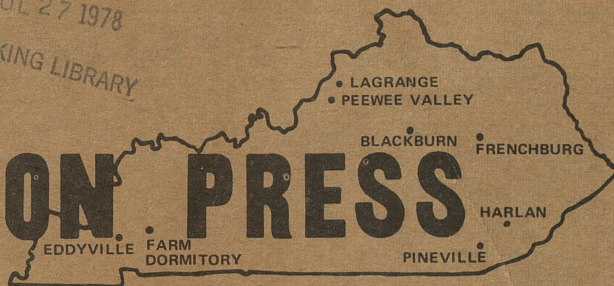
the KENTUCKY

INTER-PRISON PRESS

GOV'T. PUB. DEPT.

JUL 27 1978

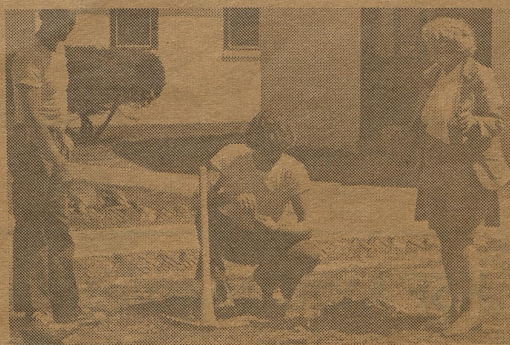
M. I. KING LIBRARY



VOLUME VI

JUNE 1978

Number 1



Mrs. Ruth Carr, President of the Pineville Garden Club, looks on as Earl Carr [left] and Leon Stokley plant two coffee trees donated to the Bell County Forestry Camp.

Legislature Approves Corrections Changes

Several bills affecting the operations of the Bureau were passed during the 1978 session of the Kentucky General Assembly and have been signed into law by Governor Julian Carroll.

House Bill 90, introduced by Representative Dwight Wells of Richmond, allows for the sale of prison-made goods in state-operated gift shops.

House Bill 362, sponsored by Representative Bobby Richardson of Glasgow, permits the use of performance-based criteria in parole regulations and requires that preliminary revocation hearings of both parolees and conditional releasees be heard by two hearing officers who are attorneys.

House Joint Resolution 86, jointly sponsored by Representative Bobby Richardson of Glasgow, and Mark Fitzgerald of Cynthiana, directs the establishment of a task force to study the state's legal system.

The joint resolution appropriates \$100,000 for the study

and sets July 1, 1979, as the date for submission of the task force study.

Senate Bill 69, relating to the State Penal Code, was introduced by Senator Tom Garrett of Paducah.

The Bill includes provisions which prohibit a second-degree persistent felony offender from eligibility for conditional discharge; require final disposition of any untried indictment, information, or complaint pending against a state prisoner; and allow a felony sentence of a state court to run concurrent with any federal sentence received by the same defendant for a federal crime.

Senate Bill 162, jointly sponsored by Senators David Kareem of Louisville, and Garrett, requires persons contracting with convicted criminals for re-enactment of the crime by way of television, radio, movie or book presentation to pay all money the criminal would receive over to the Crime Victims Compensation Board. The money will be used to reimburse victims of crime.

Grievance Procedure Expanded, Now Includes KSR And KCIW

FRANKFORT— The grievance procedure has been expanded to KCIW and KSR as of April 24, according to Mike Bradley, Bureau of Corrections Ombudsman. Planning and the design of the procedures has been going on since the first of the year at both institutions.

"The procedure is in effect for all the women at KCIW," Bradley says, "but it's only being used in the Honor Unit at KSR on a pilot basis. We plan to expand to the rest of the men at KSR after 60 days."

Prior to the implementation of the procedures at KCIW and KSR, only the Blackburn Correctional Complex had such a procedure. It was begun in May, 1977, with assistance from the Center for Community Justice in Washington, D. C. Over the past year, the Blackburn procedure has handled 43 grievances, with 33 resolved at the institutional level.

Bradley points out that Kentucky is one of only four states in the country to have a grievance procedure of this type. He also points out how the Kentucky procedure differs from those used in New York, South Carolina, and California.

"What distinguishes this procedure from the others," he says, "is that it involves participation by elected inmates and by line staff in designing the procedure and in actually resolving the grievances."

Under the procedure, inmates are guaranteed a written response, with reasons, to any grievance. Time limits have been set for each step in the procedure, to assure prompt responses. Residents filing a grievance may choose

another inmate of a staff member to represent them at all levels, while the procedure is monitored by the the Ombudsman.

Included in the steps of the grievance procedure is the right to appeal to an independent review body outside the bureau. The Governor's Commission on Corrections and Community Services and the Young Lawyers Association of Louisville are two sources of review. The design of the procedure at both institutions was arrived at through the efforts of a resident/staff design committee and the Center for Community Justice.

According to Bradley, certain things are not grievable

under the procedure. "We can't get into court decisions, parole board decisions, or complaints involving agencies other than the Bureau of Corrections," he says. "Adjustment Committee decisions can't be appealed through the procedure. The procedures they use to arrive at their decision may be appealed, but there's already an appeal procedure set up for Adjustment Committee decisions."

After the grievance procedure is expanded to the entire population at the reformatory, plans call for it to be established next at KSP, sometime in late summer or early fall.

The Center for Community Justice is providing the bureau with consultants through a grant from the Law Enforcement Assistance Association.

Eagles Soar As KSR Features Slam-Dunk

By Larry Lenston

LA GRANGE—If you had walked into the gym at the Kentucky State Reformatory on Saturday, February 18, you would have wondered who let all the eagles out to soar.

Strange sort of eagles at that. Two legs, two arms with a round ball in one hand. They would run, soar, twist and finally, on their return to earth, put the ball into a small round hoop. It took awhile, but finally I knew where I had seen these moves before. In a game called basketball. They called it the slam dunk, and KSR was holding its first slam dunk contest.

The object of the contest is to see what man out of a group could exhibit the most moves and style in putting the ball into the hole, while suspended about 10 feet from the floor. There are three judges, who would award each man a total of 3 to 8 points for style. A man automatically lost two points if he missed the dunk.

We started with nine fledgling eagles in a head to head elimination. In order to advance into the next bracket, one must score more points than the other man in a series of five dunks. With a score of 81 points, Andrew Masden won the title of "Dr. Dunkinstein of KSR."

Letters To The Editor

In the past, I have written about the steps forward the administration has taken to update the Kentucky State Penitentiary and bring it in line with other prison systems. I am sorry to report we have now fallen back into the dark ages. I would like to articulate on what has happened here in the past few months, and you as a reader can judge where we are headed.

To begin with, let me say that Superintendent Donald Bordenkircher has kept the inmates in a state of confusion and constant turmoil. The inmates do not know what to expect from day to day. He appears to paint the worst possible picture for the public, thus giving the convict a black eye.

There are no real problems here at KSP that other penal systems do not have. Most of the problems here are created by the administration itself. The warden will give a little, make a big issue of it to the public, and then take a lot from us without explanation.

It is almost impossible to see a caseworker. You often wonder whether you will have the same one for a full week. No fewer than four times in the past six months, the caseworkers have been switched and moved, until you have to ask directions in order to find them.

The Bureau of Corrections recently took steps to set the prison system back by taking a law on obscenity and using it to justify reading the outgoing mail of the inmates. It took the inmates many years of hard work to get a federal judge to

hand down a decision prohibiting such practices only to have the order overturned. Does a memorandum from the warden supersede a United States District Judge?

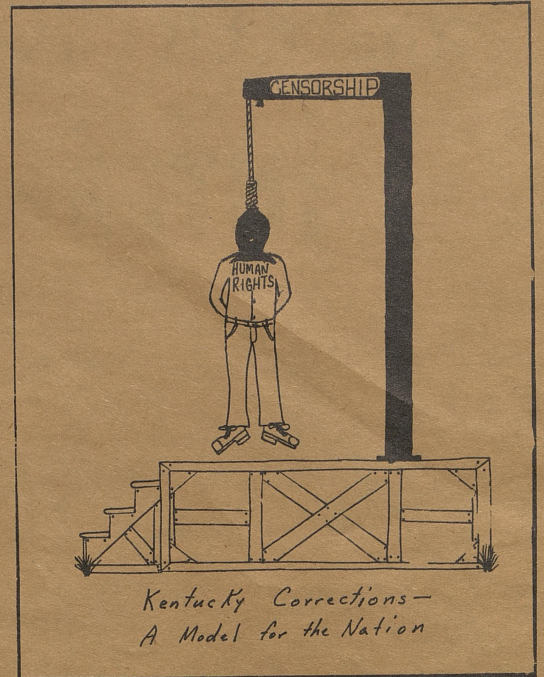
This appears to have come about primarily because of the June Lyon County Grand Jury and the attitudes of people in that community. It is disgraceful for the Warden to allow the people of Lyon County to tell him how to run his prison.

In an appearance on public television, Bordenkircher left some doubt as to whether he believes in rehabilitation. He apparently feels his first obligation is to the citizens of the community rather than to the inmates under his control. Punishment seems to be the first thing he thinks of when he looks out on the yard and

sees the men. We at Eddyville understand how he could have been the commander of the POW Camp he is so proud of.

The crux of the issue is for readers and those who listen to the radio to understand what we here at Eddyville have to endure. It is past time the public did something about the kind of administrators running something so huge and final as the penal system. It's time we had responsible people in such positions. The public should take the proper steps to replace those in power, and prevent them from gratifying their hunger for power. As a writer, I call for the support of the people in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and ask that Donald Bordenkircher be removed as warden of the Kentucky State Penitentiary.

RONALD L. TIPTON



What Prompted New KSP Mail Regulation?

When Governor Carroll touted Kentucky's corrections system as a "model for the nation," he should have looked more closely at the example being set. While some of the recommendations from the "blue ribbon commission" have been carried through, the bureau appears to be regressing to the repression and intimidation typified by Charles Holmes and Henry Cowan. Nowhere is the shift in attitude more apparent than in the new obscenity and mail regulations at KSP.

The legality of the regulations will ultimately be decided by the federal courts. The courts will determine whether KSP is a part of the Eddyville community, and thus subject

to "prevailing community standards" on obscenity. They will also determine whether the new mail regulations are in violation of an injunction issued by Judge Charles Allen in 1973. If so, both Commissioner Bland and Superintendent Bordenkircher may be held in contempt of court. It is difficult to fathom why two otherwise intelligent men would risk such censure in a cause which is unnecessary, immoral and ill-founded.

From a practical point of view, the new regulations are difficult to enforce. It will require untold man-hours to read each letter coming and going from the penitentiary. Keeping KSP in line with "prevailing community stan-

dards" (whatever those standards may be) will require periodic shake-downs, again costing valuable man-hours which could be devoted to something useful. Surely the guards at KSP can find better ways to occupy their time than reading someone else's mail, or carrying on a never-ending search for dirty pictures.

The massive invasion of privacy inherent in the mail regulation smacks of moral leprosy in itself. The regulation is a gross travesty of basic human rights. Often the only opportunity an inmate has to express his deepest feelings is a letter home. Day after day, thoughts remain unspoken, and emotions go unexpressed. The right to privacy is denied in living, working, eating and sleeping. Now it is to be denied even in writing. His hopes, dreams, ambitions, fears and even love, will be common knowledge to the guard in his cellhouse. Verbal voyeurism has become the order of the day.

Bordenkircher has attempted to justify the mail policy on the grounds that suicides and escapes will be reduced. Yet he has offered no evidence that either the escape rate or the suicide rate has soared since Judge Allen banned censorship. The truth of the matter is that the new policy

will have no effect on either issue. Tormented spirits will continue to take their lives (probably leaving their letter beside them), and some inmates will continue trying to escape. The solution to those problems does not lie in increasing the repression driving them to such desperate measures. It lies in learning to view them as human beings, and treating them so. Until Bordenkircher acquires that ability, suicide and escape will continue to be a problem.

It may be that the real reasons for the drastic change in regulations lies in the attitude of the local community. In a recent column in the Eddyville Herald-Ledger, Charles Baccus freely expressed the prejudice which apparently exists against the Eddyville inmates. (He subsequently refused the KIPP permission to reprint his article.) If Baccus' opinion is any indication, Jews in Nazi Germany enjoyed more prestige than inmates in Lyon County. With no logical justification for the policy change, one is forced to conclude that Bordenkircher's repression binge is simply the result of prejudice. Only time will tell whether the prejudice is his own, or if he has simply chosen to cater to the small-minded people of a backwoods community.

Most of you have noticed the KIPP has suffered publication problems during the past six months. Several issues have been late and some have been missed entirely because of a lack of copy

and printing equipment problems. We hope to avoid these problems in the future and to be able to deliver a more timely publication. So, watch for the next issue. It's coming soon.

the kentucky
INTER-PRISON PRESS

STAFF ADVISOR
Gay Dwyer Public Education Services Manager

EDITORIAL STAFF

Darryl Stewart Copy Editor
Alfred Jones Production Supervisor
Larry Lenston Photo & Art Editor

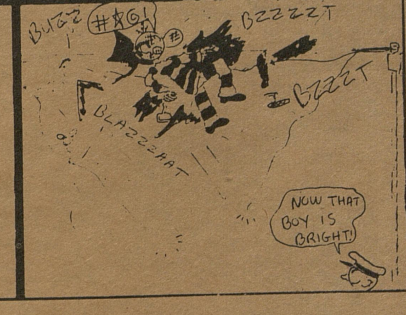
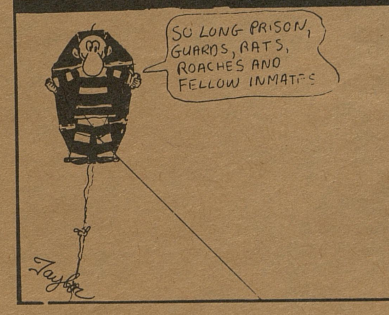
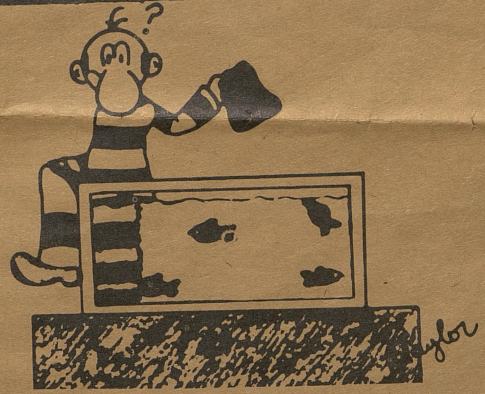
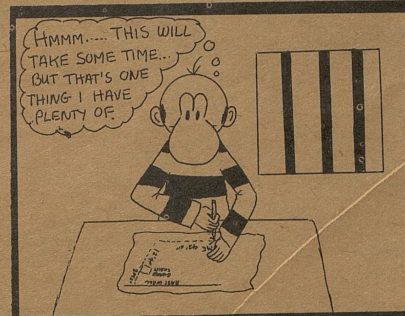
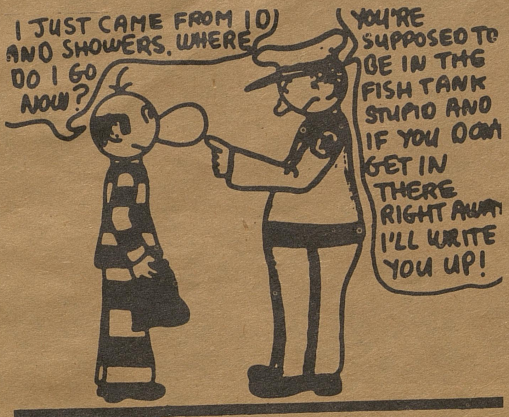
REPORTING STAFF

Walter Harris La Grange
Stu Schultz La Grange
Ronald Tipton Eddyville
Debra Clark KCIW
Ron Smith Harlan County
Rose O'Neal Boone County
John Campbell Roederer Center

The Kentucky Inter-Prison Press is published monthly by the Kentucky Bureau of Corrections, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, produced by residents of the correctional institutions of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and printed by the Vocational Printing Class at the Kentucky State Reformatory in LaGrange, Kentucky. The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Kentucky Bureau of Corrections. Reprint permission is hereby granted, provided the proper credit is given. All correspondence and Forms 3579 should be directed to the Public Education Services Manager, Bureau of Corrections, Frankfort, Kentucky, 40601. Second class postage rates paid at Frankfort, Kentucky, 40601.

BAD BOB

For over a year, Bob Taylor's humor has brightened the pages of the KIPP. A national award winner in the American Penal Press Contest, Bob has now made parole and left us. In his honor, we present a final tribute—a full page of the character he created: "Bad Bob."



Bob Taylor

Reformatory Jaycees Conquer Staff In Basketball Showdown

By Derrick A. Fields

LA GRANGE—On February 22 the KSR Jaycees and the KSR staff, consisting of Correctional Officers and case-workers, met in the gym to play the first game of the season for the KSR Jaycees.

The tip off began promptly at 4:00 p.m., with the KSR staff quickly stepping out to lead with the first four points of the game. At the end of the first quarter, with the score

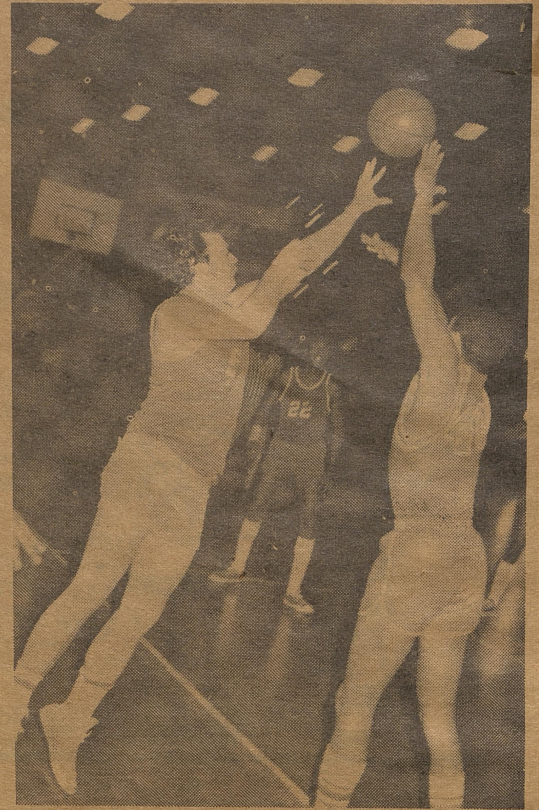
23-18, in favor of the Jaycees, it would have seemed that the Jaycees had come alive.

In the second quarter, the KSR Staff regained control with the shooting ability of Lieutenant Mike Townsend. At the close of the second quarter, the score was KSR Staff 38, Jaycees 35.

At the start of the third quarter the KSR staff increased their lead, forcing Jaycees Coach Tom Payne to call a time-out. After the newly

pledged strategy, the Jaycees began to play team ball. At the end of the quarter, with a score of 55-68, the Jaycees had finally gotten it completely together.

After the tremendous display of team work in the third quarter, the KSR Staff seemed to have lost all its spunk. The game ended with the score of 93-66, in favor of the KSR Jaycees. It was a big victory and a beautiful start for the Jaycees.



Tom Mugavin, playing for the KSR Staff Basketball Team, tries his jump shot.

Regional Jail Study Conducted To Find Gradual Release Spots

The regional jail study conducted by the bureau in cooperation with the Kentucky Association of Counties (KACO) was completed in April. The study, funded through LEAA grant funds, began in May 1977.

According to Doug Sapp, director of the division of regional jails and a member of the study staff, data was collected on all 119 county jails and 62 city jails within the Commonwealth.

"The data collected will serve as a comprehensive data base with regard to local detention facilities which will be important in future planning for utilization of these facilities by the bureau," Sapp said.

"The data will be invaluable to us in determining which facilities have the capabilities for housing programs we wish to implement. A prime example of this is our gradual release program," he added.

Joining Sapp on the jail study staff were Mike Campana and Michael Gardner.

According to Campana, each facility was evaluated for its compliance with state law, guidelines and standards. He also said that a descriptive analysis was made of each facility which included its physical condition, space limitations and potential for renovation.

Sapp pointed out that the data compiled through the study will be available for use by the Legislative Research Commission (LRC), the Area Development Districts (ADDs), the various counties and the Bureau of Corrections.

"A long range goal is to utilize the data in our planning of a regional or district jail system," he said.

If you want to send your copy of The Kentucky Inter-Prison Press to someone by mail, please place their address and yours in the space provided below. Fold vertically and staple one time in the center where the two open edges meet, leaving both the return and receiver's address visible. The Kentucky Inter-Prison Press requires one 13 cent stamp.

CETA Funds Provide Ex-Offenders Jobs

Nearly 50 parolees have secured employment under the terms of a Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA)-funded program which began last November.

According to Travis Shirley, Community OJT and Government Services Manager, a \$121,000 CETA grant was awarded to Kentucky for the employment of ex-offenders. He said that \$58,899—nearly half the total—has already been allocated.

"The grant funds have provided an excellent opportunity to open up the job market for ex-offenders. The provisions of the grant allow an employer

to be reimbursed up to 50 percent of the man's wages during his training period," Shirley explained.

He pointed out that although the goal of the program is to employ ex-offenders, the CETA funds can also be used to upgrade those persons who are under-employed.

"The majority of the 49 placements have been in semi-skilled positions so, quite obviously, the program is providing ex-offenders with the chance for both training and upgrading," he said.

Shirley praised the efforts of the Community Services Officers (CSO) in securing the placements.

FROM: _____

MAIL the INTER-PRISON PRESS *** TO YOUR FAMILY OR FRIENDS EACH ISSUE

TO: _____

PLACE STAMP HERE