



Employment Day draws about 400 job seekers

By MIKE WYNN
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Megan Ham needs a job. Maybe something clerical or retail. Without factory experience, prospects are slim in Winchester, she says, and it's even harder to find a job this time of year.

"I really, really need employment in the worst way," Ham said as she meandered through the maze of booths and displays at the Hampton Inn Conference Center. "I am ready and willing to work. If they just put me to work, I am ready to go."

Ham was among about 400 people who went job hunting Thursday at the Winchester-Clark County 2008

Employment Day, a new event that allows potential hires to network with employers that range from Wal-Mart to East Kentucky Power Cooperative.

Organizers staged the event to increase awareness of opportunities in the local job market and assist Winchester and Clark County residents in building careers inside the community. According to the most recent figures from the Kentucky Office of Employment and Training, Clark County's unemployment rate was a moderate 4.7 percent in December.



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Megan Ham, right, and Eric Ham, center, talk to Leslie Bradley, a human resources manager from East Kentucky Power Cooperative at Thursday's Winchester-Clark County 2008 Employment Day.

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Bowling team to host conference tournament

By KATHERAN WASSON
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The George Rogers Clark High School bowling team will take to the lanes this weekend, facing off against other schools in the region as it hosts the Bluegrass Conference High School Bowling Tournament.

Clark will compete Sunday against four squads from high schools in Scott, Fleming, Harrison and Bourbon counties.

By placing first, the boys' team has already qualified for the state championships, which will take place in Louisville on March 8. The second-place girls' fate will be determined by how they finish at this Sunday's meet, said coach Gary Rison.

"We have as good a shot as anyone," he said. "I'll be surprised if the guys don't dominate."

The tournament starts Sunday at noon with the boys' competition, followed by the girls at 3 p.m. at Forest Park Lanes in Winchester.

Rison estimates about 300 people will be in attendance for Sunday's tournament, but he said the sport doesn't have a lot of support in Clark County yet.

This is the fourth season for bowling in the county.

The sport gets started in September with tryouts, and play begins in November. The season consists of 10 matches, two with each team in the Bluegrass Conference.

"These are some dedicated individuals," he said of the team members. "Anytime I come in here (to the bowling alley), there are kids practicing."

To get ready for the competition, Rison said coaches will be setting up risers and making sure the lanes are in order.

This is the first year for Clark County to host the tournament, which

GEORGE ROGERS CLARK CARDINALS BOWLING TEAM 2007-2008 SEASON

BOYS' TEAM

Matt Allen
Buddy Baxter
Brandon Hatton
Braxton Hatton
Matt Hays
Lee Justice
Ryan Markland
Allan Puckett
Parker Shahan
Cody Willoughby
Anthony Withrow

GIRLS' TEAM

Alina Aversano
Brianna Clem
Anjelica Hackworth
Debbie Hackworth
Callie Himes
Olivia Lawson
Hayden Nutter
Caitlin Oliver
Cheyenne Rison
Tosha Webb

See BOWL, A3

IT'S LEAP DAY!



Rachel Everman marks her fourth official birthday today, but she won't get to celebrate until next week, after her involvement in "Silhouettes on Broadway" at George Rogers Clark High School ends.



Betty and Wayne Smith married on Leap Day 1980, a year after reuniting outside a Winchester drug store in 1979. Their Yorkshire terrier, Winston, shares their Winchester home.

LOCAL RESIDENTS BORN, MARRIED ON FEB. 29 GET TO CELEBRATE TODAY

Those who hate birthdays ought to be lucky enough to be born on Leap Day.

Juanita and Dickie Everman were surprised their already late daughter Rachel held on until Feb. 29.

Margie Wallings happened to be one of four leap babies born in Good Samaritan Hospital in Lexington in 1948.

Betty Smith chose to marry her grade-school sweetheart on Leap Day, banking that her husband Wayne wouldn't know the customs after living abroad.

Today, Rachel celebrates her fourth birthday, despite being a student at George Rogers Clark High School, Margie has her 15th, and the Smiths are having their seventh anniversary.

Through the regular anomaly of Leap Day, all have celebrated fewer actual birthdays and anniversaries than most of the population.

"I tell her she can't date until she's 16," Dickie Everman joked with daughter Rachel. The same could be applied to getting her

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Story and photos by Fred Petke ♦ fpetke@winchestersun.com

WEATHER

Tonight: 27°
Tomorrow: 46°
The AccuWeather forecast appears on A12.



NATION

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STATE

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