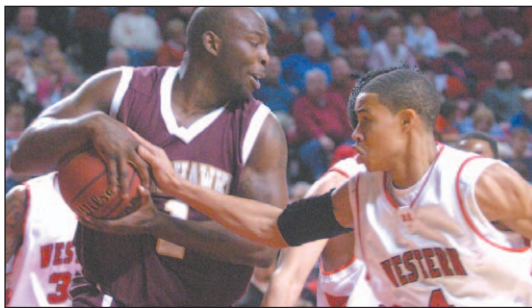




Coming Friday in Living section

An up-close look at four hours in the shoes of Western Kentucky University Police officers.



WKU turns Diddle into shooting range

Despite a defense that was missing in action, Hilltoppers get home win over UL-Monroe with 103-point offense.
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Bowling Green, Kentucky

Two-way street plan still alive

Mostly one-way traffic could see some changes, though not as drastic as proposed

By JIM GAINES

The Daily News
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Ideas are still bubbling about making part or all of some downtown streets two-way during a traffic signal upgrade, with new suggestions being tossed out Tuesday during the city commissioners' annual goal-setting session.

Downtown residents and churchgoers expressed considerable opposition last month to the idea of making all of 10th Avenue and State and Col-

lege streets two-way. Now, one idea is to avoid taking many on-street parking spaces around downtown churches by only turning the sections near the riverfront into opposing lanes.

City Commissioner Bruce Wilkerson said that someone else mentioned the idea to him, so he just repeated it during the city goal session.

"I don't know whether it's a good idea or not," he said.

Since the north end of downtown – from Circus Square Park to the riverfront – is the scene of most redevelopment efforts, perhaps two-way streets would be of most value there, Wilkerson said.

Seventy-five percent of the 290 respondents to an informal city poll

avored keeping the streets one-way. Most vocally opposed to making State Street two-way were members of the Presbyterian Church at 10th Avenue and State Street, which has no off-street parking. Pastor Matthew Covington cautiously welcomed the limited two-way suggestion, but remained dubious about the overall idea.

"It certainly helps to address the initial concern we had about parking in the downtown center," he said.

Covington said he has yet to see a factual analysis of the merits of making streets two-way. City officials thus far have relied on vague anecdotes, he said, and may just be following the herd: "If that's what's modern and faddish in urban redevelopment, well,

let's get in on it," Covington imagined commissioners saying.

Another possibility is turning just one more block of downtown streets two-way, between 12th and 13th avenues, to aid people using 12th Avenue as a route to and from Western Kentucky University, Mayor Elaine Walker said.

Walker has said that even if making the streets two-way eliminates some parking, it still merits consideration because redevelopment may soon close sections of Center Street, the only fully two-way north-south thoroughfare downtown between Chestnut Street and Clay Street. The expansion

See STREETS, 5A

Attempted murder trial

Video shows death wish

During four-day standoff, Sublett often fired at officers, complained to ATF negotiator that police hadn't shot him

By BURTON SPEAKMAN

The Daily News
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A video taken by a robot during a four-day standoff with Russell Sublett showed he repeatedly told police they needed to "do their job" and kill him.

The video of Sublett in his former employer's Louisville Road home was shown Wednesday in U.S. District Court in Bowling Green.

Sublett told the officers he was ready to die during the September 2004 standoff, which was preceded by a high-speed chase and carjacking.

Sublett told the agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives outside the home that he didn't have any hard feelings toward them – but they were going to have to kill him.

"I don't want to hurt you, but you have to do your job," Sublett said. "I'm going to make you earn your money today."

Sublett said he had too many problems and was facing too much prison time to come out of the house alive.

"I'd rather be dead than be locked away," he said. On multiple occasions, Sublett would run up the basement steps, fire a shotgun quickly out the basement door, and retreat back down the basement steps. And, on at least two occasions, ATF agents fired back at Sublett. On a second try, a sniper stationed 120 yards away from the house was able to shoot him in the shoulder after the bullet ricocheted off the shotgun Sublett was holding.

While Sublett was speaking to the agents, he told them multiple times he wanted to be cremated, and

See SUBLETT, 3A

"I don't want to hurt you, but you have to do your job. I'm going to make you earn your money today."

Russell Sublett

Pleading with officers to kill him, as seen on video from '04 standoff

A cold cleanup effort



Joe Imel/Daily News

Light dusting of snow falls on Bowling Green; more expected tonight

Glen Bolling of Bowling Green, an employee of Western Kentucky University's grounds crew, blows a thin layer of snow off the sidewalk in front of the Kentucky Library and Museum. More snow is in the forecast this evening, with the possibility of an inch or more of accumulation. Snow showers could linger into Friday. For detailed weather info, see Page 2A.

Richardsville

Gas company taking residents to court

Viking Energy using eminent domain; some homeowners countering in circuit court

By AMEERAH CETAWAYO

The Daily News
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Tensions going back at least 20 years have resurfaced in Richardsville, where gas company Viking Energy recently filed eminent domain lawsuits against three property owners in the area.

Monday night, Richardsville residents and landowners – including two property owners facing lawsuits – gathered at the Richardsville Community Center to air grievances and question Viking Energy's right to easements.

Resident Steve Milam passed out Kentucky's eminent domain act to about 20 homeowners who showed up Monday.

"This is what will be used against

you if you get papers to go to court," he said.

The Daily News was not allowed to sit in on the private meeting, but some residents did talk afterward.

Viking Energy owns a natural-gas-gathering pipeline system in Richardsville and is reactivating the pipeline once owned by Pride Gas so natural gas may be gathered, cleaned and transported to a pipeline system that belongs to Atmos Energy. The system consists of approximately 96 miles of steel and plastic pipes that were installed between 1985 and 1990, according to Michael Parsley, chief operating manager for Viking.

In response to citizen comments, the company issued a statement that said: "Viking is performing a condemnation and affirmation of our rights to enter certain properties to conduct testing on the existing pipeline in order to ensure safe operations in accordance with state regulations."

Natural gas demand on rise

By AMEERAH CETAWAYO

The Daily News
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A nationwide energy shortage is fueling demand for natural gas and is one of the factors prompting Viking Energy to reactivate the pipeline owned by Pride Gas more than 20 years ago.

"Our nation needs energy, and Bowling Green has an abundant amount of natural gas," said Michael Parsley, chief operating manager for Viking Energy CEO, adding that the Interstate National Gas Pipeline System runs through central Kentucky.

Parsley said the nation is basically using up its natural gas resources as soon as they're produced.

Demand for natural gas is cyclical and is driven by demand for

See DEMAND, 5A

Attorney Charles English Sr. is representing some of the residents. Friday, he filed a motion in Warren Circuit Court questioning the company's right to eminent domain.

Now the ball is in Viking's court to answer so a preliminary hearing can

be scheduled, English said.

"There are new rules that are in effect that have been adopted by the Kentucky Department of Natural Resources that relate to these types of lines," English said. "What you have

See GAS, 5A

Opinion

Winner of Long Term Care award deserves praise for her tireless compassion.

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Stumbling into '08

As he enters presidential field, Biden getting heat for awkward Obama comment.

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Super Bowl



Tips on planning your party – and your recipes.
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Ground game will prove key to Sunday's match.
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