



No love lost

Sports, C1: When UK plays home-state Alabama on Tuesday, DeMarcus Cousins isn't expecting a tide of good feelings.

Financial security blanket

Merlene Davis, B1: Quilting is one of those hobbies that can become a source of income.

FEBRUARY 9, 2010 | TUESDAY | METRO FINAL EDITION 1

\$1.00

AS TOYOTA GETS TO WORK, INSURER ADDS TO MYSTERY

STATE FARM TOLD FEDERAL OFFICIALS OF ACCELERATION PROBLEMS IN 2007

Herald-Leader Wire Services

As Toyota's Georgetown plant resumed full production Monday after a weeklong shutdown to fix a problem with accelerator pedals, the nation's largest auto insurer revealed it had alerted federal safety regulators on numerous occasions starting in 2007 about reports of unexpected acceleration in the vehicles.

Japanese news media also reported Monday that Toyota is close to recalling as many as 300,000 of its popular Prius hybrids over brake problems — a decision that would further embarrass a trusted brand suddenly beset by safety problems.

The warnings from insurer State Farm, which maintains a vast store of crash data based on its customer base of more than 40 million, followed a stream of consumer complaints about the alleged defect. Regulators received the warnings more than a year before they pressed the automaker to issue recalls affecting millions of cars and trucks.

See **TOYOTA, A2**



CHARLES BERTRAM | cbertram@herald-leader.com

Jared Carroll worked inside a new Camry in the trim section as production resumed Monday on the number one assembly line at the Toyota Motor Manufacturing Kentucky plant in Georgetown.

The personal touch: Akio Toyoda could learn a lesson from Bill Ford on how to handle a business crisis in the automotive world. **Page A2**

Bill would let schools teach Bible literacy

CLASS WOULD BE SOCIAL STUDIES ELECTIVE

By Jack Brammer

jbrammer@herald-leader.com

FRANKFORT — Three Democratic state senators are pushing a proposal to give public schools the option of teaching the Bible as an elective social studies course.

The class would "teach students knowledge of biblical content, characters, poetry and narratives that are prerequisites to understanding contemporary society and culture," said Sen. David Boswell, D-Owensboro, the primary sponsor of Senate Bill 142.

Boswell, a Catholic, said the bill is intended to teach Bible literacy as an academic course, "not as the only religion," but opponents labeled the proposal an unconstitutional "back-door approach to teaching religion."

Edwin F. Kagin, national legal director of American Atheists, called the measure "a rampant violation of the separation of church and state."

Kagin, of Union in Boone County, said students certainly should know biblical references, such as David and Goliath. "But if the Bible is taught in schools, it should only be taught as mythology, and I don't think that is what this bill wants."

Boswell acknowledged that the proposal probably also will bring criticism from those who would favor the teaching of other religious texts, such as the Quran.

"Since the Bible has played such a big role in our literature, I thought I would go with that," he said.

Boswell stressed that the proposed Bible class would be an elective. The state Department of Education would have to come up with regulations to implement the course, and school-based decision-making councils would have to sign off on it, he said.

See **BIBLE, A8**

Senator seeks review of U of L Medical Center, affiliates. **Page A4**
 Payday lending bill hits snag. **Page A4**



2010 General Assembly

Online: Use our Bill Tracker database at kentucky.com/legislature to follow the progress of key bills.

Snow-weary residents try to escape from D.C.

ANOTHER FOOT EXPECTED IN HARD-HIT MID-ATLANTIC

By Brett Zongker

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A \$20 cab ride to the airport skyrocketed to the "snow rate" of \$100 in the nation's capital, and those travelers who could get to the airport or train station still had to haggle or wait in long lines to escape the snowbound Mid-Atlantic.

The most pressing matter: get out before another foot or more of snow comes Tuesday.

"I'm done with city, urban snow life," said Chris Vaughan, a Washington resident who was able to re-book a flight to go skiing in Utah. He dodged the pricey cab fare by having a friend drop him off at the airport — in exchange for a bottle of wine.

The region had nearly 3 feet of snow in some areas. One scientist said if all the snow that fell on the East Coast were melted, it would fill 12 million Olympic swimming pools or 30,000 Empire State buildings. Philadelphia and Washington each need just a little more than

See **SNOW, A2**

Wintry mix and mess

Snow, rain, then snow again. By the time it's over Wednesday morning, Central and Eastern Kentucky could have 4 inches or more of snow, according to the National Weather Service.

In Lexington and the surrounding area, snow was expected to begin Monday night and continue into Tuesday morning, with as much as 1 to 3 inches of accumulation, said Joe Ammerman, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Louisville. During the day Tuesday, snow was expected to change to rain or a rain-snow mix. Late Tuesday, it was forecast to change to snow again, dropping an additional inch.

Temperatures will reach the upper 30s Tuesday, but we can expect lows in the mid-teens Tuesday night, Ammerman said.

The story is much the same in Eastern Kentucky.

Northern parts of Eastern Kentucky probably will get 4 to 8 inches of snow Tuesday and Wednesday. Areas south of the Bert T. Combs Mountain Parkway can expect 1 to 4 inches. High winds and windchill factors below zero are possible late Tuesday.

HERALD-LEADER STAFF REPORT

Check Kentucky.com for school closings and a database where you can report bad potholes.



CHARLES BERTRAM | cbertram@herald-leader.com

FINDING HER FOOTING

Dani Greene, with Central Bridge, walked along a concrete form as she worked Monday on a section of a new bridge on Cox Street that is part of the Newtown Pike extension project. Newtown Pike is being extended from West Main Street to near the main entrance to the University of Kentucky, where it will align with Scott Street. For more, see **Page A3**.

» **Pop, A2:** The Judds are hitting the road again; Carrie Underwood coming to Rupp.

» **Obituaries, A5:** Pennsylvania congressman John Murtha dies at 77.

» **Nation | World, A9:** Obama's call for Republicans to put forth their ideas for fixing health care part of Democratic strategy.



Murtha



LET IT SNOW

Chance of precipitation near 100%. **Weather, C10**

35 | 17
HIGH | LOW

INDEX

Vol. 28 No. 38
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Business C6
 City | Region A3-8
 Classified C7-9
 Comics B4-5
 Crossword B5
 Dear Abby B5
 Horoscope B4
 Movies B3
 Obituaries A5
 Opinions A10-11
 Sports C
 Your Health C10

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