

Please find attached information to my nomination for Nelson Duane "Corky" Hill for the KHSAA Hall of Fame.

As the current sheriff of Fulton County it is my honor to nominate my friend Corky Hill to the KHSAA Hall of Fame. I am enclosing the following:

1. A copy of a newspaper article from the Paducah Sun Democrat describing Corky Hill as a basketball player and as an individual. It is attachment No. 1.

2. A copy of a newspaper article from the Paducah Sun Democrat in November 1982 from Bill Powell who was a columnist with the Paducah Sun. Again, Mr. Powell had actually seen Corky play basketball and knew about him. This is attached as Attachment 2.

3. Attachment 3 is a newspaper article from the Union City Newspaper dated January 26, 1993. As you can see from this article, all that Corky has done in his very successful life has related back to his years as a basketball player. The inspiration that he has been to so many as a one-armed basketball player continues to give credit to high school athletics in its purest sense. He is a source of inspiration to those who may be handicapped and for those who are not handicapped.

4. Attachment 4 are several articles indicating Corky's success in the political arena and his time as a leader in the Sheriffs Association. Again, most of the time when credit is given to Corky as a law enforcement officer he attributes his success to his days as a high school basketball player.

5. Attachment 5 are some pictures from 1993 showing that Corky continued to play basketball well into his adult life. One of the pictures shows Corky under the basket moving into position for a rebound.

6. A sheet with two pictures is attached as Attachment 6. In the first picture Corky Hill is seen in the middle. You can see that this picture was taken in 2000 as part of the DARE program. I happen to be seated to his right and we played basketball together. I can tell you that he was an excellent basketball player. The other picture is a picture of Corky meeting the basketball coach Adolf Rupp, Corky is very proud of that picture.

As you can see from the attached, Corky Hill played two years of basketball at Cuba High School. Several years later the Cuba Cubs won the state basketball championship. In Corky's Junior year he moved to Fulton County where he has remained all these years. He played basketball at Cayce High School his junior and senior years. He was a starter on the basketball team and was an inspiration to everyone who came to see Cayce High School play basketball and saw this one-armed player compete as aggressively as he did.

In addition to all of the above and this is an important part of this nomination, Corky Hill has used his success in basketball as an inspiration to so many for some 60 years past his high school playing. As a sheriff, I can tell you that he never forgot the lessons that he learned from playing high school basketball and he used those to motivate people to change their lives. Basically part of that motivation is Corky's thinking that if he can play basketball the way that he played basketball at Cayce High School and Cuba High School, others can work through their problems and be successful in life.

As you can see from the attached letters to this application from friends and colleagues, Corky Hill was an excellent high school basketball player. The first two letters that are attached are from members of the KHSAA Hall of Fame. Both of these individuals, Howie Crittenden, and Barney Thweatt, played basketball with Corky and actually saw him play. If he were elected

to the KHSAA Hall of Fame that election would be a perpetual inspiration to Kentucky high school athletes to do their best to overcome their handicaps and to use their high school athletic careers throughout their lives to benefit their community.

Bobby Hopper  
Sheriff, Fulton County

# Cayce Youth Overcomes Arm Loss Handicap To Become Star On Court And In Schoolroom

By BILL CARTER

Sun-Democrat Staff Writer

CAYCE, Ky., Nov. 17.—Duane "Corky" Hill, 19, is a senior at Cayce high school.

Corky raises a crop during the summer for the money he needs. He drives a tractor or an automobile with skill. He courts a pretty high school girl. His scholastic standing is above the average in the school. He is a member of the basketball team.

Nothing unusual about that? Hundreds of boys in western Kentucky do the same things? But wait! Corky has only one arm.

"But I'm not physically handicapped," Corky insists. "Nothing bothers me. I have just as much fun as the other kids here."

That's Corky Hill, who refused to let the loss of his left arm keep him from leading a teenager's normal life.

A cute little blonde named June Wright has had a lot to do with Duane's undying spirit. The two are together constantly, making big plans, and they have the whole school behind them. And because of June, Corky has the inspiration to be successful in farming. He is right at home on a farm and his own crop provides the clothes he wears and money to show June a good time.

Corky was born in Weakley county, Tenn., the third boy in the family. Soon after his birth, the farming Hills moved to Graves county. This started an era of moving for better farm lands. Things went swell for hard-working Duane until, at the age of 12, he returned to his home in Duke-dom after a hunting trip.

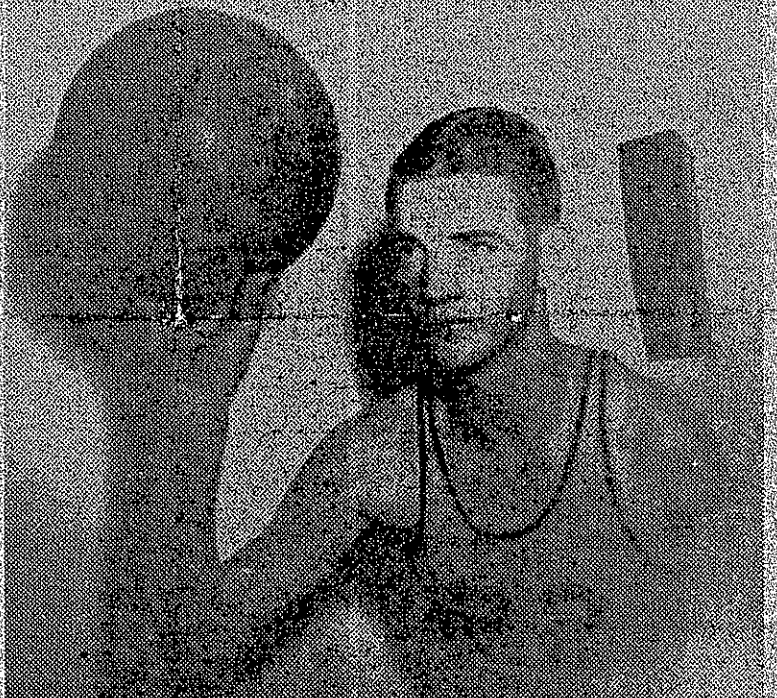
Just as Corky stepped up on the porch, he slipped and made a desperate grab with his left hand when his shot gun dropped. The gun discharged, exploding at Corky's elbow. The force tore all the flesh off his arm to the shoulder. He was rushed to a hospital at Mayfield.

The arm was amputated just below his shoulder soon after arrival and young Hill spent three bleak and dreary weeks in the hospital, a drain on the family finances.

Corky wore his mourning band on his heart, invisible to the naked eye. He grew quiet. He played alone, except for basketball. In order to be in the game he must run with the boys and to stay in the game he knew he had to be good. He had to overcome the advantages the other small boys had over him.

Then came Duane's break when in the eighth grade at Wingo, Adron Doran, then principal at Wingo high school, took Corky under his wing and taught him how to partially erase the handicap he bore in basketball and life in general.

The next year the Hill family moved to Cuba and Jack Story, Cuba race coach, took an interest



**THE MASTERY OF** A onehand push shot is making Hill into a fine basketball player despite the handicap of a loss of his left arm in a gun accident when he was twelve years old. He is one of reasons why Cayce is rated high in the First District.



**PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE** is probably occupying the time of "Corky" Hill, and June Wright, his freshman girl-friend. June has been a big inspiration to young Hill in his fight to overcome a big handicap.

of it to the tiny stub, which Duane uses as a deceptive decoy when faking and breaking past an opponent.

Corky proves his spirit when he goes into action. He rips long one-handed shots from all over the floor, dribbles with unusual effec-

realize his bright outlook on a life which one promised to become dark and dreary.

over him. Then came Duane's break, when in the eighth grade at Wingo. Adron Doran, then principal at Wingo high school, took Corky under his wing and taught him how to partially erase the handicap he bore in basketball and life in general.

The next year the Hill family moved to Cuba and Jack Story, Cuba cage coach, took up where Doran left off with Corky. Under Story, who was constantly guiding him and enabling him to realize his handicap could be very small, Corky soon forgot his disadvantages. He considered himself just as capable as any of his school mates and in no time had plainly defeated the plague.

Last year he entered Cayce high school and was a regular most of the year. He started several games for the varsity and played as much as the more experienced boys with two good arms.

Tom Farley is the new principal and basketball coach at Cayce this year and Corky figures prominently in his plans. He starts and stars in every second team game and, although he has made as many as 17 points in a single game, he usually scores from six to 12 points per game. He then plays with the first, although this year's Cayce team is one of the best in the First District.

Cayce's practice sessions are no different than any other drills. Young Hill's presence does not keep the session from proceeding as though there was no physically handicapped boy on the floor.

To watch Corky maneuver on the floor is something to marvel. He possesses an uncanny knack for handling the ball and his teammates pull no punches in throwing him the ball or fighting for rebounds and loose balls. He is one of them and is looked upon in the same way.

Farley considers Corky the best defensive player on the squad. He simply can't understand how Corky drives unmolested to the basket and scores. Farley attributes part

been a big inspiration to young Hill in his fight to overcome a big handicap.

of it to the tiny stub, which Duane uses as a deceptive decoy when faking and breaking past an opponent.

Corky proves his spirit when he goes into action. He rips long one-handed shots from all over the floor, dribbles with unusual effectiveness and scraps and rebounds with excellent results.

Corky may be no Pete Gray, but he also plays a pretty fair game of softball, not to mention his many other school activities.

Corky has lost little time with romance because of his handicap. Although he is actually worshipped by his school mates, his cute little June stands head and shoulders above the rest.

June and Corky make no bones about it, they have big plans for the future and proudly announce it for anyone who cares to listen. Their chums are intensely interested and constantly are aiding the youngsters in their plans for a dreamy future.

June is only a freshman, but Corky will wait. In the meantime he will continue with his farming, an occupation that promises security for June.

It would seem like playing basketball, planting and tending a crop and carrying on a "serious" romance would present a large-scale program for a one-armed boy. But besides this, Corky finds time to be a good student. In fact, Coach Farley, who runs second only to June in those interested in Corky's welfare, considers him one of his prize students. It hasn't been easy for Duane, was forced to miss two years of school because of work at home.

There have been many handicapped men who fought off disadvantages to become prominent figures in the sports world and other fields. But they will have to travel at a speedy pace to rival the likes of Duane "Corky" Hill, Cayce's All-American boy, and

realize his bright outlook on a life which one promised to become dark and dreary.



POWELL

*From Bill Powell's Notebook:*

# Corky Hill Did Not Stop With Playing Ball

In 1949 Hall Allen and Bill Carter and I went to Cayce one day. Hall and I went to get pictures and stories about Cayce and Carter, a sports writer on our night staff at the time, went to get a story on the basketball team and a feature story about one of the team members.

Hall and I went to the school with Bill and all three of us were deeply impressed by the personality, courage and basketball skill of a kid they called Corky Hill.

Hill, who was 19, was a good ball player, a team leader and one of the most popular students.

*His athletic skill amazed everyone, because he had only one arm.*

Corky could dribble, pass and shoot with the best the school had and, in those days when Cayce was a high school, they had some pretty good boys and some fine teams.

I went to Cayce with Tom Waller the other night; Mr. Waller went there to speak and I tagged along because I like to hear him talk.

I have been to Cayce and through Cayce since 1949, but had not been back to the school since the time we met Corky.

As I walked in the door, I quickly saw Nelson (Corky) Hill, now 32 and one of the best-liked citizens of the Cayce area.

After the meeting at which Mr. Waller made a dramatic speech about Kentucky, I talked for a while with Hill.

Making the basketball team and being a school leader didn't end Corky Hill's achievements in the face of a great handicap.

After graduation he quickly began to make his own living. I believe one of his first enterprises was as a trucker, with his own truck.

Corky now is a dragline and bulldozer operator, and he is one of the best. He works for the county and does a fine, full job every day. Even with his handicap, he deftly manages the five levers of the dozer and the three of the dragline.

Hill works for the county of Fulton, doing the same kind of work they pay

He didn't take a back seat to anyone in high school and he isn't satisfied to do so now.

This makes him a scrapping, determined young man.

Corky lost his arm in a hunting accident at the age of 12. He had rough going at first but adjusted himself to the handicap incredibly fast.

I think he is one of the most outstanding young men I have met in a long time.

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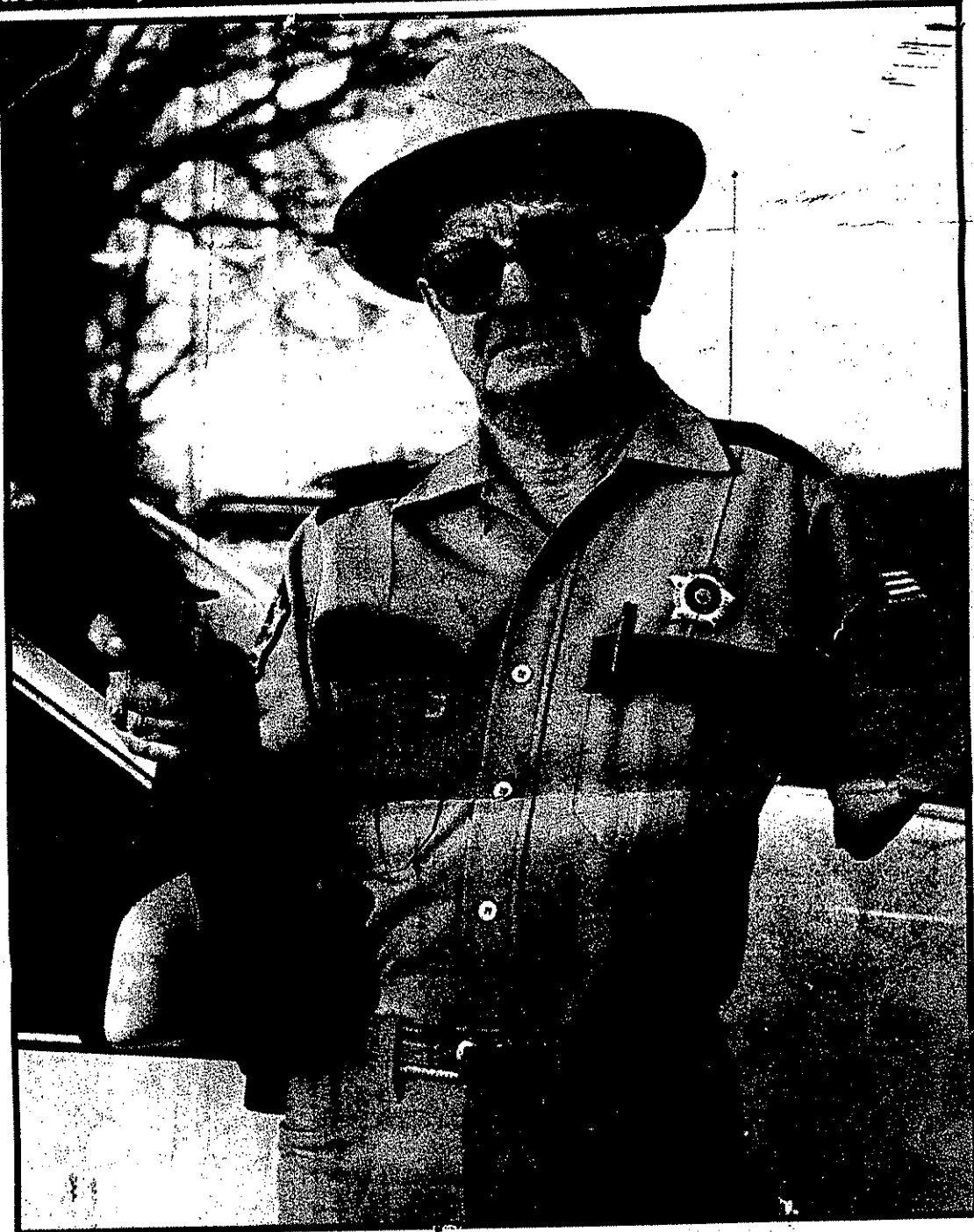
Hill works for the county of Fulton, doing the same kind of work they pay such good money for at Barkley Dam and other big construction jobs.

*I saw Corky at a meeting of the Fulton County Sportsmen's Club and several of the men there told me Hill was an all-around woodsman and citizen and workman. He also bowls a pretty good game.*

Corky married Peggy Flood. They live on Highway 94 and have two cute sons, Terry 7 and Bobby 2.

Nelson and Peggy don't own their own home but have dreams of doing so. Corky believes he can hold his own with any of the dragline and bulldozer men and, naturally, would like to move into the big-paying jobs.





**ANNIVERSARY** — Fulton County (Ky.) Sheriff Cerk Hill marks the 50th anniversary of the day he lost his left arm in a shooting accident on Jan. 30, 1943. Hill said he was 12 years old and had been rabbit hunting the day of the accident. His older sisters found him, bound his arms and shoulder in pieces of torn sheet

County sheriff in 1969, Hill has served a total of 15 years as chief of law enforcement office. Hill said he plans to retire when his current term ends Dec. 31. "A rural sheriff sometimes makes his runs by himself at 2 a.m. in the morning," Hill said. "He never knows what he's getting into. It's not like in the city where you can get somebody to back you up."



**ANNIVERSARY** — Fulton County (Ky.) Sheriff Corky Hill lost his left arm in an accident when a gun that accidentally fired and blew off his left arm Jan. 30, 1943. "It's never been fired since then," Hill said. He was 12 years old and had been rabbit hunting the day of the accident. His older sisters found him, bound his arms and shoulder in pieces of torn sheet and got him to a Mayfield hospital. First elected Fulton

County sheriff in 1969, Hill has served a total of 15 years as the county's chief law enforcement officer. He said he plans to retire when his current term ends Dec. 31. "A rural sheriff sometimes makes his runs by himself at 2 a.m. in the morning," Hill said. "He never knows what he's getting into. It's not like in the city where you can get somebody to back you up."

## From ball player to sheriff, one-armed man has overcome

By JOHN BRANNON  
Messenger Staff Reporter

Nobody knew his name when he first ran for sheriff in 1969.

Seems no one had ever heard of Nelson Duane Hill.

But practically everyone had heard of "Corky" Hill, the one-arm basketball player of Cayce High School glory days in the 1950s.

It didn't take long for voters to come around. Nelson Duane "Corky" Hill beat five other candidates in the 1969 race. On Jan. 10, 1970, took the oath of office as sheriff of Fulton County, Ky. He's been re-elected three times.

January 1993 marks a milestone in life of Fulton County's one-armed sheriff. It is the 50th anniversary of his losing his left arm in an accident near Dukedom when he was 12, and it is the beginning of his last year in office.

Having been sheriff 15 years, he has chosen not to run again. "The people of Fulton County have been very nice to me. They gave me a

chance," he said. "I'm 62 years old. I think I need to step down and let someone younger do it."

His counterpart in Obion County has nothing but praise for the work he has done.

"He has always cooperated with us, and has never failed to help us when we needed it," said Obion County Sheriff Ewell Baker. "Sheriff Hill is well respected both as a man and as an officer of the law. Young people today who think they've got problems should take a look at this one-armed man and say, 'He made it. I can, too.' He will be missed in law enforcement."

Hill is not a big man. Not in physical size, that is. He stands about 5'9" tall, weighs about 150 pounds. He grins constantly, speaks vintage West Kentuckiana, and will shake your hand in the afternoon even though he saw you twice in the morning.

But like they say, looks can be deceiving. Around Fulton County,

Hill has a reputation as a scrappy gut fighter who has shown time and again he can handle the chore. One citizen said, "There was Bufc Pusser and 'Walking Tall,' a there's Corky Hill, 'Walki Small.'"

Hill admits he's been in some rough situations, but said he always tries to head off trouble before starts. "I found out a long time ago you treat a man the way you'd want to be treated if you were in his circumstances," he said. "You do it and you'll have few problems never would take advantage of person I arrested. In fact, I'd give him a little advantage."

On the other hand, there's always those few who won't listen to anything or anyone, he said. "I've one shotgun, one pistol, and one axe pulled on me," he said. "One with the axe, I told him, kill you in your tracks if you'd put that axe down." I would've,

(See Page 10, Col. 1)

## UTM officials doing well after surgery

Former University of Tennessee at Martin football coach Bob Carroll is listed in good condition today following surgery at Baptist Memorial Hospital-East in Memphis.

Carroll, UTM's assistant vice chancellor for alumni affairs, entered the hospital Friday and was treated for artery blockage around his heart. An angioplasty (balloon surgery) was performed Monday, and Carroll said he was doing well this morning.

"I won't be running any foot races anytime soon, but I think I'm going to be fine," he said, adding he is expected to be released Wednesday.

He is in room 5210.

## Names in the news

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Clint Eastwood, who just picked up one best-director award for "Unforgiven," now has a shot at another.

He was one of five filmmakers nominated Monday for Directors Guild of America awards. Over the weekend he won a Golden Globe for best direction.

Also nominated for DGA awards were Rob Reiner for "A Few Good Men"; Neil Jordan for "The Cryer Game"; James Ivory for "Howards End"; and Robert Altman for "The Player."

The winner will be announced March 6.

In the 45-year history of the DGA award, only three winners haven't gone on to win the Oscar for best director.

## Petitioners....

(Continued from Page One)

unaware of the requirement of council approval for subleases.

Ms. Miller has been told to vacate the building by Sunday, according to a letter sent last month from the Hollands' attorney, Steve Stafford, to Ms. Miller's attorney, Jim Stevens. The letter was read aloud during last week's council meeting.

Friday, employees at the Little Dixie erected a large pink poster bearing the words "Keep Joyce in Little Dixie" and "Don't let them close us down." During a three-day period, 153 customers signed the poster, which Ms. Miller said she tentatively plans to deliver to U.S. Congressman John Tanner's office.

No action has been taken within the past week by city officials, Glasgow said.

Ms. Miller said she has not yet received a written eviction notice from the Hollands and intends to stay in business.

Jamie Holland told The Messenger eviction notices have been sent

Hill was charged with assault and battery. In the jury trial that followed, he won and cleared himself and was paid \$2,500 damages from one of the patrolmen.

He said two other bizarre cases come to mind. One case began about 11 p.m. one night when his phone rang. "This man on the phone — I recognized the voice — this man says real slow, 'Corky, Somebody's stole my combine, Corky,'" he said. "I went out to his place and sure enough, his combine was gone out of the field where he'd left it. I tracked it plumb out to the road. They took that combine over a bridge that you wouldn't think would have held it up. They'd went over there and combined a pickup load of beans that night. Never did catch those boys. But we got the combine back. Guess they sold the beans somewhere."

The other case was about a stolen color TV set. Hill recovered it from a hog pen where it had been hidden in a pasture behind a house. "It was still wrapped in a tow-sack," he said. "It was okay. It still played."

Hill is the son of the late Ben and Nessie Hill, a farm couple who in 1938 moved from Weakley County to Fulton County, Ky., and settled on a little piece of farmland near Dukedom.

Ben and Nessie Hill reared a large family — five boys and five girls. As you might imagine, there were hard times lots of times.

"I know what it is to be poor," Hill said. "One thing I'd tell young

people today is, 'Get an education.' That's something no one can take away from you. My daddy, all he could ever do was make his initials, and my mother learned him that. He was always telling me, when I was in high school, to get an education. I thought I was smarter'n him because I could read and he couldn't, and I could write, and he couldn't. But it didn't take me many years after high school that I saw he was a lot smarter'n I was. He was a hard working man, too."

Ben and Nessie and some of the children have passed away. Besides Corky, survivors are Buford Hill, 82, and Robert L. Hill, 80, both of Mayfield, Ky.; Viola Pearl Moore, 78, of Paducah; Dolly Ernestine Woodson, 70, and Annie Francis Odom, 66, both of Hickory, Ky.; Billy Joe Hill, 55, of Cape Girardeau, Mo.; and Audrey June Myatt, 68, of Fulton, Ky.

Mrs. Myatt recalls in stark detail the time and date 50 years ago — about 2 p.m. Jan. 30, 1943 — when Corky lost his arm in a shooting accident.

Mrs. Myatt said she, Francis and Corky were at home, that Charles Buntin of the Pentecostal Church at Mayfield had taken their parents to the Clayton community near Union City to visit a close relative dying of cancer.

"I was 12 year old," Hill said. "I wasn't supposed to have the shotgun, but I got it and went rabbit hunting. I came back and was standing on the porch. I don't know

his arm was shot off. It had shot every bit of the flesh off his arm. It wasn't nothing on his elbow but bone. He started bleeding bad in the house. I tore up a sheet and tied up his arm. I didn't know what else to do. We were back a mile and a half off a gravel road. We laid him down on a bench we used to eat on when we were kids. I told my sister, 'We've got to pray.' We knelt down and went to prayin'."

Before they finished praying, help unexpectedly arrived.

"The dogs started barking and I said, 'Somebody's coming, somebody's coming,'" she said.

A horse and wagon was passing by on the narrow dirt road. It was the Workman family from a nearby farm. Corky had hunted with his friend, Sammy Workman, the day before.

"I stopped them and told them what happened, and before they got turned around, I had a bed fixed for Corky in the wagon," she said. "We put him in it, and they started toward the main road with him."

Mrs. Myatt said she knew her parents should be notified at once. But the nearest phone was at a neighbor's house about three miles away. "It seemed like 10 miles when I was running it," she said. "I called and told mother what had happened, and she said daddy had already left with the preacher and ought to be home."

About this time, the Workmans had reached the main road where they met Buntin's Buick about to turn off toward the Hill home. Corky was quickly transferred to the car, and sped to Fuller-Gilliam Hospital at Mayfield.

"I was conscious through it all until they put me on the operating table," Hill said.

The attending physician was the late Dr. Henry "Jack" Raffer, who at 5-foot-4 inches had to stand on a box to work on Corky.

"After I got out of the hospital, Dr. Raffer told me I died on the operating table," Hill said. "He said when they went out the door, a nurse looked back about the time I flinched, and they came back and started working on me again."

Mrs. Myatt said the hand of God was instrumental in saving Corky's life. "I know it was the Lord. Myself, I didn't even know Him at the time, but I knew He could do it," she said. "I knew He could, if we just depend on Him and trust Him. And I still believe it."

Hill said he was depressed and withdrawn for months after the accident, but the late Jack Storie, basketball coach at Cuba High School, turned him around.

"Coach Storie changed my whole life," Hill said. "He came to me and asked me to go out for basketball. I practiced and close to game time he came 'round with a uniform, and I wouldn't take it. I told him I wasn't going to dress out in front of all those people. Well, come game time he came back, and I had taken the uniform. I was scared to death. Felt like my hair

preceded her in death.

## Beatrice Pinkston

Completed arrangements being announced for Beatrice Pinkston, 83, of Hickman, Ky., who died at her home Jan. 24, 1993.

Services were set for 2 p.m. today at Strong & Cryer Funeral Home in Hickman, with burial follow in Sunset Cemetery in Dresden.

Pallbearers will be Jimmy B. Ber, Jimmy Poe, Phillip Grissom, Todd Guess, Jim Shaw and Lynn Grissom.

Mrs. Pinkston was born Nov. 1905, in Weakley County, daughter of the late Albert and Cora Brudige Maxey. She was the wife of Adrian Pinkston and was a member of Hickman Church of Christ.

Survivors, in addition to her husband, include a daughter, Patricia "Pinky" Guess of Hickman; a sister, Mrs. Hubert Pflueger of Dresden; a grandson, Tim Guess of Hickman; and a great-grandson.

## Woodard Tipton

Woodard C. Tipton of Hickman, Ky., died Jan. 26, 1993, at Baptist Memorial Hospital-Union City.

Arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by Strong & Cryer Funeral Home in Hickman.

## Sears...

(Continued from Page One)

fect such changes," said analyst Thomas Tashjian of First Manhattan Co. in New York. "Martinez historically has been successful at such moves and is a smart man who probably wouldn't have accepted the job without the ability to walk in with a hatchet."

Sears said it would cut 16,000 full-time jobs and 34,000 part-time jobs within the merchandise group, which runs the company's 859 American stores, its catalog business and Sears' credit operations.

The unit employs nearly 350,000 of Sears' 435,000 workers.

The nation's third-largest retailer said the cuts would save it an estimated \$300 million a year.

The first edition of the catalog came out in 1886 but featured only jewelry and watches. The first general merchandise catalog came 10 years later.

For much of its early history, the catalog had a clear mission to deliver merchandise to millions of mainly rural Americans living far away from stores. Its role lessened as retailers started springing up all over the country.

"The strategy of being all things to all people has become obsolete," said Denise Keane-Gillette, vice president of marketing at Hammacher Schlemmer & Co. of Chicago, which sells electronic toys and other gadgets by catalog.

The elimination of the Sears catalog will lead to the closing of

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Jamie Holland told The Messenger eviction notices have been sent by certified mail to the city, the sheriff's department and Ms. Miller's attorney. He said Ms. Miller can legally be removed from the premises come Feb. 1.

## From...

(Continued from Page One)

He put it down."

He tells about the time he and three highway patrolmen tangled in 1973. "Two of 'em grabbed me, and it went into a fight," he said. "The third one got in, and that's when they knocked the wind out of me. Two wasn't so bad. But when the third one got in, that was all she

os, of Fulton, Ky.

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"I was 12 year old," Hill said. "I wasn't supposed to have the shotgun, but I got it and went rabbit hunting. I came back and was standing on the porch. I don't know how I dropped it, but the barrel slid down my left hand. I went to catch it. The hammer wasn't cocked.

When the gun dropped, the stock missed the porch, but the hammer didn't. The hammer hit the porch hard enough to slam the firing pin into the shotgun shell in the chamber. It went off and shot me all in my left arm."

At the time, Mrs. Myatt was 18, Mrs. Odom 16.

Mrs. Myatt said she and her sister heard the shot and ran outside where they found Corky leaning against a wall. "He said, 'I've shot my arm off,'" she said. "It was real cold and he had on a big mackinaw jacket. We grabbed him and took in

Him. And I still believe it."

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"I said that night that I didn't care what people thought about me. I was going to live my life and let them live theirs. I've been living mine ever since."

Hill played four years of basketball — two at Cayce High School and two at Cuba High School.

"Corky" Hill. Even his nickname has its roots in his love of basketball. "The late Pete Murphy gave me that name when I was 14 years old," he said. "We were on a school bus one night, going to a ball game. He just came up with it. Looked at me and I was a 'corky.' It's stuck with me ever since."

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"The strategy of being all things to all people has become obsolete," said Denise Keane-Gillette, vice president of marketing at Hammacher Schlemmer & Co. of Chicago, which sells electronic toys and other gadgets by catalog.

The elimination of the Sears catalog will lead to the closing of most Sears catalog stores — outlets that accept orders and are generally situated in small towns. There are more than 2,000 catalog stores, with about 30 under Sears' ownership and the rest independently owned.

Most of the 113 Sears department stores to be closed are small or medium-sized and carry less than Sears' full line of merchandise.

Sears has eliminated more than 48,000 jobs in its retailing division since 1990. Sears slid from No. 1 to No. 3 among U.S. general merchandisers in 1991, behind No. 1 Wal-Mart Stores Inc. and K-mart Corp.



*January 17, 1985*

History was made Tuesday morning as Nelson D. "Corky" Hill, right, filed papers to run for sheriff of Fulton County. In doing so, Hill became the first person in the history of this County to be a candidate for Sheriff three times. Hill noted that the Sheriff Succession Bill did not help him any as he is not Sheriff at the present time. Hill is shown above as he filed his notification declaration with County Court Clerk Dee Langford Tuesday morning. Only three men have ever been candidates for Sheriff twice in the County, and they are: John Thompson, Coalder Johnson and Hill.

*Date 1-19-89*

### Corky Hill is elected state vice-president

Nelson D. "Corky" Hill, serving his second term as Fulton County Sheriff was elected first vice-president of the Kentucky Sheriffs Association at the organization's annual meeting held in Louisville last week.

This is the second time that Hill has been elected first vice president. He has served on the official board of the group for seven years.

*Jan 22-1980*

### Sheriffs name area men to KSA positions

Three sheriffs and a former sheriff from western Kentucky have been named to offices of the Kentucky Sheriff's Association for 1980.

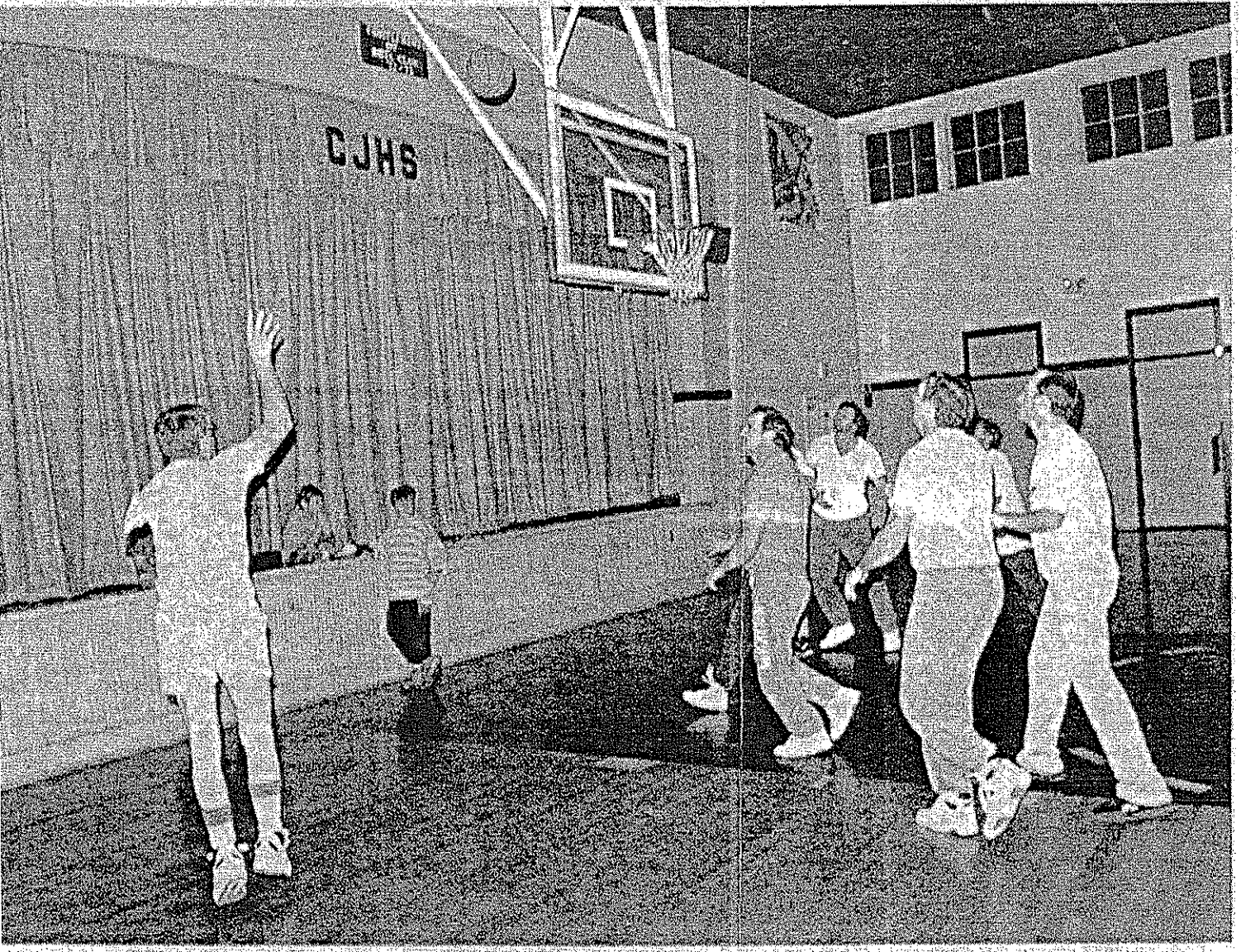
Fulton County Sheriff Nelson D. Hill was named first vice president at the KSA's recent meeting in Louisville. Chosen as directors were Marshall County Sheriff Joe Tom Haltom, McCracken County Sheriff Ray Elliott and former Marshall sheriff Sam Myers.

Joseph B. Greene, Jefferson County sheriff, was named president of the association and Ray H. Stoess was re-appointed executive director of the KSA Boys and Girls Ranch.

Eleven Kentucky sheriffs, including Elliott and Haltom, were chosen to serve on a committee to work for the sheriffs' suc-

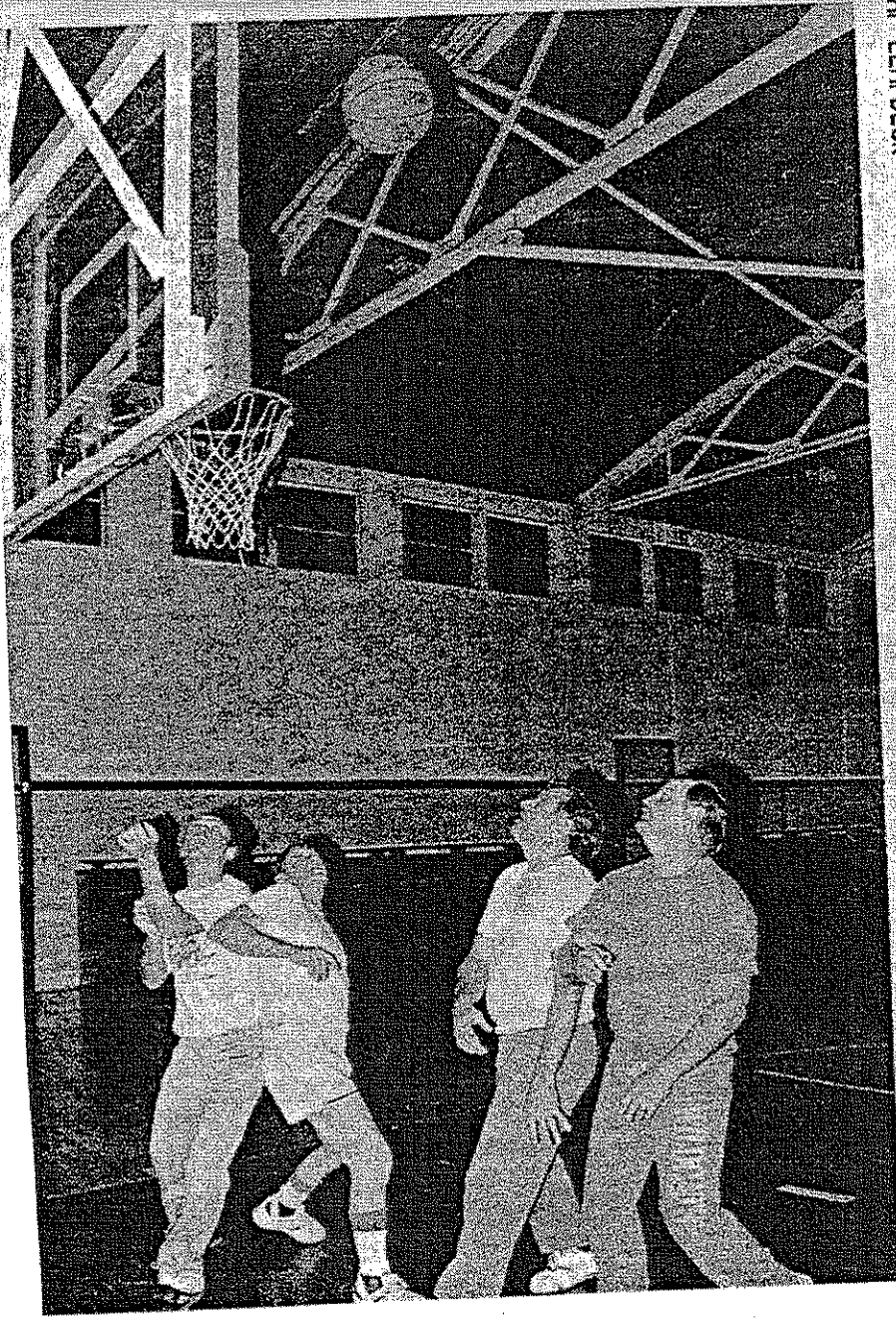


RP LERFDESK



Jan. 16, 1993 -- RP LERFDESK





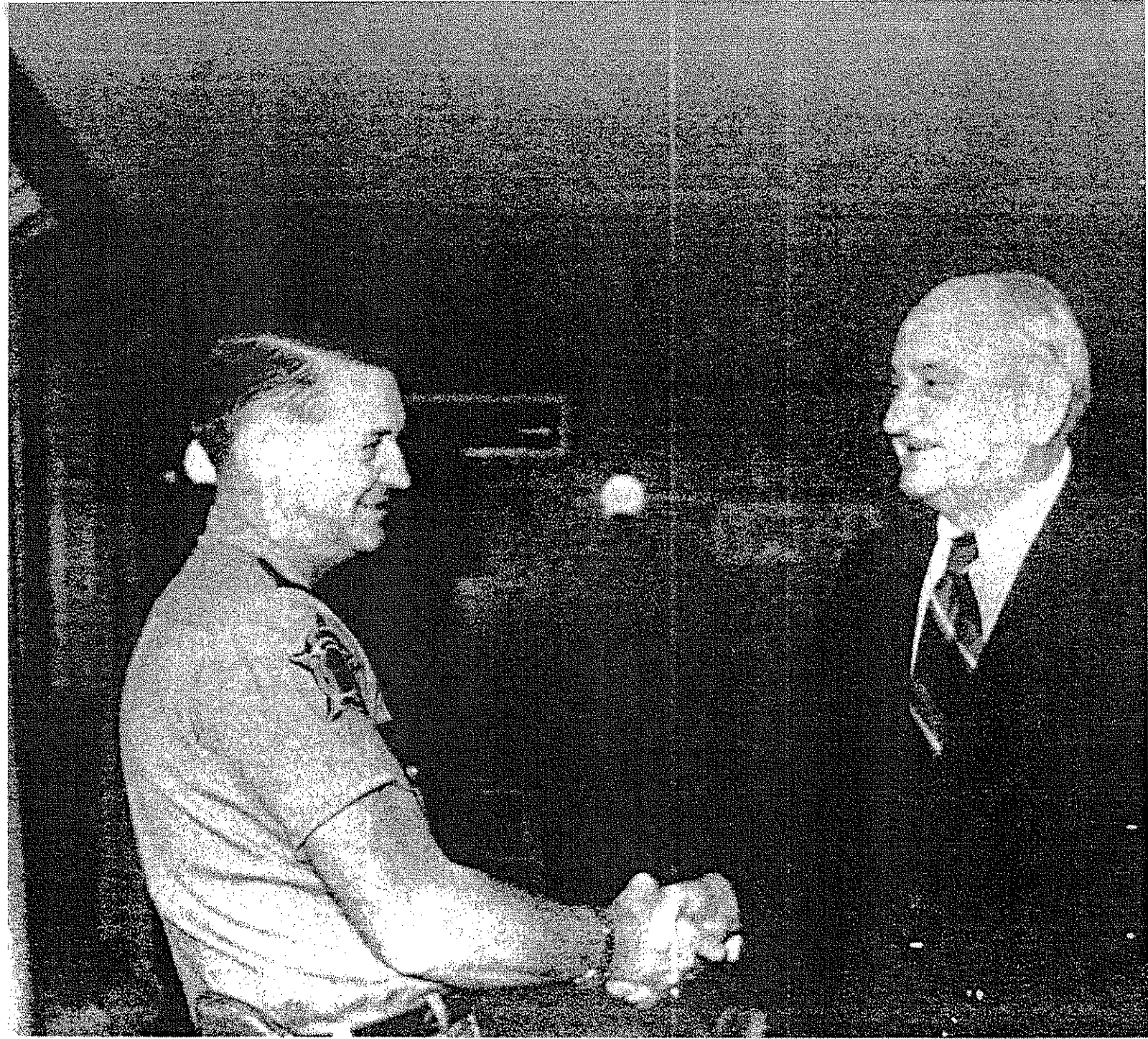
Jan. 16, 1993--  
AP LEHFDESK



AP LEHFDESK







September 24, 2008

Kentucky High School Athletic Association  
Board of Control Members  
Lexington, Kentucky

To: Whom it May Concern,

This letter is being written to support Nelson "Corky" Hill being inducted into the Kentucky High School Athletic Association's Hall of Fame. Corky was a sophomore at Cuba High School when he was in the eighth grade at Cuba. When Corky was twelve years of age he lost one of his arms in a hunting accident. Even though he lost one arm, Corky never lost his love and desire to play basketball. One day during lunch Coach Jack Story saw Corky shooting the basketball. Coach Story was amazed at the shooting skills Corky displayed. Coach Story asked Corky to come out for the basketball team. This was the beginning of a basketball career that is still remembered by basketball fans in Western Kentucky.

Corky Hill was a much better basketball player than the average player with both arms. He made the starting five as a sophomore at Cuba High School. After his sophomore year his parents moved to Cayce, Kentucky. Corky was also a starter on the Cayce High School basketball team. He help lead his Cayce team to two winning seasons.

He saw Corky play several games and every time he was astonished at his ball handling, shooting skills, and over-all basketball talent.

Corky's love and desire to excel in basketball helped him to become an outstanding player. An accident that would have ended most boys' careers motivated Corky to strive and achieve an impossible dream that came true.

Corky is a basketball legend in Western Kentucky. I highly recommend him for this tremendous honor.

Sincerely,

Howie Crittenden

Kentucky High School Athletic  
Association Hall of Fame Member

9-23-08

KNSAA Hall of Fame  
Induction Committee

Nelson (Corky) Hill is a most  
deserving Hall of Fame Inductee.  
Never in the history of  
Kentucky High School Athletics  
has anyone accomplished more  
with had such a physical  
handicap.

Corky lost his arm at age  
twelve, yet he continued  
to play High School Basketball  
at a very competitive level.  
He also played on some  
good Independent Basketball  
teams for several years after  
High School graduation.

I wholeheartedly recommend  
his induction.  
Barney [Signature]



TIMOTHY A. LANGFORD  
CIRCUIT JUDGE

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
**1ST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**  
FULTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
114 EAST WELLINGTON STREET  
P.O. BOX 167  
HICKMAN, KENTUCKY 42050-0167  
PHONE 270-236-3536 FAX 270-236-9975

BALLARD CIRCUIT COURT  
CARLISLE CIRCUIT COURT  
FULTON CIRCUIT COURT  
HICKMAN CIRCUIT COURT

September 26, 2008

Kentucky Athletic Associations Hall of Fame

Dear Sirs.

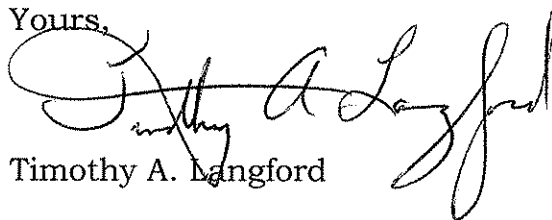
This letter is written to recommend that your board consider inducting Nelson D. Hill (Corky) in to the Kentucky Athletic Association Hall of Fame. Corky has overcome many adversity in his life. I have known him my entire life and have seen him serve as Sheriff of Fulton County for many years, always going above and beyond the call of duty. I have also witnessed Corky Hill from the time that I was a very young man playing in community service basketball games.

My first memory of Corky Hill was when he was playing at the old Western School located at Sassafras Ridge in extreme Western Kentucky. Corky was sheriff for Fulton County at the time and my dad was County Clerk. Both of them were what I would have considered at the time "old men" probably in their early 40's. My perspective has changed dramatically and now I know they were in fact young men. Corky played as he always played, in high gear. Corky's basketball play always demonstrated his ability to out think many of his opponents. I can remember my dad commenting that one of the reasons that it was difficult to guard Corky was the fact that he would often fake out the opposing player with the stump of his left arm. While the opposing player would know that he could not do anything with the left arm, Corky was still able to use that stump effectively to take opposing players eye off the ball.

Corky has used all of his God given talents to compensate for the loss of his arm and he has never been considered handicap by anyone who knew him. Corky would be a great addition to the Hall of Fame as he exemplifies over coming adversity in doing all you can with what you have.

I would strongly request that you give consideration to inducting Nelson D. Hill (Corky) into the Kentucky Athletic Association Hall of Fame. This would bring honor on our entire State.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Timothy A. Langford". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Timothy A. Langford



*David Gallagher*  
*County Judge / Executive*

## **FULTON COUNTY, KENTUCKY**

2216 Myron Cory Dr., Suite 1, Hickman, KY 42050

(270) 236-2594

Fulton County Courthouse - 1903

September 22, 2008

To All Whom It May Concern:

Nelson "Corky" Hill should be selected to the KHSAA Hall of Fame as a player. I'm sure others will attest to his athletic prowess and success on the court. However, I nominate Corky because of what he represents to athletes everywhere.

Competitive sports are a challenge to the most gifted athletes. We honor daily those who have achieved great feats on the playing fields across this Commonwealth. Corky's accomplishments are worthy in that boys and girls across this state do not have to be limited by their handicaps. While many would have given up and not participated in athletic competition, Corky did not look at being one-armed as a handicap. He used it as motivation. The only true handicaps we have are those we self impose. He rose above the challenge; he dared to persevere in the face of a huge obstacle.

Corky embodies the one common attribute of ALL great athletes, the "burning desire" to succeed; to be the best that one can be.

In honoring Nelson "Corky" Hill, we honor all individuals, in sports or not, that have not been limited by their shortcomings or handicaps. We honor the greatness of the human spirit that refuses to quit in the face of adversity. We send a message to the limited athletes every where ----- Yes you can!

Thank you,

David Gallagher  
Fulton County Judge/Executive

DG/ng

James  
Black

Henry  
Callison



George  
Jones

Billy  
Nelms, Jr.



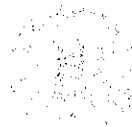


## Fulton County Detention Center

2010 South 7th Street  
Hickman, Kentucky 42050

Phone: (270) 236-2405  
Fax: (270) 236-9140

RICKY PARNELL  
Jailer  
e-mail: rparnell@fultoncountyjail.com



September 15, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter of recommendation comes to you in reference to Nelson D. (Corky) Hill. I have had the opportunity and privilege of working alongside Mr. Hill professionally as well as socially for many years. I can honestly say that this is a person who has never let the misfortune of only having one arm slow him down in any way. He succeeded in high school as well as adult hood as an avid basketball player. I have played basketball many times with Mr. Hill and believe that he is one of the best players that I've had the opportunity of playing with. He was also successfully elected Sheriff of Fulton County, never letting having only one arm stand in his way. This is an office he held for many years, where he gained the respect of many people in the community as well as across the state of Kentucky. He is an inspiration to all who knows him.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ricky Parnell".

Ricky Parnell, Jailer



## Hickman-Fulton Co. RECC

P.O. Box 190  
Hickman, KY 42050-0190  
Telephone: (270) 236-2521  
Fax: (270) 236-3028  
Toll Free: 1-800-633-1391  
www.hfrecc.com  
E-mail: hfrecc@bellsouth.net

Greg Grissom  
President & CEO  
Hickman Fulton RECC  
1505 Myron Cory Drive  
Hickman, Ky. 42050  
September 22, 2008

Dawahares/KHSAA  
Hall of Fame Nomination Committee

Dear KHSSA:

It is with great pleasure that I recommend Nelson (Corky) Hill. I have known him for thirty years.

Corky has always displayed a high degree of integrity, responsibility, and ambition. He is definitely a leader rather than a follower. In addition to his excellent Law Enforcement and Athletic accomplishments, he has proven his leadership ability by mentoring troubled youth and overseeing those in need in our community.

He is also a most dependable team player. His good judgment and mature outlook ensure a logical and practical approach to his endeavors.

Corky would be an asset to any organization, and I am happy to give him my wholehearted endorsement, as the newest member to the KHSAA Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

Greg Grissom  
President & CEO  
Hickman Fulton RECC

Terry G. Pickett  
1201 Union City Highway  
Hickman, Kentucky 42050

Phone: 270-236-3999  
E-Mail Address: bobbie1932@bellsouth.net

TO: SELECTION COMMITTEE

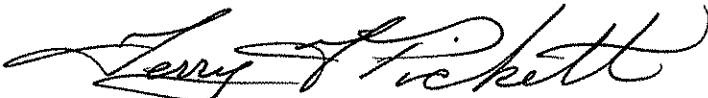
It is with great pleasure that I nominate Nelson D. (Corky) Hill to the KHSAA Hall of Fame.

I have known Corky for approximately sixty years. I have always found him to be honest and trustworthy. He is a leader in the community and well like by everyone. Corky has been employed in Law Enforcement for many years, serving in several county offices.

Corky overcame the adversity of losing his left arm in an accident when he was a child. Even with this difficulty, he excelled at high school basketball. His ability to exceed has transcended throughout his life.

It is my hope that you will give serious consideration to this nominee as he is certainly worthy of this honor.

Very sincerely,



Terry G. Pickett

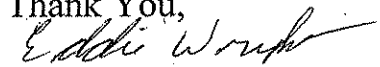
9/18/08

As I try to remember back to when I first met Corky Hill, I realized there never was such a day. I have known him my entire life. Back when I was a teenager I worked all through high school for Corky, all the while learning many of the important life lessons that I still remember today. Growing up, I always saw him as a proactive & respected public servant. Whatever was needed, or who needed it, was no matter to him; Corky was always ready.

Years later I played basketball with him at our ole' alma mater in the old Cayce School gymnasium. And let me tell you; I may be almost 20 years younger, and have BOTH arms, he would always find a way to tire us down. And win! I feel like I can speak for a lot of fellow past and present Cayce Kentucky residents when I say that Corky was, is & always will be an admired and vital person in our community.

It is my honor that I ask you to consider Corky Hill for the KHSAA Basketball Hall of Fame.

Thank You,



Eddie Wright

South Fulton, TN

9-26-08

To Whom it May Concern:

I would like to recommend Nelson D. "Corky" Hill for induction into the KHSAA Hall of Fame.

As a young man "Corky" was injured in an accident that resulted in the loss of his left arm. Although facing a disability that many would consider overwhelming, "Corky" never considered himself handicapped or disabled. "Corky" always loved the game of basketball and became an accomplished player and athlete. "Corky" was a fierce competitor on the court and outplayed virtually all opponents both offensively and defensively. "Corky" helped lead his team to an outstanding High School winning record and when his high school basketball career ended he continued to be a leader in Fulton County.

"Corky" served multiple terms as Fulton County Sheriff and Commonwealth Detective. He still serves the community as Commonwealth Detective today.

"Corky" has always loved the game of basketball and has been an avid supporter of High School athletics. When local schools consolidated, "Corky" helped purchase a school building to be used as a community center so local Kids could have a gym to play basketball. I personally have played basketball with "Corky" and his sportsmanship and basket ball talent is second to non.

I ask you to please induct Nelson D. "Corky" Hill into the KHSAA Hall of Fame.

Jim Moss

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim Moss".

To: KHSAA  
From: Charles R Murphy  
Date: September 23, 2008  
Subject: Corky Hill

I have had the pleasure to know Corky Hill and play independent basketball with and against him from 1965 to 1992. He was very athletic, excellent shooter, tenacious on defense and had a big heart. He adapted to his handicap (one arm) and developed his skills accordingly. If given a choice, I had rather have played on his team than against him. I never had the opportunity or pleasure to see Corky play in high school.

Thanks

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles R Murphy". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Charles R Murphy

To: KHSAA  
From: Charles R Murphy  
Date: September 23, 2008  
Subject: Charles R Murphy Personal Information

After 28 years, I retired from education in 1993. I served education as a teacher, school administrator and coach of basketball, baseball and football. Presently, I am serving as Mayor of Hickman, Kentucky and self employed as a farmer.

Thanks

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles R. Murphy". The signature is written in black ink and has a fluid, connected style.

Charles R Murphy



Nelson D. (Corky) Hill is a man with many talents, its amazing, how he overcame his handicap. He was twelve years old when he was injured by a shot gun in which he lost his left arm.

Corky did not let this get him down he played ball for Cuba High school and was an excellent Basketball player.

Even through his adult years he still played ball with his friends and co workers, and it was a joy to play with him.

He had a way about taking his left arm and shaking it at you to distract you and take you out of the game. He was good at 2 point and 3 points. No one could hardly guard him.

I have known (Corky) for at least thirty five years and he is a great all around guy. Married to Betty Hill they reside in Dickman, Ky., always being a good neighbor and friend.

He could play pool, and I've seen him beat some of the best.

He was also a good mechanic, working on H. wheelers and small engines. I have worked with him from time to time on these engines.

Nelson D. Hill is an honorable man with strong character and good values.

He served for years as Fulton County Sheriff. I was one of his deputies.

A good friend for many years and I believe he should be nominated for the Hall of Fame.

Dennis Warner

---

Phone 270-727-6041

September 28, 2008

RE: Nelson D. "Corky" Hill

To Whom It May Concern,

Corky Hill is one of those rare people who makes an impact on every person who meets and gets to know him. He has never let a handicap hinder him in any way from being a total person. I have know him all of my life, worked for him as a service station attendant at Cayce Shell Service Station, worked with him when he was sheriff and I was principal of Fulton County High School and work with him in all phases of community life.

Corky lost an arm at a young age but never letting his handicap hinder him, he played high school basketball at Cuba High School during his Freshman and Sophomore school years. When his family moved to Cayce, Kentucky, he played high school basketball during his Junior and Senior years. He also played in an independent basketball league for eighteen years. All total he played basketball for 47 years not stopping until he was 63 years old.

Corky not only has been an inspiration for his playing the game of basketball but in the way he has served his community. He operated a "gas station" for many years in the Cayce community. Few people could believe that a man with only one arm could change tractor tires, change oil and work on cars. Later when he ran for Fulton County Sheriff few people outside the county of Fulton could believe that a man with such a handicap could be a sheriff. The people of Fulton County knew how capable he was and elected him sheriff for several terms.

Corky is a champion among men never letting a physical handicap change him in any way and proving to all that anything a person wants to accomplish can be accomplished. He is an outstanding example for all young people to follow when they feel that the barriers of life are too hard. Corky is proof that anything can be achieved with faith and determination. The Kentucky High School Athletic Association will never have a better opportunity to induct a person into the Basketball Hall of Fame that can illustrate a "Most Valuable Player".

Sincerely,



Larry Gardner, Retired Principal  
Fulton County High School  
Hickman, Kentucky