

COLUMNS

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Local businesses to expand

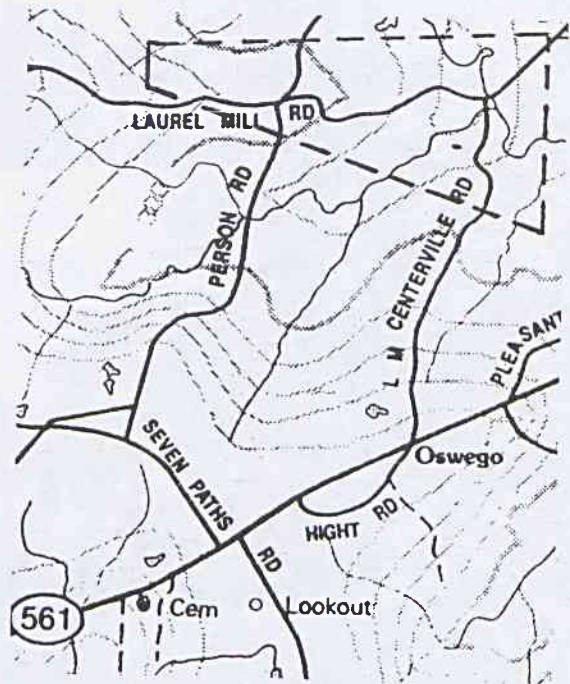
Wal-Mart announces new stores by "The Mill"

"The Mill" might be better known as "The Mall" in the spring of 1996.

During a chamber of commerce meeting in the Blue Room on Saturday, it was announced that all of the land bought in the area of Laurel Mill Rd. and Tharrington Rd. will make way for a shopping center, with tentative clearing of the area beginning in May. In an effort to serve the needs of the northeast part of the state, SAM'S Wholesale Inc. plans to move in the area next January. Several businesses have expressed interest in the area, including Taco Bell, Phar-Mor, and Harris-Teeter.

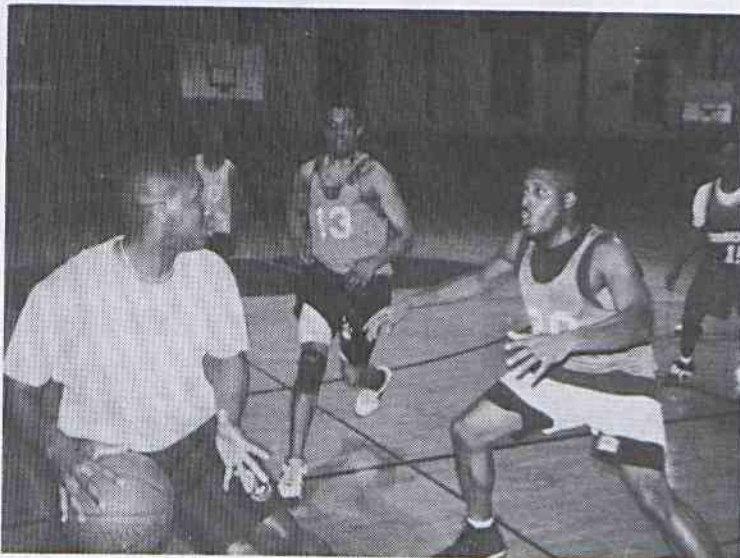
"I understand this is a popular local hangout for students," said one business owner, "but progress must prevail. Franklin County has a golden opportunity to bring new businesses into the area."

There are also plans to remodel and widen Centerville Road, thought to be the best access to the tentatively named Laurel Square Center. In order to preserve the aesthetic value of Laurel Mill, historical tours will be given (cont. page 12)



The proposed site can be located in the dotted lines above. The Laurel Square Center will bring hundreds of jobs to the Franklin County area.

Going NUTS



"Wallace" Johnson and Keon "Pooh" Black move in on Tobe Stephens during the intramural basketball championship. See related story on page 9.

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