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Crime rate in state increases

In the largest upsurge since 1975 the number of reported violent crimes registered in Kentucky rose 121 percent last year.

But in Nicholas County reported crimes dropped in three of the categories listed, rose in two and stayed the same in two others. Or did they?

Reported crimes were down in murder and non-negligent manslaughter, total larceny and robbery.

And burglaries and auto thefts were up while forcible rape and aggravated assault stayed the same.

Figures for Nicholas County, released by state police, show the following crimes reported:

Murder, non-negligent manslaughter: 1978-1; 1979-4.

Forcible rape: 1978-1; 1979-1.

Robbery: 1978-1; 1979-6.

Aggravated assault: 1978-6; 1979-6.

Burglary: 1978-13; 1979-20.

Total larceny: 1978-12; 1979-11.

Auto theft: 1978-6; 1979-7.

However the crime figures for Nicholas County may not be as accurate as they could be.

For example, the Jan. 14, 1979 issue of the Mercury reported a robbery that occurred at a local grocery store on Jan. 12, 1979.

But the crime figures show no robberies in Nicholas County in 1979.

And it's robbery which is one of the crimes that rose sharply last year.

According to a preliminary report on statewide crime statistics for 1979 released by Kentucky State Police Commissioner Kenneth Brandenburgh, robbery and aggravated assault had the largest increases of the seven major crimes covered by the Uniform Crime Reports.

Last year in Kentucky robbery increased 14.2 percent over 1978. Aggravated assault rose 13.5 percent.

Murder rose 3.3 percent last year, according to the report.

Of the violent crimes, only rape decreased. The number of reported rapes dropped by eight-tenths of a percent last year.

Overall the number of reported crimes grew by 6.1 percent over 1978. The increase showed a sharp rise over the previous year's increase of four-tenths of a percent.

As a group, nonviolent crimes increased 5.8 percent. That had the sharpest increase of 12 percent over the 1978 figure. Burglary rose by 3.8 percent and auto theft increased by 1.1 percent.

Final crime statistics for 1979 will be published in the state police annual crime report available in July, Brandenburgh said.

Here are some new state laws

With the General Assembly recessed and planning to return for a few final days later this month, Kentuckians are beginning to look at the new laws created by the 1980 session.

All laws not assigned an effective date or declared emergency will become effective 90 days after the session adjourns. Those with an emergency designation are effective immediately after being signed by the governor.

Bills passing both houses and already signed into law by Gov. John Y. Brown Jr. are:

Higher Education

A new act increases the terms of office to six years for members of the Council on Higher Education. The new law also requires schools of medicine, dentistry and law to publish admissions criteria including criterion based on permanent residence in underserved and under-represented areas.

A faculty member from the community college system will be added on the University of Kentucky board of trustees. Members representing university groups are limited to two main campus faculty members, one community college member and one student member.

A new law develops procedures for the Council on Higher Education in the handling of student records.

The chief executive of the state senate of the University of Louisville will be included as a member of the board of trustees. It also expands the exemption of conflict of interest on certain contracts to staff members of the board.

Local Government

A statute revision eliminates the requirement of filing photos for non-elected peace officers and limits the two-year residence requirement to deputy sheriffs, deputy constables and special local peace officers.

Fiscal accountability is established for all special districts under a

new law that requires budgeting, an audit at least every four years and filing of descriptive information on the district with the county clerk. It also requires annual filing with the county judge-executive of a budget, audit and financial statement and annual newspaper publication of descriptive information.

A new law permits counties to amend a proposed ordinance during the enactment process but requires the full text of the amendment to be set out in writing and published according to statutes governing publication of legal matters.

A new law requires the sheriff and the judge from the opposite political party as the sheriff to return paper ballots from an election to the county clerk.

A new law providing for changes in the governing body of a special district allows for removal of an appointee for cause by the appointing authority following a public notice and hearing. It requires written statement of reasons for removal and allows the person a right to legal counsel. Appointments or removals by a judge-executive require approval of his fiscal court.

A new act removes the county budget commission from the budget preparation process.

A new law transfers sections of statutes dealing with county clerk's fees for filing corporation documents from one statute to another.

A new law prohibits county police force merit boards from requiring retirement of officers or employees prior to age 58.

A bill repealing city tax collection methods has been enacted.

A law has been passed prohibiting the deputy county judge-executive from presiding over or voting at fiscal court meetings.

Public road districts may be created under new legislation.

A new law forbids political activity by members of a county police force when in uniform.

Citizens

A husband or wife is protected under a new law that will prohibit anyone from making a will that defrauds the right to the entirety by a surviving spouse where a husband and wife have created a mutual right to real estate.

Drivers will buy drivers license for four years at a cost of \$8 under a new law.

A new procedure for licensing barber instructors is established under a new law.

A new law provides a limit of three year's prior record on request for an abstract on a motorist's driving record.

A new law allows for removal of a corpse from the eye of a corpse without the consent of kin when an autopsy has been performed.

When both applicants are 60 years of age or older, they will be exempt from the three-day waiting period and blood test requirements for a marriage license under a new law.

Business and Industry

In correcting a clerical error of the 1978 session of the General Assembly, the 1980 session made the corrections relating to unemployment insurance rate schedule retroactive to Jan. 1, 1980. The error was related to employee reserve ratios.

Elections

A new law requires county boards of elections to maintain current election precinct boundaries that will be automatically repealed upon the enactment and subsequent reapportionment and redistricting statutes.

Changes in absentee voting procedures and challenging absentee ballots have been made under a new law.

Health

Licensure of physical therapists is governed under a new law. A system to provide exemptions from immunizations and medical testing for children if parents object on religious or moral grounds is provided under a new law.

Effective March 28, the day it was signed by the governor, a new law requires county health departments to provide free-of-charge any

*Continued on page 7



Blue Licks Park Opens

Blue Licks State Park opened last week and park staffers estimated the crowd for the first week at fair to good. The price of gasoline is expected to have an impact on the park's volume this year but 51 new campsites have been added (entrance at right) which have water and electric service, a dumping station and access to new bath house facilities as well as a new laundry. Other features of the park include a museum (above) with prehistoric exhibits and artifacts and a slide show; an Olympic-sized swimming pool, picnic and playground areas and fishing in the Licking River near the park. The site of the last battle of the Revolutionary War, was the subject of a study last year which was presented to former Gov. Julian Carroll. The study recommended more improvements to the park including an overnight lodge, possibly located in a re-creation of the Blue Lick Springs Hotel. — Mercury photos.



E. E. Pfanstiel
— 1946 photo

E.E. Pfanstiel dies Saturday

Everett E. Pfanstiel, 86, former Carlisle City School Superintendent for 17 years, died Saturday, April 8, in the Nicholas County Hospital.

A native of Pendleton County, Pfanstiel also served as Bracken County Judge and as Bracken County Superintendent of Schools. During his long career of public service he also was a deputy highway commissioner of the Kentucky Highway Department and a former postmaster of the Carlisle Post Office.

Pfanstiel was a veteran of World War I and a member of Dougherty Lodge #60, and the Carlisle First Christian Church where he served as an elder.

Survivors include one son, Everett Earl Pfanstiel, Lexington; three sisters, Mrs. Ruth Turner, Lexington and Mrs. Virginia Pfanstiel and Mrs. Virge McKinney, Brooksville.

*Please turn to page 10

Edwards sets three records

Jerry Edwards set three school records as the Nicholas County Blue-jacket track teams took Lexington Henry Clay to the wire in a dual meet here Monday.

Edwards set school records in the high jump, 1000 meter run and the 800 meter run, winning all three events. He was also on the winning mile relay team, joining David McGuffey, Paul Seim and Barry Brest.

The Henry Clay boys topped the NCHS boys 75-60 and the Lexington girls beat the Lady Blue-jackets 71-47. But Nicholas County runners won 10 of the 14 boys' events and six out of 13 girls' races.

*Winners for the boys were:

*Please turn to page 10

News briefly

NCHS plans open house

Nicholas County High School will have its annual open house next Tuesday, April 15, from 7:30 to 8:45 p.m.

The annual event is a chance for parents and members of the community to see how the high school operates and what kind of education students are getting today.

Hatton, Darrell are All-State

Two Nicholas County High School basketball players were named to the All-State teams announced in Sunday's Lexington Herald-Leader.

Thomas Darrell and Mike Hatton were named to the All-State Honorable Mention Team. Both players are seniors at NCHS.

And boys' coach Mike Kenney received votes in balloting by the Louisville Courier-Journal's Coach of the Year recently. That honor was won by coach of the state champion Owensboro boys team, Bobby Watson.

Little League tryouts Sunday

Little League tryouts for boys ages 9 through 12 will be held this Sunday, April 13 at 2 p.m. at the Carlisle-Nicholas County Parks and Recreation Board park.

A boy cannot be 13 by Aug. 1 and still be eligible to play. For more information call Helen Seaby, 285-2903 or Larry Mitchell, 285-2185.