

FEB

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1982

Smooth sailing so far

New mayor 'very pleased' after first month on the job



Mayor Hughes

After his first month in office, Mayor Frank Hughes doesn't have any complaints. In fact, the former city councilman says that things are running pretty smoothly around city hall.

"It'll be very pleased if the next four years go as smoothly as the last month," Hughes said Monday night.

Hughes said that he was encouraged by the way the first council meeting went, and retained one of his campaign pledges to work "hand-in-hand" with the council in the future.

The new mayor said he was particularly pleased by the large turnout for the year's opening council meeting. "We want our citizens to give us their opinions," he said. "We don't know their views unless they come and express them to us."

On the movement to encourage economic development in the county, Hughes is behind the effort 100 percent.

"I think it is one of the best projects we've had in a long time," he said. He is a member of the internal committee organization to form a grand plan for the community's work toward economic growth.

As he sees it, a major key in the issue is ability of the fiscal court and the city council to work closely together. "It can't be done overnight," he added. "It will take a few years, but finally we will realize some rewards."

"It seems that everyone has woken up and seen that we are going to have to do something," he said. "We've gone downhill far enough. It's time we started pulling ourselves back up."

And "with everybody pulling together," Hughes thinks the future is bright.

Hughes said that the main "number one problem" the city is facing right now is that of needing to replace

Unlike local year of shortages, '81 brought bumper crops in state

While 1981 was a disastrous crop year for many Nicholas County farmers, across the rest of the state and the nation agricultural production turned in a bumper year.

Kentucky barley production is estimated at 483 million pounds, the largest crop since 1963 according to the Kentucky Crop and Livestock Reporting Service. The 27 percent increase in production from 1980 resulted from both increases in acreage and yield, according to agricultural officials, with the primary factor being a 17 percent increase in harvested acreage. Har-

vested acreage is estimated at 224,000 acres.

Total yield, at 2,225 pounds per acre is up 39 pounds from last year.

Harvesting of tobacco started in early May, but was delayed by rains during the rest of May and early June. Many tobacco farms were topped several times before transplanting resumed again in mid-June. Late planted tobacco looked very ragged at planting, but most barley showed good development as the summer progressed.

Type 23, Western fire-cured production is estimated at 77.24 million pounds.

Even with the good growing season, barley showed wide variance in size and quality. Weather conditions were favorable for cutting, curing and housing the crop.

Prices across the state have averaged \$1.21 per pound this year — up 13 cents from last year.

The production of all four types of Kentucky grown dark tobacco are up from last year. Kentucky Type 22, formerly Dark tobacco was similar to burley, justice in size and quality, but generally a good crop.

Burley tobacco production in the eight-state "burley belt" is estimated at 24.8 million pounds, up 16.9 million pounds from 1980. Kentucky accounted

Bourbon and Harrison fall Jackets avenge earlier losses in strong tournament showing



Jacket senior David McCaffey seemed to lose control of the basketball momentarily during a drive to the basket in last week's Harrison Invitational Tournament. McCaffey scored on the play. He and sophomore Steve Anderson were named to the all-tournament team. — Mercury photo.

Nicholas County High School's basketball team put on a strong showing in the Harrison County Invitational Tournament last week in Cynthiana and finished runner-up behind defending regional champion Mason County.

Two Jackets, senior David McCaffey and sophomore Steve Anderson, were named to the all-tournament team.

On the way to the finals the Jackets averted two earlier season losses by crushing Bourbon County 76-58, and Harrison County 66-42. Bourbon had beaten the Jackets by 25 points early in December, and Harrison had squeaked out a one-point win last month.

Mason County won the championship game 44-34.

Jacket coach Mike Kenney was very pleased with his team's performance in the Cynthiana tournament.

"It really helped us," he said at the local high school Tuesday morning. Kenney said that the field in the Harrison County tournament was very similar to the district tournament, and that "we found out that if we get to work and have luck on our side, we can win in the district tournament."

Kenney said the turnaround against Bourbon County was a result of the Jackets forcing the Colonels to play two games of the tournament, and he said he thinks they waited for the good shot, played better team defense and rebounded better.

"We have to be patient and wait for the good shot," he said. "We don't have great shooters and we don't have the big people underneath to get the rebounds when we miss."

Kenney said the recently improved play of senior Mike Webb is adding to the team's overall performance. "He's really come on," Kenney said, adding that Webb has been pulling down rebounds in double-digit proportions the last few games. "We have to have that."

After easily handling Bourbon and Harrison, the Jackets fell behind the undefeated Mason County Royals early Saturday night. The early lead was too much to overcome, and the Royals finished the championship game 41-21.

See Jackets in basket, page 12

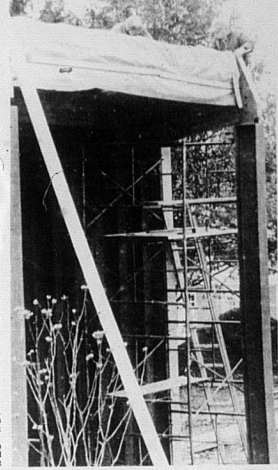
Local county judge is arrested in Paris

County Judge/Executive Renee Smoot was arrested along with local attorney Billy Hopkins in Paris Friday night on alcohol-related charges.

Judge Smoot was charged with being under the influence of intoxicants in public, and Hopkins was charged with deviating from the influence of intoxicants.

The two men were arrested at 11:21 p.m. Friday night (Jan. 29), and were taken to the Bourbon County Jail at 11:30. Both were released on bond the same evening.

Smoot and Hopkins are set to appear



The new Shrine of Our Lady on Main Street is beginning to take shape, as workmen continue their labor through the bracing winter temperatures. — Mercury photo.

Former county judge dies at nursing home

Former county judge J. Walter Shepherd, of Route 2, Carlisle, died Thursday at Johnson-Mathers Nursing Home at the age of 87.

Shepherd, a retired farmer and former schoolteacher, served two terms as Nicholas County judge — from 1943 to 1948.

Shepherd taught school in the county first at East Union, then at Elizaville. He produced the eighth grade student at both schools as determined by a standardized state examination given at the end of the school year.

He also taught school in Robertson County, and was called from the teaching field into service during World War I.

A native of Bath County, Shepherd attended college at Central Kentucky State Normal School (now Eastern Kentucky University) where he lettered in baseball, basketball and football. He played professional baseball in the Ohio, Piedmont and American Association baseball leagues.

Shepherd was a member of the Carlisle United Methodist Church. Funeral services were conducted Sunday at Maters-Gaunce Funeral Home in Carlisle.

(Note: See obituary, back page.)

Longtime teacher, Truman Richey dies

Longtime county schoolteacher Truman Hattah Richey died last Wednesday at the Nicholas County Hospital.

She was 74.

Miss Richey served the local school board for over 27 years as a teacher and librarian. She retired in 1972. She began her career at Headquarters and then moved to the Nicholas County High School in Carlisle.

Miss Richey received a bachelor of arts degree from Murray College and a bachelor's degree in library science from the University of Kentucky. She also earned graduate credit from the University of Chicago.

Miss Richey passed away after an extended stay at the local hospital. She was admitted Dec. 11, 1981.

The local educator served on a National Library Association Recruitment Committee for 15 years, was a sponsor of the Student Library Club at the local high school, and was a member of the Bethany-Nicholas County Teachers Association.

While attending Ashby, Miss Richey was active in the Methodist Wesleyan Foundation.

Miss Richey contributed to the Home Hill section to the History of Nicholas County.

Funeral services for Miss Richey were held Saturday at the Maters-Gaunce Funeral Home.

(Note: See obituary, back page.)

Irvin appointed to Moorefield post

Mrs. Gail S. Irvin has been appointed Postmaster at Moorefield, effective Feb. 4. The appointment was announced last Wednesday by John P. Drexler, Regional Postmaster General for the 13-state central region of the postal service.

Postmasters are appointed by the Postmaster General, William P. Bolger.

Irvin has been Office-in-Charge at the Moorefield Office since Jan. 11. She is a native of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and moved to the Moorefield community in July of 1976. She is married to William G. Irvin, who is employed by the Kentucky State Police and is working out of the Moorefield post.

(Note: The charges express only one side of the story.)

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