

The Carlisle Mercury

119th year, No. 12

Carlisle, Kentucky 40311-0272

Thursday, March 20, 1986

35 cents per copy

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1986



Picking up the pieces

Vicky Mitchell, clutching a cardboard box, searches the area which housed the family mobile home on Myers Road before last Wednesday's storm scattered it and all its contents to the high winds. She is accompanied by Mrs. Simone Joseph, who babysits the Mitchell's daughter Urshol. Both Vicky and her husband Michael were at work when the storm struck at 7:20 a.m. At right, a view of the wreckage.



Costly storm rips through area

Damages may run as high as \$1 million;
3 members of Barterville family injured

A vicious storm of tornado-type intensity which ripped through Carlisle and Nicholas County early Wednesday, March 12 left eight people injured — including three in one family — seven homes destroyed and hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of damage in its wake.

A total of 100 homes were damaged by high winds and hail the size of large ice cubes. Three houses were badly damaged but can be re-

built, it is thought. Thirty barns were reported leveled or storm damaged. Losses are expected to exceed \$500,000.

That's the assessment of the local Disaster and Emergency Service team which headed with Area 13 coordinator Bob Hinton of the state DES Thursday to arrive at the property loss figure. Local DES coordinators Doug Garrett and Darryl McFarland met with Pat Conley of Paris and Property Valuation Administrator Rose Brady to assess losses.

The initial \$500,000 estimate is expected to be revised upward when all repairs are in, deputy coordinator McFarland said Friday. The final figure could be closer to \$1,000,000, one source said.

The assessment team came up with 30 barns lost or damaged but that's just the ones we know about now, McFarland said.

ONE OF THE seven homes completely destroyed was the mobile home belonging to Randy and Paula Hunter of Barterville. Mrs. Hunter and two sons, Ryan, 3 and Adam, 11 months were inside their trailer which was yanked from its foundation and dumped 30 feet away from its original site on Bald Hill Road.

They were rescued by relatives and friends and taken to the local hospital. Mrs. Hunter was taken by ambulance to Humana Hospital in

Lexington with internal injuries, a possible skull fracture and deep cuts about the head and face.

Her children were treated here and kept overnight for observation. Five other people were taken to the hospital for storm-related injuries.

Hardest hit among several buildings was Nicholas County Elementary School which lost over 20,000 square feet of roof. A temporary rubber roof was installed over the building Wednesday night as crews of volunteers and school personnel worked around the clock

to ready the building for classes Friday. A permanent roof was installed over the weekend and finished Monday.

A section of roof the length of the gymnasium and about 35 feet wide was ripped from the high school gym. No significant structural damage to either building was reported, spokesman Bill Guthrie said. Classes were dismissed both Wednesday and Thursday while water and debris from fallen ceiling tiles were removed.

Rain water all but inundated the eighth grade area of the elementary school. Thanks to immediate response from volunteers, little if any carpeting, school supplies or equipment were lost. Carpeting valued at \$20,000 was saved as crews mopped and vacuumed throughout the day and night Wednesday. Fans supplied by the National Guard Army helped dry the carpets and interior exposed when the roof of the building was peeled from its metal decking. This allowed water to pour onto the ceiling tiles which, in turn, fell to the floor in parts of the school.

Rep. Adrian Arnold said Monday that Kendall Sexton of the FarmIA office in Lexington has advised him that some low cost loan money may be made available through that agency. He said all farmers should report losses to the ASFC office here, no matter if the loss was insured or uninsured.

Damage here was not considered extensive enough to qualify as a disaster area.

Farmers should report losses

Even though parts of Kentucky hit by last week's storms were not considered disaster areas, farmers who sustained property damage may be eligible for low cost FarmIA loans.

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Former resident killed in wreck

A one-car accident on Highway 36 Monday night claimed the life of a former Nicholas County man.

Sonny James Ray Simpson Jr., 30, of Millersburg, was found dead at the scene when his westbound 1975 Chrysler apparently struck a guard rail and overturned near the intersection of Highway 36 and U.S. 64.

Troopers Hunt and Mann investigated the accident. Skid marks on the pavement indicated that Simpson applied his brakes prior to losing control of the vehicle. No further details were available.

Funeral services will be conducted Thursday, 2 p.m. at Wesley CME Church in Henryville. (See death notices on back page.)



13 bent barn destroyed

Lula Farah and son Jabron survey the remains of their 13 bent, 750 rail barn on the Lower Jackstown Road that was leveled in the March 12 storm.



Top brass respond

Gen. Martha Layne Collins, accompanied by Adj. Gen. Billy Wellman of the Kentucky National Guard, arrived from Frankfort by helicopter about noon March 12 to survey the damage to Nicholas County school buildings. A Lexington TV station covered the visit.



Trailer home toppled

A trailer home on the property of Brooks Bussell at the intersection of Luke and Myers roads was a casualty of last week's storm.