


Junior high girls teams have good year



Eighth grade, top row, Coach Kenney, Suzanne Cox, Kristi Barton, Tracy Earlywine, Christy Hatton, Renee Linville, Andrea Galbraith and assistant coach Penny Bretz. Bottom row, Erin Weaver, Tina Fryman, Jennifer Vice, Nikki Smoot and Melissa Davis. -Heather Mathes Photo

Seventh grade, top row, Coach Kenney, Kristie Cox, Mary A. Lawrence, Christy Hatton, Nikki Smoot, Renee Linville, Jodi Shitt and assistant coach Penny Bretz. Bottom row, Shawna Arnold, Erin Weaver, Tina Fryman, Candy Long, Jennifer Vice, Andrew Galbraith. -Heather Mathes Photo

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1987 season rated as a pleasant surprise For junior high girls teams

By Heather Mathes
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff
The 1987 season proved to be in coach Barbara Kenney's words "a pleasant surprise" for the Nicholas County seventh and eighth grade team as well as for their coaches.

The seventh grade, before the tournament, won all 14 of their games. "I knew that some of the girls, for instance Nikki Smoot and Christy Hatton would be ahead because they had played during their sixth grade year. But we had more success than either I or coach Penny Bretz had imagined," said Kenney.

"Great improvements were seen in Renee Linville, Tina Fryman, and Andrea Galbraith just to name a few," added Kenney about her seventh grade team.

The Blue Jacket eighth grade team finished with only five losses and 16 wins. Three of those losses came from Paris. The Greyhounds being the team that ultimately won the conference.

"Tracy Earlywine was our big

scorer for the eighth grade with Kristi Barton as one of our leading rebounders.

"All of the girls came and worked out with coach Bretz and I during the summer for five weeks and we consider this extra practice to be in our favor," said Kenney.

"Our strength came in our quickness and the ability to handle, pass and score when we were on the offense. Our only weakness, which was stressed in closer games, came with no big people on the inside. This is no reflection on any one player; size cannot be helped.

"When we had a crucially close one-pointer game, we just could not get around that 6'1" girl. Size could have pulled it out," said Kenney of the Blue Jacket's overall game.

"Next year we only lose four eighth graders on to the high school. We have eight to 10 that when they do go on to the high school, providing they stick with the game, we have a real chance of winning a great deal. When the girls can start at a young age and

begin playing with their peers there is real room for advancement. The same age kids playing for the same amount of time will provide same amount of experience," said Kenney.


"The real key was the community

support. Success always makes for a better time not only for the players and fans but for the coaches also. But the community supported us when we most needed it and we really appreciate that," concluded Kenney.

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Barbara Kenney
NCES Girls Coach

Best of luck Jackets



Representative Adrian Arnold

Go Nicholas County Bluejackets and Lady Bluejackets



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