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Hammons is honored as tops in Kentucky

Statewide award highlights 24 year career in education

By Heather Mathes
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

Gerald Hammons, principal at Nicholas County Elementary School, previously received the Principal of the Year Award from the Seventh District Parent Teacher's Association (PTA).

However, Hammons has continued at a higher level to receive more recognition and thanks for all the valuable services he provides every day and the effort he has provided for 24 years in the field of education.

Hammons was awarded Principal of the Year by the State of Kentucky's PTA at the Annual State Convention held at the Continental Inn, Lexington, April 26.

Hammons said, "It is needless to say I am very honored to receive this award."

but this honor goes farther than that."

He added, "Kentucky's PTA only gives Principal of the Year once annually but I think the honor is brought back to Nicholas County."

The award speaks well of Nicholas County's students, local PTA, teachers, central office and board of education.

Each principal in the state of Kentucky was judged according to the list of attributes, talents and specialties given in the nominating letter and recommendations from the local PTA.

The New Mexico State PTA Board judged the principals set charge of politics could be made.

Hammons said, "You just do not think about winning a state honor in a small county like this when you are going

up against bigger school like those in Fayette, Jefferson and Franklin Counties but there is 24 years of hard work involved in this award and I am proud to have it."

"I have had a lot of help everywhere from many people such as my family, the people I interact with every day, those greatly involved in PTA and the parents that give time and effort to the Nicholas County School System."

The Nicholas County PTA also did well at the State Convention this year bringing home nine membership awards, principal of the year and Rising Star Award and overall, according to Hammons, doing an excellent job.

Hammons concluded, "This has been a great year for all of us but next year we will be looking for even bigger and better things."



Gerald Hammons received Principal of the Year from the Kentucky State Parent Teacher's Association for the 24 years of service given to the field of education. - Heather Mathes Photo

State's first lady pays visit

By Hank Bond
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

Kentucky's first lady, Martha Wilkinson, paid a visit to Nicholas County last week.

At about 6 p.m., the first lady visited the Carlisle Nicholas County Senior Citizens Center, and later that evening, she was keynote speaker at the Nicholas County High School Academic Awards Program. During her address, Wilkinson talked of her personal challenges as the state's first lady, and how she plans to pursue her goals.

"I took a look and said to myself, 'How can I best serve the people of Kentucky' and that I knew," she said.

"Although there are many areas I felt there were areas I must address. As one priority I wanted to work with a program on the prevention of high school drop outs and the prevention of drug abuse. It isn't really possible to separate them, and in addition, we have such a high rate of child abuse in underprivileged areas."

"For the next three and a half years of this term, these are the areas I feel I can best serve the people of Kentucky. I believe in hard work. Hard work is not a deterrent."

Local Briefs

Parade Saturday

The 1988 Little League Baseball parade will be held, Saturday, May 7.

The parade will be held through the streets of Carlisle beginning at 11 a.m.

Everyone is invited to enjoy the parade and attend the season opener.

Beef vote, May 10

The upcoming beef referendum vote will be held May 10, 1988, in the Nicholas County Extension Office.

The voting hours are from 8 until 5. The eligibility on casting a ballot is anyone who has owned cattle between October 1, 1986 and March 31, 1988.

to achievement and winning. "And as a people, we must win."

The first lady also spoke about things she feels are to be communicated to the people of Kentucky.

"I don't accept today that so many people cannot read. You may have been able to get away with that in years past, although I don't know how, but I cannot accept that several hundred thousand Kentuckians cannot read."

"My big objective will be to look back at the end of this term and be able to say, we saw this as a challenge and what we have been able to help change in the state of Kentucky."

"We have 800,000 people in this state with only an eighth grade education."

"We must change the percentage of people, who do not have a high school education."

"I never say no. The sky's the limit. We must work together to make these things happen."

At the conclusion of Mrs. Wilkinson's remarks group awards were presented to students earning a degree of excellence in academic areas at NCHS.

Those receiving academic awards in level one were: Patrick Dale, Tracy Datsow, Arveda Bean, Tracy Manley, Donna McCord, Todd Fuller, John Gabriel, Tammy Morris, Frank Towels, Kristi Carpenter, Jeff Dale, Terry Jolly, Anna Purafall, Tracy Livers, Christy Padgett, James Hill, Cindy Clark, Chris Knapp, Janie Halsey, Tish Hanson, Teresa Oakley, Shannon Eckler, Martha Livingston, Cynthia Fryman, Wendy Fretzlieb, Melaine Robinson, Sara Curran, Timmy Daisey, Todd Wilson, Amy Simons, Christy Steton, Andrea Hall, Becky Dale.

Level Two: These students have earned a minimum of 25

points and a maximum of 49 points in one area of competition; Lisa Moss, Carol Bond, Eric Pedder, Todd Guesse, Cyndi Miller, Les Hardin, Tommie Gray, Malady McClure, Nita Villafior, Alana Kalle, Julie Hamilton, Debbie Peck.

Level Three: These students have earned a minimum of 50 points and a maximum of 99 points in at least two areas of competition; Neal Metcalfe, Ronda Smarr, Michelle Havena, Anna

Koury, Robyn Brookshire.

Those students having a 4.0 GPA this year are: Alana Kalle, Heather Hall, Gretchen Judge, Sonya Johnson.

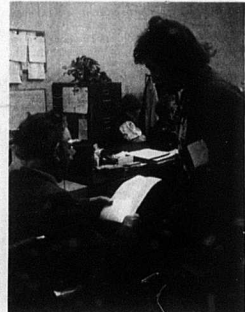
Level Four: The following students have lettered by earning at least 100 points and have participated in at least three different areas of competition; Sonya Denise Johnson, Mary Susan Dotson, Mary Alisha Farah, Gretchen Lynn Judge, Deanna Fryman, Joshua David Guthrie, Heather Lynn Hall.

"I never say no. The sky's the limit. We must work together to make these things happen."

Ky's First Lady Martha Wilkinson



The First Lady of Kentucky spoke to many academically successful Nicholas County High School students during an awards program presented at the high school. - Hank Bond Photo



Many Nicholas Countians welcomed Mrs. Wilkinson at the Senior Center, among them were Mr. Hill Powers. - Heather Mathes Photo

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On a roll - Nicholas County's baseball team runs off six wins in a row, heads for district. *Details Pages 13-14.*

Kentucky's #1 - Nicholas County Elementary Principal Gerald Hammons is honored. *Details Page 1.*

NCHS brings back home - A 4.0 point and demonstrates one sees from 1987 in fourth through county rankings. *See Page 17.*

See Page 7

Extended Forecast for Kentucky Thursday through Saturday

Partly cloudy with a chance of thundershowers, Thursday and Friday. Highs in the mid 70s to lower 80s Thursday, warming into the mid to upper 80s Saturday. Lows in the upper 40s to mid 50s Thursday moderating into the mid 50s to lower 60s by Saturday.

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