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The Carlisle Mercury (left) A. Bond Photo

## The Thrill of Victory

Nicholas County Elementary Principal Gerald Harmons (right) presents the Nicholas County eighth grade girls basketball team, the trophy for claiming first place in the Biggrass Conference Tournament. This marks the second year in a row Nicholas County has won the tournament, plus the Northern Division Championship of the Conference. For tournament details, see this week's SPORTS EXTRA.

## Poaching enforcement becoming more difficult

By Josh Shepherd  
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

Since a spotlighting law was struck down as unconstitutional, Herbert Booth, Game Warden for the Nicholas County area, said it is very difficult to make a poaching charge stick.

Booth said, it is a problem all across Kentucky. Incidents are often sparse in the offseason, but, he said, about two months prior to deer season reports of poachers rise significantly.

However, he said, there are a number of reasons many poachers have been able to get away with it.

"That leaves a lot of time for someone to get well away," Booth said.

However, reports after the fact are one of the most valuable resources a Game Warden can have to make a case, but only if those making the report have the right information to give.

"I know from the information I get if I will have a strong case against someone or not. If I can get enough good information to prosecute, I will, but if not, the best I don't pursue it," Booth said.

Response to a hotline number has been better than anticipated, Booth said. It is a toll-free number, 1-800-25-ALERT and Booth said the number of poacher reports have increased since the number has been implemented.

The most important information to report is vehicle description and direction of travel, Booth said.

A license plate number is also good, but not completely necessary if there is a certain amount of risk involved.

However, prosecution of poachers is difficult since a spotlighting law was struck down by the state supreme court as unconstitutional. Because of the law change, Booth said, spotlighting cannot serve as proof of poaching.

"Spotlighting, even with a firearm in the car, is not illegal," Booth said, "though it is more than likely they are poaching."

The law, which was designed to assist in apprehending poachers, Booth said, was found unconstitutional because of its wording.

Basically the law said an artificial light could shine from an automobile at night.

Booth said, which of course could be used to imply the use of headlights. However, the wording of the law was intentional because, Booth said, there were some poachers using the brights of their headlights for the same purpose as spotlights.

Booth said, though it is more than likely they are poaching.

Yet, though Kentucky has many poachers, he said the state has less than most states and the Kentucky Park and Wildlife Department has an impressive 90.35 percent conviction rate on charged poachers.

The new spotlighting bill will be presented to the legislature which, if passed, will help us be more efficient in

our efforts to take out poachers," Booth said.

Empowered with full police power, Booth said he has had a full time job just maintaining order in his branch as Game Warden.

To aid in his job, Booth said people assistance is tantamount to doing a job well.

By Hank Bond  
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

South Central Bell Telephone Company, reporting a healthy six month profit, has asked state regulators to lower some customer-service fees under terms of an incentive rate plan.

The company said its profits for the six months ending August 31 were \$2.36 million, more than the maximum set by the Kentucky Public Service Commission under the incentive rate plan adopted last year.

Tom Tucker, Carlisle District Manager for South Central Bell, said the refunds are a result of a consumer agreement made between Bell and the Kentucky Public Service Commission.

Under the plan, Bell would be allowed to keep about \$1.4 million in addition to its usual profits.

The profits are generated from earnings on Bell's capital investment surpluses, 12.97 percent. In the last six month reporting period, the company's profits from capital investment was 12.26 percent, this allowing a certain amount to be returned to customers, Tucker said.

The other \$1.4 million, according to a priority system set by the PSC, will be used to lower Bell's trouble-determination fee.

Tucker said the company proposes to lower the trouble-termination fee to 60 cents a month.

According to Mike Seebert, a

scouting for food, a nationwide Good Turn sponsored by the Boy Scouts of America, will take place on November 11 and 18 in Carlisle.

All food collected will be turned over to the Nicholas County Community Center for distribution to the hungry.

Boy Scout Troop #50, sponsored by the First Baptist Church, will distribute and pick up the bags to be filled with food donations.

On Saturday, November 11, each household in Carlisle will find a plastic bag hanging on the front door.

Fill this bag with the canned goods you would like to donate and place it on your front porch Saturday, November 18, for pickup.

If you do not receive a bag, please put your donations in a grocery bag and place them on your front porch.

Further information about Scouting for Food may be obtained by calling Bill Guthrie or Charles Canapp, scoutmasters for Troop #50.

Nicholas County Fire Department will again this year be collecting and distributing toys for children during the Christmas season.

Fire Chief Mark Hughes said the members of the department hope to make the 1989 Toy Drive the largest ever.

Hughes said this will be one of the most aggressive campaigns ever.

"We are in hopes we will be able to provide each child with at least one new toy this year," he said.

"Every year people have continued to be generous and we hope this trend will be able to continue. For many children, without this program, they would have no Christmas - or a very limited one."

The fire department members will also be delivering the baskets of food again this season.

Should you wish to participate in the drive, volunteer to help or if you need information, please contact Mark or Cindy Hughes, at 289-7226 or 289-2369.

Christmas parade will be held in Carlisle streets December 2

The annual Christmas parade and retail promotions will be held 6 p.m., December 2, in the Carlisle Main Street Program is sponsoring the parade this year, and the membership invites anyone interested in participating to contact J. Lynn Garrett at the Carlisle Main Street Office.

Several organizations have been invited to participate and enter floats in the parade.

Bell to lower customers' rates

Bell spokesman in Louisville, 536,834 residential customers and 41,489 business customers subscribe to the service.

"We believe this will ultimately offer many advantages to our customers," Tucker said. "We feel the program is working - well."

The Associated Press contributed due in part, Tucker explained. To strict spending portions of this story.

Worthington Center is open

The newly completed Worthington Center at Blue Licks Battlefield State Park near Mt. Olivet is available for rental throughout the winter season.

Although other park facilities closed for the season of Section October 31, the multipurpose building will remain open.

The 9,500 square foot building is constructed of cedar siding and limestone, and features stone fireplaces on both upper and lower levels.

The meeting room on the upper level features a beamed ceiling, holding kitchen, and club meetings.

For information about Worthington Center and Blue Licks Battlefield State Park, call the park office, 289-5507.

Escapee caught in Nicholas

Kentucky State Police have charged Timmy Eckler, 28, of Mayville, with receiving stolen property (auto) and evading from the Bell County Forestry Camp.

According to a state police spokesperson, Trooper William Hurst was making a normal patrol on U.S. 68 four miles from Carlisle, at about 6:15 a.m., November 4.

Eckler was stopped by a Montgomery County State Jail.

vehicle, which had apparently run out of gas when Hurst drove up and investigated.

The vehicle was pulled from the Bell County highway into a driveway.

The vehicle was checked on the license plates of the vehicle and the individual.

Trooper Hurst found the car to be stolen and that Eckler was an escapee.

Eckler was lodged in a

## WINNERS

- County Races
- ✓ Reese Smoot
- ✓ Rose Brady
- ✓ Rose Brady
- ✓ Joseph Conley
- ✓ Rose Scott
- ✓ Charles King
- ✓ George Garrett
- ✓ Taylor Mathers
- ✓ Carl Cohorn
- ✓ Daryl Stacy
- ✓ Floyd Russell
- ✓ Juanita Smith
- ✓ Robert McGinnis
- ✓ Donald Wells
- ✓ Wayne McGee
- ✓ Donald Holler
- ✓ Gary Hawkins
- City Offices
- ✓ Frankie Hughes
- ✓ Charles Fay
- ✓ Ronnie Clark
- ✓ Sharon Faulconer
- ✓ Betty Barton
- ✓ Tommy Vaughn
- ✓ Doug Garrett
- ✓ Complete Election Results on Pages 2-3



Herbert Booth