

Losing only one starter, NCHS girls make ready

HOOPS, HOOPS, HOOPS
By Jack Shepherd
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

Losing only one starter from last year's team, the Nicholas County High School Girls Varsity basketball team is stronger and more experienced than last year, Coach Barbara Kenney said.

The team, composed mostly of sophomores and freshmen, has worked with basketball since the seventh grade and are used to having Kenney call most of the shots. Even freshman members of the team have had Kenney as coach for four years, she said.

However, Kenney said she is not making the schedule easy on her players. She said she has exchanged some teams the girls had an easy time last year and replaced them with potentially competitive teams for the new

season, she said. Mason County and Rockcastle County are two of the teams she has added to the girls' schedule.

In district play, if one could predict how teams will play this year, she said, she expects the Paris varsity to be the toughest team to over-

come for the title. The varsity starting line up includes Kim Denkins, an eighth grade student Kenney said needs the experience of high school play. The girls team is a young team, only two players are above the sophomore class, Senior Chrise Auxier and Junior Amy

Simons. "Because most are still so young, though they have ability, they lack strength which comes from maturity," Kenney said. They have to overcome being intimidated by the junior and senior players they will face on other teams, she said.

However all team members are markedly improved from last year and Kenney said the girls are aggressive and flexible. The starting team has a good balance of shooters and rebounders, she said, and she has a good bench to substitute.

"Nikki Smoot and Tacy Earlywine were our highest scorers last year, and with the help of four year veteran Chrise Auxier and Christie Hatton, we have a well rounded defense and of-

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Barbara Kenney



Mike Keifney

(Absent - Penny Bretz)

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Losing only one starter

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"I want to try and work my players to develop a good outside offensive strategy. We work well from the inside, but if we have been scouted, most likely opponents will pack their defense close to force the inside shot. But if we can switch, fade to the inside to bring the defense in then suddenly take it back out, we may find ourselves open more for a good shot," Kenney said.

The girls' varsity begin its regular season November 27 against Bourbon County at 7:30 with the Junior Varsity starting off the games at 6 p.m. The games are scheduled for Nicholas County High School.

Girls Tip-Off Against Bourbon Co. Home - November 27

Nicholas County Girls Basketball 1989-90

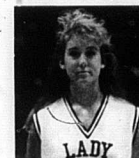
Nov. 27	Bourbon County	Home
Nov. 30	St. Patrick	Home
Dec. 7	Sayre	Away
Dec. 7	Mason County	Home
Dec. 13	Tavel County	Home
Dec. 14	Menifee County	Away
Dec. 27-29	Harrison County Tournament	Away
Jan. 5	Rockcastle County	Home
Jan. 8	Lewis County	Away
Jan. 10	Jessamine County	Home
Jan. 15	Bourbon County	Away
Jan. 18	Madison Southern	Home
Jan. 22	Bath	Home
Jan. 25	Augusta	Home
Jan. 29	Harrison County	Away
Feb. 5	Menifee County	Home
Feb. 7	Flamingo County	Away
Feb. 8	Madison Southern	Home
Feb. 12	Augusta	Away
Feb. 15	Jessamine	Home
Feb. 19	Berea	Home
Feb. 21	St. Patrick	Away



Tacy Earlywine



Nikki Smoot



Kristi Barton



Christie Hatton

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