

Freshmen team has new coach

HOOPS, HOOPS, HOOPS
By Josh Shapere
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

Doug Darbro makes his coaching debut with the Nicholas County Freshman basketball team this year.

Though Darbro played basketball in Nicholas County from 1973-75, he said he has not had any experience coaching basketball.

However he said he is not nervous or unsure of his approach to the game.

Since his team does not occupy the limelight as much as the varsity team does, he feels the Freshman team won't have nearly as much pressure hanging on them.

But, though it is his first experience coaching basketball, he said he knows the game very well from his years on the Nicholas County team.

He said he is no stranger to coaching either. He helped coach Morehead State Uni-

versity's golf team.

Darbro said he will be working with an unusually big freshman team, but said in general the team is slow and has shown some difficulty picking up basic aspects of the game.

"The team has some disadvantages, but they have experience working as a team. They played eighth grade ball together though their season did not pan out very well," Darbro said.

The freshman will work to improve their condition, Darbro said, and as much as possible, increase overall team speed.

One thing Darbro said he has learned is coaching requires a lot of time involvement, much more than he expected.

"I didn't realize the efforts a coach logs in daily, its much more than I expected," Dar-

bro said.
The Freshman begin their season November 28 against Deming.

Freshman will have their first tournament in Clark County on November 30 and December 2.

"I won't predict how well we'll perform this year, but my chief goals for this team is to get the fundamentals down and work to improve the team in ability," he said.

Letcher likes experience for NCHS junior varsity

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The Nicholas County Junior Varsity begin its season officially November 28 with the opening game against Anderson County.

Though JV coach Greg Letcher said there is a lack of quickness on his ball team,



Doug Darbro

he said the team makes up for the deficiency with experience on the court.

"They have had me as a coach when they were freshman, so most are used to the way I do things which is an advantage to me," Letcher said.

The team will have to learn

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how to deal with game pressure, Letcher said.

Because the team is relatively young, they haven't played against high pressure competition. Games were easier in the seventh, eighth and even freshman team, Letcher said.

But through high school, competition and ability get tougher to handle and the JV team needs to work hard to be strong against opponents.

"Whether they are an up and coming team is entirely up to them. They will have every opportunity to gain experience and play. But they have to have the desire to do well," Letcher said.

Letcher said he is trying to develop a transitional team, one flexible enough to switch from an inside to outside game, or vice versa, and play

the full 90 feet of the court. Though weak in some areas, Letcher said the team is in good condition.

"They have enough stamina to play a full game without bogging down," Letcher said.

Letcher said he hadn't picked a starting team, and said he plans to keep all five positions open until game time.



Nicholas County Junior varsity are (front, L. to R.) Shad Tibbs, Donald Mansfield, Charbel Joseph, Brad Brantly, Joe Compton, Aaron Judge, Shannon Bowles, Kevin Morris. (Back) Scotty Zorn (manager), Justin Rowe, Brent Oskeman, David Ebert, Roger Wiloughby, Greg Dixon, Charles Nichols, Jamie Simons, David Pruitt, Jamie Williams, Chris Smoot (trainer)

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