

## Nicholas wins

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However, penalties abounded for the next two plays as two offest each other, an illegal motion call on the Bluejackets and another face mask on Lewis County.

But the Bluejackets again profited as a pass interference call gave the Bluejackets four more tries to move the ball on their own power.

Quarterback Daniel Brown made an important long yardage gain, but unfortunately not enough for the Bluejackets to keep it.

Frye made the only long yardage gain when a reverse play sent him for a first down.

However, Brumback stopped the screen pass and an incomplete pass forced the Lions to punt.

However, Jim Compton blew through and successfully blocked the Lewis punt and the Bluejackets recovered on the Lions 35.

Running back Randy Hayes showed exceptional ability, aided by improved line blocking that gave him room for two seven yard gains.

From the 20, it was slow movement for three Bluejackets to get it within 10 yards of the goal line, but Hayes, taking the ball from the 6, ran off tackle and in to the end zone for the touchdown.

However, the extra point kick attempt was broken and the score remained 6-0.

The Lions began an air attack on their next possession, but the Bluejackets secondary were able to handle themselves as Jason Farah tipped John Bivens pass away from the receiver.

However, on 3rd and long, a pass interference call gave the Lions a first down and, apparently, some momentum.

The middle screen worked well enough with Dale Fawcett leading them short of big yardage. They did manage a first down, however, and Frye, from up the middle, logged seven yards up field.

Though Raymond Brown took down Mike Parker on an option play to put the Lions back eight yards, Bivens connected with Larry Spencer, good for a Lewis

County touchdown to tie the game. The extra point put the Lions up by one.

The Lions kept their kickoffs shallow, this one being picked up by Scott Kenney who scrambled to the Nicholas 40 before being tackled.

But, the offense was handed a set back on 2nd down when Daniel Brown, scrambling to find someone open for a pass, was about to be smothered by the Lions front line. He grounded the ball and the Bluejackets found themselves penalized for both clipping and intentional grounding.

This bad run of luck was worsened by another blocked punt, recovered on the Nicholas nine yard line.

With only seconds remaining in the first half, Jordan took the ball in for the Lions and combined with the extra point left the Bluejackets behind at the half, 14-6.

However, the Bluejackets bounce back quickly in the second half when the defense, throwing the Lions for a three yard loss on first down, came up with an interception by Daniel Brown deep inside Lions territory.

Brumback took the ball and ran it to the 15 for a first down, but it was a pass to Brian Hillander and the run from Hayes that put another score on the board for the Bluejackets.

Brumback caught the pass to make the two point conversion and tied the game up at 14-14.

However, the Lions offense were also able to move the ball as well.

A screen pass saved two broken plays to give the Lions a first down, but a fumble, recovered by Travis Sims, put the ball back in to Bluejackets hands.

However, though Nicholas ran for two first downs to start, they faced a fourth and one situation.

Nicholas, first attempt at deception nearly worked as the Nicholas backfield pulled several Lewis players over the line. Unfortunately, illegal motion was called on one back and the Bluejackets were looking at 4th and eight.

They pulled the same stunt, this time successfully, to bring them in to within three of the first. But the Lions, now wise to stay put, did not move on a long count and the Bluejackets ended up punting anyway.

However, the ball did not remain long with Lewis as a middle screen pass was blocked and intercepted by Travis Sims. Sims ran the ball to the 17 yard line.

Brumback put the points on the board over the middle and also stuck the ball in for the two point conversion to put the Bluejackets ahead 22-14.

Fawcett blocked one Lions' pass to make it 2nd and 10, but a sweep gained 10 for a Lions first.

But, the Lions scoring drive was cut short when Brian Hillander stretched and picked off the long pass for the end zone.

The Bluejackets maintained control of the ball until the last minute of the game when the Lions made their last attempt

at 4th and 14, the Lions attempted a hailback pass that went long and time ran out with the Bluejackets on top.

Head Coach Greg Letcher, pleased with the win, said one of the big reasons the Bluejackets were able to come back in the second half was due to an important adjustment in the defensive line.

"Lewis County was able to run up middle and gain yardage on us, but when we adjusted and I put a noseguard right over the center, that change made the difference in the halfgame," Letcher said.

The defense, he said, was then able to shut down the run game and force the Lions to take their attack to the air, and our secondary covered the receivers well.

"We needed this win because it would have been difficult to get these boys up for the last two games against Bath and Harrison County," Letcher said.

## Bath to visit Friday

By Josh Shepherd  
For The Carlisle Mercury  
SPORTS EXTRA

A lot will be at stake when Nicholas County Bluejackets play host to Bath County Friday night.

Bath, boasting an 8-0 record and Eastern Conference championship title will clinch the District title if they win over Nicholas County, Head Coach Greg Letcher said.

However, should Nicholas defeat Bath, the district race could end in a three way tie with Madison Southern and Paris.

"They will have to go through some kind of tie breaking system to determine who has taken the District title," Letcher said.

Experience and ball control go to Bath, Letcher said.

"They have a good quarterback in Shawn Tolles," Letcher said, "as well as a backfield of equally qualified runners."

"The running game is their most potent attack, but they have developed a good passing game

with two good receivers measuring about 6'3" each.

They don't run many fancy plays, mostly sweep and off-tackles which is why we must be the ones to set the pace of the game right at kickoff," Letcher said.

Bath County's undefeated record is primarily due to a combination of good team effort and the self-confidence and determination the team exhibits in the games they have played, Letcher said.

"There were 2 or 3 games they may have lost but for their own confidence which carried them through to wins," Letcher said.

However, Letcher said Bath County can be beaten.

"If we can come out and take control of the field right at the start without self-destructing through penalties, we will, at least, be competitive," Letcher said.

The Bath County game will be held Friday night at 8 p.m. at the Nicholas County High School football field.

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