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**At local plant
Jockey lays off workers**

By Josh Shepherd
 The Carlisle Mercury

The Carlisle Jockey International plant recently laid off about 10 workers to correct a plant imbalance, according to Howard Cooley, president of Jockey.

Cooley said Jockey annually checks the work force balance between the knitting and sewing operations in all of its plants.

In the 1990 survey, an imbalance of eight-to-10 employees was found in the Carlisle knitting plant.

Cooley said the layoffs are not considerable, considering the 1,400 workers Jockey employs in both plants in Nicholas County.

The layoffs are not indicative of a problem with Jockey's business interests.

He said there is no connection between the layoffs at the Carlisle plant and the bankruptcy of Federated Corporation, a Jockey customer that owns the Lazarus clothing chain.

Cooley said that although Federated has been in the process of closing its doors, Jockey has continued to ship its merchandise to area Lazarus businesses.

Layoffs are not firings, and he hopes they are not permanent. The layoffs are merely to balance the employee work force in both plants, Cooley said.

Three cheers...

The Nicholas County cheerleaders placed second in cheering competition at the 10 Region A tournament. First place went to Paris High School.

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Mayorville takes 10th Region All A crown, advances to state competition. For a complete tourney wrap-up, see page B12A.



Nearly finished
 Workers install water pumps that will pump sewage through the city sewer plant. The plant is expected to be operational by next week.

Sewer plant completion expected by next week

By Josh Shepherd
 The Carlisle Mercury

Tentative start-up date for the new Carlisle sewer system, located on Route 26, is the week of Feb. 12.

The \$2 million project, started last summer by order of the federal government, is about 98 percent complete at a cost of \$1.4 million dollars.

Sewer Plant Supervisor Gene Kelly said about \$600,000 will be spent for engineering and miscellaneous fees. The city's resident engineering firm is G.W. of Lexington.

Water from nearby Bruahy Park Creek is being pumped into the main oxidation ditch and into the two clarifiers on site to workers can find leaks in the concrete structures and repair them, Kelly said.

About 10 leaks have been located by the presence of water spots on the oxidation ditch's outer wall, Kelly said, but no major problems have arisen.

"If everything goes right, the plant should be in full operation the week of Feb. 12," Kelly said.

The biggest job remaining to be done on site is landscaping, Kelly said.

Work on the sewer plant is being conducted by the London Bridge Contracting Company of London, Ky.

Financing for the project, which began in July 1989, came from a combination of grants and loans.

The city shipped in \$100,000 for the project and received a \$734,000 Community Development Block Grant from the state.

Also \$20,000 was provided by the Bluegrass Area Development District.

The Kentucky Infrastructure Authority provided the rest of the money through a state bond sale.

That money will be repaid by the city. A sewer rate increase was approved by the city to repay that loan.

Local Math-A-Thon tops \$2,400 mark

CARLISLE — The 1989-90 version of Nicholas County Elementary's Math-A-Thon raised nearly \$2,500 for the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Elementary students worked problems in Math Fun books provided by St. Jude, and then collected money from sponsors based on the number of correct answers.

Five students collected \$100 or more for the cause, while nearly 60 students collected \$25 or more.

The final tally was \$2,485.74. This was time year in 11 years that the total was below \$3,000, and this year's total was about \$2,000 less than last year's record-high collection.

Event sponsor Harry Spickler said the drop off in donations was probably due to inclement weather.

"Believe the weather was the primary culprit, since our campaign began in early December," said Spickler, a Nicholas County Elementary teacher.

"Math-A-Thon is one of our finest traditions here at NCEES, and our faculty, students, their families, and the community at large have always placed high priority on raising money for Saint Jude Hospital before," Spickler said.

Math-A-Thon allows young people to help other children in need with desperate needs, according to Spickler. St. Jude is known world-wide for its advances in diagnosis and treatment of a childhood disease and afflictions, such as cancer and acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

St. Jude research results are shared free of charge with other hospitals.

All 104 Nicholas County Elementary students who returned money received honor award certificates. The 59 students who returned \$25 or more received Math-A-Thon T-shirts.

The five top fund raisers received barrel tote bags.

Certificates and awards were presented by St. Jude Hospital's returned \$25 or more received Math-A-Thon T-shirts.

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Students receiving titles were Brad Bassell, Jessica Platt, Jenae McDonald, Jeremy Hill and Bassell, a sixth grader, with a total of \$124.90.

McDonald, a kindergarten student, collected the most money among students on the lower floor, with \$118.20. On upper floor, the highest amount was returned by Sherrilyn Brown, a sixth grader, who collected \$101.

"Thank to all of you who have helped on the Math-A-Thon for Saint Jude Children's Research Hospital," Spickler said.

**Among Ky. counties
Nicholas jobless rate ranks at third highest**

Nicholas County's unemployment rate took a jump of 5.1 percent from November to December 1989, according to state Department of Labor statistics.

Preliminary December figures showed Nicholas County with a 10.8 percent jobless rate.

The 10.8 percent was third highest among Kentucky counties for the month.

The number of Nicholas countians out of work jumped from 171 in November to 229 in December.

Labor department figures also show an increase in the local labor force from 3,021 in November to 3,201 in December.

In the entire Bluegrass Area Development District, the jobless rate rose from 4.1 percent in November to 4.9 percent in December.

December unemployment rates for other area counties include: Robertson, 9 percent; Bourbon, 6.5 percent; Mason, 7 percent; Bath, 6, and Montgomery, 5.6 percent.

Jobless rates rose in 64 counties, fell 54 and remained the same in two others.

Kentucky's overall rate edged up from a revised 5.2 percent in November to a preliminary 5.9 percent in December.

The national unemployment rate decreased from 5.2 percent to 5.1 percent for the same period.

Ed Blankwell, Kentucky's chief labor market analyst, said a normal decline in farm jobs had the biggest impact on state's unemployment rate in December.

"Trade and manufacturing employers added workers to their payrolls, but the gains were not enough to offset losses in other sectors," he said.

Nicholas Elementary students participate in DARE graduation

By Jeff Spreading
 The Carlisle Mercury

Vince Carter of Charter Ridge Hospital told Nicholas County sixth graders he was happy to see them at the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) graduation Jan. 20.

He qualified that statement though.

"Usually when I see kids, it's because their parents or the court says they have to be in a treatment program," Carter said.

The Charter Ridge representative, who related his own story about drug and alcohol abuse, told the sixth graders they are in a better position to deal with substance abuse than many.

"You have a new beginning because you know what drugs are like. A lot of my friends I grew up with are dead at 24 and 26 because of drugs," Carter said.

The former University of Illinois football player contrasted his own experiences with drugs with a life of sobriety.

"I used to get up in the morning without smoking a joint or taking a drink. Today I stay sober by the grace of God, one day at a time."

"It took me a long time to realize that I can be anything I want to be," Carter said.

"If you haven't started, don't start. If you have started, get help," was Carter's advice.

Also speaking at the ceremony, which concluded 17 weeks of classroom instruction by the Kentucky State Police, was former University of Kentucky basketball player Paul Andrews.

He told the graduates that their exposure to drugs and alcohol is just beginning.

"It doesn't end here. You're only sixth graders. In high school and college, you'll have to use what you learned to say 'no,'" Andrews said.

"There's no place in your life for any type of substance like that," Andrews said.

Kentucky State Police Trooper Jim Dolwick, DARE instructor, said the lessons in the program could be applied throughout life.

"It doesn't have to be just drugs," Dolwick said some of the lessons included consequences of drug use, peer pressure, self-esteem and alternatives to substance abuse.

Dolwick's advice to parents: "You can make or break these children with word or deed."

Students in the three sixth grade classes at Nicholas County Elementary School presented skills they created for the ceremony. The presentations depicted lessons they learned during the DARE program.

At the conclusion of the graduation, participants received certificates and T-shirts.



Nicholas County sixth graders perform a skit during DARE graduation ceremonies Jan. 30 at the school.