

## Jackets lead won't hold up as Paris wins

By Jeff Spurling  
For The Carlisle Mercury

**SPORTS EXTRA**  
PARIS — Nicholas County took a 4-point lead into the final quarter of play but couldn't hold on as the Bluejackets fell to Paris 75-70 Jan. 13.

Paris had trouble containing the Bluejackets in the first quarter, trailing for most of the first eight minutes.

After a 3-pointer by Jarrod Willis tied the score at 3-3, Nicholas took its first lead at 5:30 on a layup by Daniel Brown.

Nicholas County ran its lead to 14-6 on a field goal by Brown, as the visitors responded to full-court defense by Paris.

Paris came within two points at 23-21, but two free throws by Brian Hilderer stretched it to 25-21, Nicholas.

The first period ended with the Jackets holding a 27-21 advantage.

Brown opened the second quarter with a field goal, but Paris scored the next 10 points to take a 31-29 lead.

Nicholas tied the score at 31-31 when Hilderer passed to Brown for a layup.

At the 3-minute mark, Brown caused a 3-pointer to give Nicholas a 34-31 lead, and a 3-pointer by Hilderer put the Jackets up 37-34.

A field goal by Travis Sims stretched Nicholas County's lead to 41-38.

Paris scored two more and failed on a last-second shot as the quarter ended with Nicholas leading 41-38.

In the third period, Nicholas stretched the lead to 52-46 before Paris came back to within two, at 55-53, at the 2:23 mark.

The Bluejackets managed to keep their lead with Hilderer rebounding out the third-quarter scoring on two free throws to make it 61-57.

The fourth quarter saw Paris turn things around, taking the lead at 62-61, with just under seven minutes left.

The Greyhounds stretched their lead to 67-61 before Nicholas answered with a score.

A 3-pointer by Brown pulled the Jackets to within one at 69-68 with four minutes left to play.

Paris tied the game, when Jerry Barnes hit two free throws with 10 seconds left, putting the Greyhounds up 75-70.

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Paris led 29-19 at the half and 45-33 at the end of the third period.

Nicholas was led in scoring by Brad Brierly with 12 points, and Shad Tibbs, who added nine.

However, at 5:43 Jessamine's Jennifer Slaggett took the lead over the Jackets, 4-3. However, Kristi Barton, seeing action in the starting lineup for the second time this season, made a steal and passed to Earlywine to retake the lead.

Tracy Liptrap and April McCooly fired in two apices for an 8-5 lead. But Christy Hatton and Earlywine fired in two buckets for four points to put the game back in the Jackets favor.

Christy Austin continued to help the Jackets gain ground and the Jackets rallied to a 15-8 lead toward the end of the first period.

Nicole Frye, with five seconds left, pulled in a layup to cut the Jacket lead to five.

The Jackets maintained their lead throughout most of the second quarter until Jessamine went on a shooting rally, led by a 2-point shot from Slaggett and a 3-pointer from Liptrap to come within two. Frye tied the game at the 2:40 mark.

Barton brought the Lady Jackets up by one, but Liptrap and Frye gunned in four points for a 27-24 lead.

By halftime, Jessamine led, 30-24.

An intentional foul called on Jessamine brought Hatton to the line for two for Jessamine, giving the Lady Colts a 23-31 lead.

Denkins tied the game 32-32 before Heather Ash took a shot and was fouled for a 3-point play to put the Lady Colts back on top.

At the end of the third Jessamine lead 41-38.

Smoot brought the Jackets to within two the last time in the game as the Colts went on to end the game in a rally that brought

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## Lady Colts hand Lady Jackets third loss

By Josh Shepherd  
For The Carlisle Mercury

**SPORTS EXTRA**  
The Jessamine County Lady Colts handed the Nicholas County Lady Jackets their third loss of the season Jan. 10, 59-44.

Tary Earlywine opened scoring in the game as she made one foul shot, Nikki Smoot stole the ball and brought in the pass to Earlywine for a 2-0 Jacket lead.

However, at 5:43 Jessamine's Jennifer Slaggett took the lead over the Jackets, 4-3. However, Kristi Barton, seeing action in the starting lineup for the second time this season, made a steal and passed to Earlywine to retake the lead.

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Smoot brought the Jackets to within two the last time in the game as the Colts went on to end the game in a rally that brought

the Colts the win, 50-44.

Nicholas Head Coach Barbara Kenney said the Lady Jackets had come off a hard fought win

against Lewis County the previous evening and many on the starting team were suffering from minor colds.

Denkins was high scorer for Nicholas with 18 points, followed by Earlywine with 11, and Smoot with 8.

Denkins sets school mark; Lewis falls

**SPORTS EXTRA**  
VANCEBURG — Eighth grader Kim Denkins set a Nicholas County Lady Jackets record Jan. 10 with 20 rebounds against the Lewis County Lady Lions.

The Jackets went on to win the game, 75-53.

Kristi Barton, in the starting lineup for the first time this season, brought in eight points for Nicholas off six steals in the game.

With a total of 44 rebounds and 16 steals in the game, the Lady Jackets dominated Lewis County.

Second quarter action saw Nicholas alter its defense to a half court trap, which effectively cornered the Lions' offense and held Fray to seven points in the second half.

Nicholas managed 20 points per quarter through the first half and the third quarter in the third.

Lewis mounted a fourth quarter drive which allowed the Lady Lions to outscore Nicholas substitutes, 17-16, in the fourth.

Elizabeth Schanding brought in four steals and a game high of three for five from the field to add six points to the Lady Jacket total.

Tary Earlywine came out high scorer for Nicholas with 28 points, shooting 12 of 17 from the field. Nikki Smoot brought in 13, while Barton and Denkins had eight apiece.

Schanding had seven points in the game, four of which came in the second quarter, and Tina Fryman brought in two and Amy Simons rounded out the fourth quarter with four points.

Head Coach Barbara Kenney said she was confident the girls would take the game, but did not anticipate the performance they gave.

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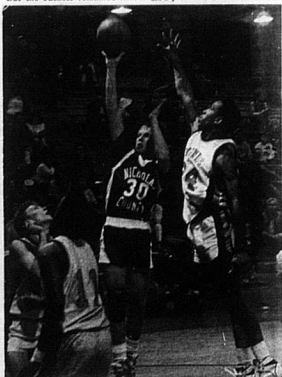
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Brian Hilderer avoids the block as he goes to the basket against the Greyhounds last Saturday, in Paris.

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