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School board accepts bids for bus garage

By Tim Jones
The Carlisle Mercury Staff

CARLISLE — The Nicholas County Board of Education accepted Judy Construction's bid on the new bus garage last Wednesday night.

Judy Construction, located in Cynthiana, had the low bid. The bid was $549,000.

Other construction firms who bid on the project were Warren Building of Mt. Sterling and LWJ Contractors of Lexington. Warren had the high bid of $584,000 and LWJ had a bid $576,000.

Nicholas County Superintendent Cebert Gilbert said the bids were high than he expected. Gilbert added that he felt they were good bids, however.

"There was only $35,000 difference between the high bid and the low bid," Gilbert said.

"It's been my experience that when the bids are within 10 percent of each other, they are good bids," he added.

Gilbert said the garage's construction cost was more than he expected, but felt it was a fair price.

"There were several things that had to be done which drove up the price," Gilbert said.

"A sewer line has to be laid across the entire front of the property and the gas tanks have to be upgraded. In fact, they have to be linked to a computer system," the superintendent said.

The Kentucky Department of Education wanted the board to accept the Judy Construction bid, Gilbert said. He added that the state department considered the Judy Construction bid fair, also.

The board unanimously approved the motion to accept Judy Construction's bid.

Sale of the building bonds will be December 20.

Gilbert said the next board meeting will discuss the preliminary bids on building walls in the elementary school.

The Carlisle Mercury/ Kara Read Photos

The Snow Queen and the Snowflake Princess were crowned at the Carlisle Christmas parade last Saturday. Brandy Mitchell, a senior at Nicholas County High School, was named the Snow Princess. Mandy Storm, a sixth grader at Nicholas County Elementary School, was named Snowflake Princess. First National Bank won first place in the float competition. Our Lady of Guadalupe placed second and Nicholas County Tourism, Inc. placed third in the float contest.

Mandatory collection possibility for future

Statewide system a possibility?

By Tim Jones
The Carlisle Mercury Staff

CARLISLE — Kentucky needs a system of statewide, mandatory garbage collection, according to a group of University of Kentucky researchers.

The researchers started work on the garbage issue in Kentucky at the request of Governor Wallace Wilkinson.

According to a report from Associated Press, the findings of research group center on three ideas.

First, the research team wants to require companies shipping out of state waste into Kentucky to agree to Kentucky rules.

Second, the research team urges the licensing of garbage haulers. Third, the research team said statewide, mandatory collection of garbage is desirable.

The UK researchers said mandatory collection was desirable because it would cut down on the amount of illegal dumping. Illegal dumping, according the Kentucky Department of Natural Resources, poses the greatest threat to groundwater sources in the state.

The collection system landfill operators and politicians speak of when discussing mandatory collection is a system where trucks pick up garbage at homes. The local governments either run the trucks themselves or contract with a company who hauls garbage. No one is exempt from the collection process and all must pay a set monthly fee to have their garbage hauled away.

Making garbage collection mandatory may be difficult. Many political leaders fear the public will be upset with a mandatory program.

"Mandatory collection is a politically sensitive issue," State Senator Ed Ford said in a late November interview.

Ford, who represents Nicholas County in the state senate, said he was concerned about the ability of poorer citizens to pay for a mandatory program. Ford felt a system of dumpsters might be an appropriate step.

Ford indicated the special session would have to examine the issue long and hard before a sensible decision would be reached.

Adrian Arnold, Nicholas County's representative in the state assembly, also felt mandatory collection would be a painful issue for politicians and citizens.

"I know six or seven counties have mandatory collection right now," Arnold said in a Monday morning interview.

"I think most people are against mandatory collection, however," Arnold added.

"I believe they're against mandatory collection because of principle. They feel like they're being forced to do something," Arnold said.

The increasing price of operating landfills will drive up the costs of garbage collection.

Paul Nesbitt, a partner in Nesbitt Engineering of Lexington, felt the current landfill regulations will drive the cost of garbage "sky high."

Nesbitt said a landfill's profitability is tied to bringing garbage into the landfill. He felt increased prices without an efficient collection system would lead to an increase in illegal dumping.

The increasing costs of landfills and the passed on cost of garbage pick up which will follow quickens the move toward regional landfills.

"Small counties cannot afford to operate their own landfills," Rep. Arnold said Monday. "The high cost is making everyone go to regional landfills."

Regional landfills may be the only way to make land-

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Lady Jackets defeat Bourbon for first time in season opener

By Kara Read
The Carlisle Mercury Staff

PARIS — Nicholas County's Lady Jackets defeated Bourbon County for the first time last Tuesday night.

Nicholas County Coach Barbara Kenney said the 49-41 win was not pretty but, "Anything you put in the W column is good enough."

Starters for the Lady Jackets were Kim Denkins, freshman center, Nikki Smoot, sophomore guard, Christie Hatton, sophomore guard, Kristi Barton, junior forward, and Tacy Earlywine, junior forward.

Kenney said, "I guess our youth shined."

The Lady Jackets have only one senior, Amy Simons. Kenney said Simons played well as a substitute for Denkins, a 6-3 freshman.

Nicholas County had 32 rebounds, shot 44 percent from the field and 40 percent from the line. The team stole the ball 12 times and turned it over 15.

Earlywine led the team with 19 points, followed by Smoot with nine and Hatton with eight.

Denkins brought down the most rebounds with 11, even though she sat out for much of the first half.

Kenney said both teams played a sloppy game. She said Nicholas County's guards need to get on track and start shooting more.

"Tacy Earlywine made eight of 10 shots, we should have been shooting more."

She added her team needs to be more aggressive on defense.

"We don't play consistently," she said.

"This crossed the hump for us," she commented. "Now we know what our weaknesses are and we can go back and practice."

Kenney said her team used a variety of defenses and the opening game allowed her to determine which defense works best.

"We'll get better after this game."

Kenney said her team used a full court defense, a man on man press and other defenses. She said to be more successful, the Lady Jackets need to convert faster from a full court to a half court defense.

She said she was pleased with the full court defense in the second half of Tuesday night's game.

She said her team was able to put some pressure on the Lady Colonels and force turnovers in the second half.

Kenney said because it was the first game, both teams were nervous and could have played better.

The Lady Jackets won the opening tipoff but the ball was quickly stolen by Bourbon County.

Nicholas County rebounded a Bourbon County shot and took the ball down the court.

Smoot was fouled and missed both shots.

Denkins committed a foul shortly after to give the Lady Colonels the ball. Bourbon County scored the first points of the game as a result.

Within the first two minutes of the game, Bourbon County had committed four fouls. However, Nicholas County did not score any points from these fouls.

The Lady Jackets had trouble with foul shots. Nicholas County was in the Bonus early in the first quarter but failed to take advantage. The team shot only 40 percent from the line.

Denkins committed three fouls in the first quarter and played sparingly for the rest of the half.

Bourbon County took advantage of fouling, scoring seven points on free throws in the first quarter. Nicholas County scored two free throw points in the same quarter.

Bourbon County led at the end of the first quarter 12-9.

Nicholas County missed two free throws in the first minute of the second quarter while Bourbon County scored two free throws in that minute.

The Lady Jackets had trouble getting inside and getting shots.

Bourbon County led by as many as five points in the second quarter, but the Lady Jackets rallied. Elizabeth Schanding, substituting for Barton, tied the score with a free throw with less than four minutes to go in the half.

Bourbon County broke the tie to go ahead 22-20 but the Lady Jackets answered that score and scored again. Earlywine made two shots from the field and one free throw in the last two minutes of the half, helping Nicholas County

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Scott retires as County Clerk

By Tim Jones
The Carlisle Mercury Staff

CARLISLE — Long time Nicholas County Clerk Rose Scott is retiring from office at the start of the new year.

Scott, who began working in the clerk's office in July, 1960, is retiring effective January 1, 1990.

Scott was appointed clerk in 1977. County Clerk J. Berry Burnaw resigned due to ill health and Scott was appointed as his replacement.

Scott ran for the office shortly after being appointed. She won her first election and was reelected three more times.

Scott said she would miss the people she worked with.

"You can't work somewhere for 30 years and not miss the people you work with," she said.

Scott said she is retiring because she wants to enjoy herself and do things she has not had time to do while clerk.

County Judge-Executive Reese Smoot has appointed Carolyn Mathes as the new county clerk. Mathes has worked in the county clerk's office since 1977.