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At Nicholas County High School sponsor calls it quite an achievement... Academic team ranked seventh in 400 across KY

By Tim Jones
 The Carlisle Mercury Staff
CARLISLE — It's a significant achievement, Nicholas County Academic Team coach Kathy Green said, anytime you're ranked seventh out of 400 schools. The latest poll of high school academic teams has Nicholas County seventh. Both coaches and players on the squad are excited about the ranking. "We were ranked 18th in the state last year," Anna Koury, the language arts star of the team stated. "This year we're seventh and 90 overall. I think we've done rather well over the last two years." The coach agrees and points to last year's team as a reason for this season's high ranking. "I don't know if we're any better this year but we're doing just as well," Green said, "and we're ranked higher due to the success we had last year."

The Rules of the Game
 The academic competition in Kentucky has regulations to follow like football or basketball. The academic squads are split into leagues and each league may have slightly different rules. Nicholas County is in the Limestone Academic League. Other schools in the 12 team league are Mayville, Mason County, Mayville St. Patrick's, Bourbon County, Lewis County, Montgomery County, Fleming County, Tullahoma, Brecken County, Deming and Augusta. The Limestone League, according to Green, uses two contests to judge teams. First, everyone takes a written test. After the written test is scored the two teams compete in a toss-up competition. The toss-up competition is very similar

to the "The Quiz" and Jeopardy television programs. Due to the test taking aspect, players generally have to have some experience before they can become good at the game. "It takes experience and natural ability," Green indicated, "good test takers can do well, but also have to do well in toss-up phase. Players must have the ability to think quickly in the toss-up phase and must be able to remember a vast amount of information." The tests and toss-up phases are given in five subject areas. The subjects are Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies and Humanities. There are four players on each team and every subject area has a different group of four. Players can play on three different teams. "You have to make sure one of the four players in the toss-up can answer questions quickly," Green said.

The Players of the Game
 The Nicholas County team is fortunate to have so many experienced players on this year's team. Both Andrea Hall and Anna Koury, two of the team's top performers, have played for six years, according to Green. In all, there are 12 players on the team. Besides Koury and Hall, they are Brian Canupp, Jill Hardin, Todd Wilson, Angela Campbell, Brian Dunn, Mary Anne Lawrence, Jennie Fryman, Robyn Brookshire, Patrick Baker, Janella Elliott, James Amburgey, Jeremy Mann and Craig Jones. Players are selected for the team through a tryout method. "Kids know what they like and they take tests in different areas," Green noted. Green said she uses a test

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Nicholas County Sheriff's Department investigated this accident on Moorfield Road Wednesday afternoon. The driver, Michael Lemaster, M. Stirling, lost control of the vehicle which earned over twice before resting on its roof. One of the two passengers, both of Jeffersonville, was thrown from the vehicle. According to Nicholas County Hospital, Lemaster and Lisa Manning were treated and released. Gregory Manning was treated at Nicholas County Hospital and transferred to a hospital closer to his home.

Economy, environment priorities

By Karen Head
 The Carlisle Mercury Staff
CYNTHIANA — Over a dozen representatives from Nicholas County attended an information meeting concerning Licking Valley Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D). Carlisle Mayor Frankie Hughes, members of the Carlisle City Council, Edgar Barrell, chairman of the board, and supervisors of the soil conservation board, representatives from the soil conservation district and the fiscal court attended the meeting held at the Harrison County Fair Grounds.

According to Gary McFarland, District Conservationist for Nicholas and Bourbon counties, the program's primary goal is to develop a plan for the social, economic and environmental betterment of a designated area. RC&D areas are approved by the United States Department of Agriculture and ratified by the governor of the state. According to Allen Heard, assistant state conservationist, the RC&D program began in 1965 and there are now five approved RC&D areas in Kentucky.

Is it Bart or a Ninja Turtle? Trick or Treat set Oct. 31, 6 - 8 p.m.

The City of Carlisle will hold its annual Halloween Trick or Treat from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Wednesday, October 31. The door-to-door event is limited to those 12 years of age and under. Nicholas County Hospital will again X-Ray candy and treats from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. as a safety precaution, the night of Trick or Treat. Along with the many homeowners and several businesses in Carlisle giving out treats Halloween night, the Carlisle Fire Department will be handing out treats to the little ghosts and goblins from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Carlisle Fire Department. A reminder that on Halloween night, Bart Simpson look-alikes and versions of giant green ninja turtles will no doubt wander the streets of Carlisle. To keep the fun in the festivities, however, trick or treaters need to consider more than the zany character they will be, and be careful. One of the most important rules to remember is never let young children trick or treat alone. Before leaving home, children should be reminded of everyday safety rules, such as staying out of high traffic areas. Other tips include:

- Trick or Treaters should stay in their own neighborhoods where they are familiar with the people and the terrain. Children
- Parents should tell children not to eat any treats before an adult has inspected each piece.
- Factory wrapped candy should be inspected for signs of tampering - look for puncture holes or signs that candy has been unwrapped and repackaged. Homemade treats from strangers should be discarded. Any suspect item should be reported to police.
- Costumes should be light colored to be easily seen at night. Both costumes and sacks should be decorated with reflective glow-in-the-dark tape. If masks are worn, eye holes should be large enough to allow good vision. Make-up is a safer disguise.
- Avoid long billowing costumes - they're easy to trip over. Shoes should be comfortable and easy to walk in. Wigs, masks and costumes should be made of flame-retardant materials in case they come into contact with jack-o-lantern candles or other fire sources.
- Stay on sidewalks or streets. Lawns may have furniture, clotheslines or holes that can't be seen in the dark.
- Homeowners can do their part to make Halloween safer for every one. Homeowners should check the yard and porch that kids might trip over or run into. Keep pets inside or in the back yard.

should visit only houses with lights on. Parents should tell children not to eat any treats before an adult has inspected each piece. Factory wrapped candy should be inspected for signs of tampering - look for puncture holes or signs that candy has been unwrapped and repackaged. Homemade treats from strangers should be discarded. Any suspect item should be reported to police. Costumes should be light colored to be easily seen at night. Both costumes and sacks should be decorated with reflective glow-in-the-dark tape. If masks are worn, eye holes should be large enough to allow good vision. Make-up is a safer disguise. Avoid long billowing costumes - they're easy to trip over. Shoes should be comfortable and easy to walk in. Wigs, masks and costumes should be made of flame-retardant materials in case they come into contact with jack-o-lantern candles or other fire sources. Stay on sidewalks or streets. Lawns may have furniture, clotheslines or holes that can't be seen in the dark. Homeowners can do their part to make Halloween safer for every one. Homeowners should check the yard and porch that kids might trip over or run into. Keep pets inside or in the back yard.



Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour Saturday night.

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per objectives the committee works toward solving. Heard said grants are possible for RC&D projects although not much federal money is available. He said some funds may be locally generated. Clark Allison, coordinator for the Big Sandy RC&D, said grants are available through a variety of sources. He said his RC&D received funding from several agencies including the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Rural Development Initiative. According to Ruby Akers, Secretary for the Big Sandy RC&D and Supervisor for the Floyd County Soil Conservation District, Big Sandy RC&D completed many projects in its area. Projects such as drainage and flood prevention around several schools and ball fields were included in her list of accomplishments.

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