Writing To Read

First grade program designed to teach phonetics through use of computer

By Tim Jones
The Carlisle Mercury Staff

CARLISLE — They're short and they're funny and they love to push buttons.

What are they?

The first graders at Nicholas County Elementary School who are in the Writing to Read Program.

The Writing to Read Program, developed by John Henry Martin and IBM, introduces children to the 42 phonemes and phonic sounds they will need for the rest of their lives to spell and write. The program also introduces many of the children to the computer, since the computer is the primary educational tool of the program.

The Writing to Read program is taught to kindergartners through second graders at Nicholas County and is located in a bright room where a colorful alphabet runs along one wall and happy, little word groups roam the other.

The room contains several computers and tables, with short chairs for short legs, that have books, tape players and other items interesting to little kids on them.

These are called workstations in the Writing to Read Program.

There are six different workstations in the program and each has a separate focus. Helen Sosby, the educational aide who works with the Writing to Read Program, said the workstations are designed to give the children hands-on training with the computers and words.

The six work stations all have different functions. The first station is the computer station and is used to teach the children phonetics, according to Sosby.

The children set at the computer and put headsets on. They are then able to hear the letter sounds and see the letter at the same time.

"The computer goes through cycles," Mrs. Sosby indicated, "the children see "c" and hear the K sound. They have to hear it, see it and type it."

The children also have tests they must master before going on to the next station.

The words the children work with are in wordgroups. Wordgroups are collections of similarly sounding words such as cat, bat and rat. The children apparently pick up spelling and word recognition quicker in this manner. They also see a picture of the object on the computer, which most educators believe help children learn.

The next station for the children is the work journal station where they type into the computer what they hear on the tape.

The third station is the writing/typing station where the children try to write words they have learned.

The fourth, fifth and sixth stations are the makeword, listening and library stations. These stations help the children learn and make words by reinforcing what they have learned on the computers.

The first grade is the only group who uses the Writing to Read Program, Mrs. Sosby explained. The second and third grade use the computers as "primary" editors and have what are called writing and editing stations, she said.

The kindergartners also use the system, starting after Christmas, and attempt to place words in missing sentences, Mrs. Sosby noted.

Mrs. Sosby said she can see an improvement in childrens' skills once they start the Writing to Read Program.

Other instructors and teachers are just as impressed. Lynn Simons, first grade teacher at Nicholas County, said she sees "remarkable progress" in every class that has used the Writing to Read Program.

"Children write words the way they hear it. You see the same words spelled wrong again over and over," Simons said.

While the Writing to Read Program helps spelling by familiarizing the children with both spellings and sounds, the most surprising aspect is how fast children learn to write using the computers.

"By the second week (of using the Writing to Read program) I have children writing stories," Simons said.

Simons also indicated the computers and Writing to Read Program help to even students out.

"With this program," Simons explained, " even the average students learn fast."

The Carlisle Mercury/Tim Jones photo

Students in Lynn Simons first grade class at Nicholas County elementary school raise their hands to ask questions during their Writing to Read instruction. The instruction takes place in the elementary school's computer room and is instrumental in teaching the first graders how to read, according to elementary school teachers.

What Jesus Taught

By: George L. Rogers

The Bible teaches that God gave to Christ the pre-eminence in all religious matters. (Col. 1:18; Eph. 1:22-23.) It is ours to be obedient to the Christ. He must have first place. He is the head. Some would deprive him of that first place.

Take the word of Christ for instance. It is given first place. How often have you heard it said, "Go to the church of your choice," or something like that? We don't hear much about the church of God's choice. Why is not the choice of Jesus considered? He said it is "my church." (Matt. 16:18.)

But does Jesus have a choice in matter of churches? Listen: "Husbands love your wives as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself up for it." (Eph. 5:25.) Christ was very decided about the matter. He had as much choice about the church as he expects a man to have toward his wife.

Jesus did not consider his own choice or pleasure. He said, "I do always the things that are pleasing to him." (John 8:29.)

Men have the order reversed. They have made churches of their own choice, put names on them entirely foreign to any expressed choice of God, and practice doctrines not taught in the word of God. The mode of baptism has been altered because they prefer it, and they have broken away from the Lord's supper — the first day of the week, (Acts 20:7.), and now choose to eat it whenever the notion strikes.

So today, dear reader, religion has become largely a matter of choice, with divine choice disregarded. We have a multitude of churches, names, creeds, doctrines and methods. It brings home a forceful question each should answer: "Is my religion, the church to which I belong, the life I live, the name I wear, the way I worship and the doctrine I believe — is all this a matter of my own choice, or is it the expressed choice of God, and specified in His word? Where is it written in the Bible? Can you say with Jesus, "I do always the things that are pleasing to him," or must you say it is a matter of my own choice?

Nicholas County High School Student Of The Week

Nicholas County High School has selected Adam Hatton as Student of the Week for week of September 20-24.

Adam is a 14 year old freshman and the son of Larry and Margaret Hatton of Carlisle. Adam participates in the F.F.A. chapter at the high school. He will also enter the gifted program when it is started at the high school.

Adam's interests include horseback riding and he plans to attend college after high school.

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NCHS FOOTBALL
1990 GAME STATS
VS PARIS

Rushing	CA	YDS		TD
R. Brown	10	22		0
Bussell	10	111		1
Tibbs	1	6		0
Sims	3	6		0
D. Brown	1	0		0
Phillips	1	1		0
McGuffey	1	3		0
Farah	1	-5		0
Passing	AT	CO	YDS	I
D. Brown	21	1	203	0
Receiving	REC	YDS	TD	
Sims	2	22		0
Johnson	1	25		0
Morris	1	7		0
Hilander	2	58		0
Ockerman 1	10		1	
Punts	NO	YDS AVG		
Ockerman 5	118	24		
KO Returns	NO	YDS TD		
R. Brown	3	39		0
C. Compton 1	8		0	
Morris	2	27		0
Johnson	1	6		0
Watkins	1	0		0
Punt Ret. NO	YDS	TD		
Sims	1	4		0

Tackles/Def. Stats

Player	S	A	FR	I
Jones	4	5	0	0
Sims	3	4	1	0
Tibbs	2	2	0	0
D. Brown	3	0	0	0
C. Fryman	0	1	0	0
Johnson	2	4	0	0
Morris	2	2	0	0
Abnée	2	3	0	0
Pruitt	2	0	0	0
Givin	4	5	0	0
R. Brown	3	0	1	0
Phillips	2	3	0	0
Bussell	2	3	0	0
Caswell	0	1	0	0
Ockerman	0	1	0	0
Clemons	3	4	0	0
McGlothin	0	1	0	0
Farah	2	2	0	0

Summary

Category	NC	HHS
Rushes	40-181	35-287
Passing	21-10-0-203	6-1-0-18
Fumbles	2	2
Punts	6-118	3-59
Ret. Yds	84	20

Scoring Summary

Team	1	2	3	4	TOT
NC	0	6	0	16	22
Paris	14	6	21	7	48

PHS Edwards 6 yd run (Norman kick)
PHS Edwards 24 yd run(Normankick)
PHS Edwards 77yd run(Kick failed)
NC Farah49 yd pass drom Daniel Brown(run failed)
PHS Summers 18 yd run (Edwards run)
PHS Summers 24 yd run (Norman kick)
PHS Brown 24 yd (Norman kick)
NC Bussell 60 yd run (Comptonrun)
NC Ockerman 10 yd pass from D. Brown (McGuffey run)

Paris rolls to 48-22 win over NCHS

By Tim Jones
The Carlisle Mercury Staff

CARLISLE — Nicholas County suffered its most lopsided defeat of the season, 48-22, at the hands of the Paris Greyhounds last Friday night.

The orange and white clad visitors jumped off to an early lead and never looked back in this contest marked by big plays and slippery playing conditions.

The game began with the skies appearing to open and the rain stopping . Before the game was two minutes old however, the visitors from Paris were raining on the Nicholas County Bluejackets parade.

Nicholas County received the opening kickoff at the 10 yard line and returned it to the 16. From here, three running plays netted only four yards.

On fourth down, Brian Ockerman attempted to punt from the vicinity of the Bluejackets' five yard line but was swarmed under by an orange and white wall of Paris defenders. Paris took possession of the ball and scored on their first play from scrimmage as the Greyhound back tiptoed untouched into the end zone.

Paris added the extra point kick to make the score 7-0 with 10:14 remaining in the first quarter.

Mike Johnson of Nicholas County received the kick off and returned the ball to the Bluejackets 32. From there the Nicholas County offense ran two plays and attempted a third down pass which saw junior quarterback Daniel Brown sacked for a three yard loss.

The ensuing punt by sophomore Brian Ockerman gave Paris possession at their own 35 yard line.

Paris struck quickly with a 20 yard completion, moving the ball inside Nicholas County territory and giving the Greyhounds a first down at the Bluejackets 45 yard line.

The next Paris play saw a slant into the left side of the Nicholas line for a gain of four. The second down play was stopped for no gain by the Nicholas County line and third down saw Paris needing six yards for a first down.

The Greyhounds ran outside and showed the speed that would be the undoing of Nicholas County on this wet, dreary evening.

Taking the pitch from the quarterback a Paris runner burst outside for an 18 yard pick up. With the ball at the Nicholas County 23, Paris again went outside with its speed and entered the end zone for a touchdown.

The extra point kick was good and Paris led 14-0 with 6:02 left in the first quarter.

Bluejackets stay close

The Bluejacket squad received the kick off and advanced the ball to their own 20 yard line. The Nicholas County offense then got untracked as fullback Shawn Bussell went up the gut for a nine yard gain and followed this with a four yard run on first down to give the Bluejackets their first first down of the night with four minutes left in the first quarter.

A first down run by halfback Raymond Brown was halted in the Nicholas County backfield for a loss of two and a second down run by converted halfback Travis Sims was also stacked up for another two yard loss.

Facing third and 14 from their own 30, the Bluejackets came up with a big play of their own. Junior quarterback Daniel Brown hit senior split end Jebron Farah with a 30 yard pass to move the ball to the Paris 41 yard line.

In his first game since being sidelined by a wrist injury in the East Carter game on August 31, Farah caught the ball by cutting in front of the Paris cornerback and nearly broke the play for a score.

The Nicholas offense then ran the ball into the middle for no gain and second down saw another Bluejacket run shut down. On third down, quarterback Brown hooked up with wingback Kevin Morris. Morris, a 5-9, 160 pound junior, made a sliding fingertip catch on the wet grass for his first reception of the night.

Facing fourth down in Paris territory, the Bluejackets decided to go for the first down. A pass from Daniel Brown to Jebron Farah was complete but lacked the necessary yardage and Nicholas County turned the ball over to the Greyhounds on the Paris 39 yard line with 1:24 remaining in the first quarter.

The visitors immediately ripped off a long run and pushed the ball into Nicholas County's half of the field as time came to an end in the first quarter.

Nicholas County stiffened on the ensuing series and forced the high powered Paris offense into retreat. A first down option play was muffed by the visitors in orange pants and resulted in a fifteen yard loss to the Paris 45 yard line. A second and 25 run up the middle netted zero yards for the visitors and offensive pass interference led to a third down and 40 situation.

The third down play was unsuccessful and Paris punted for the first time in the game with 10:11 left in the second quarter.

The Paris punter got off a poor punt. The kick landed on the Paris 32 and bounced backwards. Junior Travis Sims alertly picked the ball up but was hauled down after a short gain. Nicholas County then began offensive operations from the Paris 26, their best field position of the night.

On first and ten, Shawn Bussell gained two yards on a quick dive play up the middle. Quarterback Daniel Brown then connected with the 6-3, 205 pound Sims for a 13 yard gain to the Paris 11 yard line with 9:30 remaining in the first half.

A Raymond Brown dive from the 11 picked up a single hard fought yard. Two passes were unsuccessful as the Paris defense stormed after Daniel Brown on both occasions and forced the Nicholas County signal caller to throw from a nearly horizontal position.

Nicholas County resorted to trickery on fourth and 10 from the Paris 11 with a halfback option pass. Jebron Farah attempted to hit a blue shirt on a slant pattern in the end zone but a Paris defender broke the pass up. Paris took over on downs with 8:01 left in the half.

Paris had limited success on their next drive. The first play from scrimmage was met with a vicious tackle by Bluejacket linebacker Chris Jones. The second down play covered six yards for the Greyhounds and a third down attempt was smothered as the Bluejackets swarmed into the Paris backfield. Led by Travis Sims the blue shirts chased the Paris quarterback, who in eluding Sims, ran into the waiting arms of Pat Phillips and was sacked for an eight yard loss at the Paris 11 yard line.

Another exceptionally short punt by the Paris punter resulted in Nicholas County regaining possession on the Paris 20 with 6:14 left in the half.

The Nicholas County offense found the Paris defense rock solid at this point and two incomplete passes combined with two intentional grounding calls gave the ball back to Paris on their own 45 yard line.

The wet field gave Nicholas County another shot however, as Paris fumbled on their first down attempt and Nicholas recovered on the 50 yard line.

The Bluejackets offensive series was marked by a nifty five yard run by junior halfback Raymond Brown. A second down encroachment penalty on Nicholas County led to a third down pass attempt which fell incomplete. Brian Ockerman then cranked out a punt and Paris took control on their own 26 yard line with 3:30 remaining in the first half.

The second quarter offensive blues continued for Paris as a tight Nicholas County defense continued to hold muzzle the Greyhounds. A first down run was stonewalled into a two yard loss and consecutive

Continued on Page 12

Academic Team RESULTS

The Nicholas County Academic Team has began their season with four consecutive victories.

The academic team has defeated Augusta High School, Tollesboro, Montgomery County and Maysville St. Patrick's. Scores and leading scorers are listed below:

NC 135.5 - Augusta 89

Leading scorers:

Anna Koury: 28 in Language Arts and 25 in Social Studies.

Todd Wilson: 28 in Math.

Jill Hardin: 22 in Math.

NC 105 - Tollesboro 89

Leading scorers:

Anna Koury: 27 in Language Arts.

Brian Canupp: 19 in Social Studies.

NC 121 - Montgomery 97

Leading scorers:

Anna Koury: 24 in Language Arts and 22 in Social Studies.

Todd Wilson: 25 in Math.

Brian Canupp: 23 in Social Studies.

NC 118 - St. Patrick's 88

Leading scorers:

Anna Koury: 20 in Language Arts and 22 in Humanities.

Robyn Brookshire: 20 in Science.

Brian Canupp: 25 in Science and 22 in Social Studies.

Hamilton in top 1 percent

By Tim Jones
The Carlisle Mercury Staff

CARLISLE — A student at Nicholas County High School has placed in the top one percent on a test taken by some of the brightest youngsters in the nation.

Julie Hamilton, daughter of James and Wanda Hamilton of Whetstone Road in Carlisle, scored in the top one percent of the nation on the qualifying test for the National Merit Scholarship Program. The qualifying test screened more than one million students across the country.

The qualifying test for the National Merit Scholarships is the PSAT/NMSQT. The initials represent the Pre-Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

Each year, the National Merit Scholarship Program honors about 50,000 academically outstanding high school students. Of these,15,000 are named semi-finalists and continue to compete for 6,000 scholarships. The scholarships are underwritten by more than 600 businesses and organizations.

The selections for the scholarships are based on the Scholastic Aptitude Test, commonly referred to as the SAT. Julie will take the SAT in early November.

Julie is one of the few Nicholas County students who have ever qualified as a National Merit Semifinalist. "Julie is one of the small, select few who have won this award," Betty Ballard, guidance counselor at the high school, said.

Julie is planning on attending Morehead State University next year and wants to major in business.

Julie Hamilton

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