THE CARLISLE MERCURY SPORTS

Lady Jackets have lead only once as . . .

Paris girls roll over Nicholas

By Hank Bond
The Carlisle Mercury Staff

CARLISLE -- From start to finish the Paris Lady Greyhounds controlled the Nicholas County Lady Jackets in posting a 68-52 win.

The Lady Jackets led only once, 2-0 with 6:20 to play in the first quarter when Kim Denkins, the Jackets' freshman center, powered back a tip-in.

The Greyhounds' Angie Fields hit a layup at 6:05 to knot the score 2-2.

A three point basket at the top of the key by Ashley Allen, who finished with 22 to lead Paris, was all the Greyhounds needed in taking a lead they would never give up.

Denkins followed her own miss to make it 5-4, but Paris went on a 5-0 win on a bucket by Lisa McCarty and another three point shot from the left corner by Allen.

Kristie Hatton hit two from the charity line to cut the lead to 10-6 with 3:02 to play in the first quarter, but Paris added two to its lead, with a Hatton jumper at the buzzer pulling the Jackets with six, 16-10 at the end of the first quarter.

Paris opened the second quarter with four free throws by Megan May to take a 20-10 lead.

Denkins hit a free throw and Tacy Earlywine followed a missed shot to cut the margin back to 20-13.

Paris' full court pressure began to take its toll, but the Jackets were able to stay close cutting the lead to 28-22 with 2:05 to play in the half.

Paris never let up, though, and when Jenny King hit a follow-up basket with one second to play the Greyhounds had the game in control lead 38-22 at the intermission.

Denkins opened the second half with a layup, but when she hit another with 4:31 to play in the third quarter, Nicholas County was trailing 44-26.

Paris mishandled the ball three straight trips down the floor and Paris Coach Connie Appelman called a timeout to regroup.

Denkins hit a followup with 3:32 to go in the quarter, but Paris extended its lead back to 51-31 with 51 seconds left in the quarter.

Hatton counted a bucket with 25 seconds left, but Paris had put the game away leading 51-33 going into the last eight minutes.

Nicholas County cut the Paris lead to 53-41 with 5:49 to go in the game, and Appelman called another timeout.

Denkins went back to work after a Paris miss, pulling down the rebound, and following a missed shot on the Nicholas end to cut the lead to 10, 53-43 with 5:23 to go in the game.

Just when it appeared Nicholas County was making its move to take a final run at the Greyhounds, Allen drove the lane for an eight foot shot, the Jackets failed to convert and May counted a follow up basket with 4:27 to play in the game to give Paris a 57-43 advantage.

Hatton hit a three point shot with 4:12 to go to cut the lead back to 11, 57-46, but Allen hit a layup and Paris was back up by 13.

The Jackets got as close as 11 with a Denkins layup with 3:36 left in the game, but May hit two followup baskets, and King hit a jumper from six feet out to lift Paris back to a 17 point lead with 1:52 to play.

Hatton hit two free throws with 1:40 to go and Denkins hit a layup with 49 seconds to play, but the Greyhounds were nearly perfect from the charity line and closed the game with three of four shooting to post the 16 point decision.

"Our bench came and held its own (from early foul trouble)" said Appelman just after the game.

"We look at our reserves as starters out there....We've played that way all year long and that's the way we'll continue."

NCHS Coach Barbara Kenney, whose team fell to 9-2, said, "Our scouting reports have shown Paris was playing 20 points better than we were, and that's about what they did.

"Ashley Allen did exactly what she wanted to do.

"We didn't play good defense and she was able to go where she wanted to go and do what she wanted to do.

"On every loose ball it came up to be Paris' ball. We didn't scramble out there like we have to," Kenney added.

Appelman had praise for her team's defense.

"No team has really be able to man to man with us.

"We were able to get to the ball well . . . but we were able to play a zone when we needed. Man to man is not our only weapon.

"Megan May had three big offensive rebounds, when Nicholas County was making its run and we were able to push the lead back to 16.

"She works hard at everything she does. She has a 4.0 grade point average and is a team lead. All of our players have worked hard since the first day of conditioning.

"This is the first team in five years I've really be able to say that about."

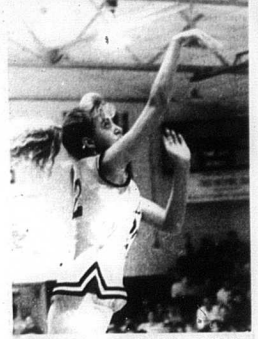
Kenney was concerned about her team's lack of intensity.

"We just couldn't get back into the game. We didn't go to the boards well. We didn't block out like we should. Although Denkins had 16 rebounds (and 25 points), Barton had five rebounds and Earlywine six.

"Paris simply out quicked us.

"We have to get back and start to work. Paris played tough and we didn't want to play all that rough. They cam after us and we didn't meet the call. We have to get back with them."

Nicholas was scheduled to travel to Powell County on Monday night with a game at home Thursday against Bourbon County.



The Carlisle Mercury/Beth A. Bond Photo
Christie Hatton puts up a jump shot from the left side for two of her 20 points against Paris, last week, but the Lady Greyhounds rolled to a commanding 68-52 win at NCHS.

NCHS takes big first quarter lead downs homestanding Owen County

By William Million
The Carlisle Mercury Staff

OWENTON -- The Nicholas County Bluejackets survived a pesky Owen County team Friday night to come away with a 59-55 victory.

Nicholas County jumped to a 23-9 lead after one stop, but had to hold on to post the win.

Brian Hilander led the Bluejackets with his strongest performance this season, scoring 17 points and grabbling nine rebounds.

Hilander also paced the tough Nicholas defense.

The Rebels of Owen County were able to control the opening tip and quickly scored a layup 10 seconds into the game.

Nicholas' Daniel Brown went to work, hitting his first three shots.

Owen County's John Kemper nailed a 25 foot bomb, and the Bluejackets' lead was cut to 6-5 at the 5:35 mark.

The Jackets got their defense rolling, forcing four turnovers. On the other end, Jarrod Wills hit two three point shots and Brown added two free throws.

Rebels' coach Dom Pucci called time out with his team down 14-5 at the 3:55 mark.

After the time out, the teams traded buckets. David Sibert came off the bench to pitch in two three point shots as the Jackets maintained their nine point lead. The first quarter ended, 23-14.

Owen County's own three point threats came alive, and one minute into the second period, the Jackets' lead was cut to three points.

Hilander tried to stop the skid for Nicholas by pounding the boards and scoring on a layup.

Travis Simms and Jamie Simons added buckets, stretching the lead back to seven with 6:57 left in the half.

Owen County then answered by going to its center for two quick buckets, and Nicholas coach Ed Oakley called time out with 5:00 to go in the period and Nicholas clinging to a 29-26 lead.

After the time out, Sibert, Simms, and Shad Tibbs kept Nicholas ahead, but the Rebels continued to nail the long shot. When the half ended, Nicholas went to the locker-room with a 35-33 lead.

The second half opened dismally for both teams. Turnovers dominated play until Simons hit a jumper in the lane for the Bluejackets two minutes into the half.

Nicholas again went cold from the field, while Owen County suddenly found the basket.

The Rebels were able knot the score at 39 with 4:30 left in the period. Oakley again had to call time out.

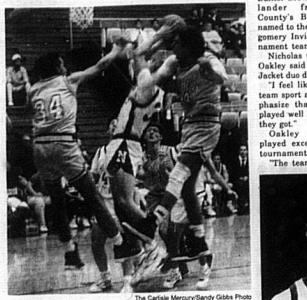
Evidently, Oakley said something to fire up Hilander. He immediately took the ball straight to the goal for an easy layup. Defensively, he forced and recovered an Owen loose ball and fed Brown the assist. Nicholas led 43-39.

Owen County refused to fold, scoring on its next two possessions to tie the game at 43.

Both teams picked up the defense, but with 1:14 left in the quarter, Simms pitched in a layup and Hilander added two at the buzzer to put Nicholas up 47-43.

Owen County again re-

Continued on Page 11



The Carlisle Mercury/Sandy Gibbs Photo
Nicholas County advanced to the finals of the Cole Ford Invitational Tournament through some rough treading with wins over Montgomery County and Fleming County before failing to Bourbon County in the championship tilt.

Brown and Hilander are named to Cole Ford All Tourney team

By Sandy Gibbs
The Carlisle Mercury Staff

MOUNT STERLING - Daniel Brown and Brian Hilander from Nicholas County's Bluejackets were named to the Cole Ford Montgomery Invitational all tournament team.

Nicholas County coach Ed Oakley said that he feels the Jacket duo deserves the honor.

"I feel like basketball is a team sport and I want to emphasize that they both played well and deserve what they got."

Oakley said his team played exceptionally in the tournament.

"The team did well in the tournament and that's what you like to see this time of year. We're about halfway through the season and these signs of progress are encouraging. Brown and Hilander filled their roles well."

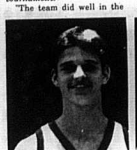
Brown agreed with Oakley's sentiments.

"I couldn't have done it without the other players."

Hilander was modest about his achievement as well.

"Basketball is a team sport and individual awards mean very little."

Brown led the Bluejackets in scoring through the tourney with 18 points a game. Hilander was close behind with 17 points per contest.



The Carlisle Mercury/File Photo
Daniel Brown

The Carlisle Mercury/File Photo
Brian Hilander

Little League Basketball

A-Teams

Saints 13: Smoot 11, Earlywine 2; **Panthers 1**: K. Ishmael 1;

Kats 20: Caswell 12, Hatfield 2, Linvill 2, Howard 2, Schanding 2; **Phillies 9**: Tipton 4, A. Flora 5;

Mustangs 22: Lang 9, J. Sparks 2, C. Sparks 2, Liver 2, Hopkins 3, Vice 2, Livingood 2, Gray 2; **Rockets 6**: R. Caswell 6;

Rebels 24: Broderick 2, Wills 4, Morris 16, Dailey 2, Celtics 10, Kenney 5, Arnold 5; **Demons 16**: C. Tabor 4, J. Tabor 10, Vice 2; Pistons 13: Earlywine 2; Calvert 9, Kenney 2; **107**

Hawks 36: Burn 13, Livingood 1, Sims 7, Mitchell 13, Angel 2; **Patriots 13**: Anderson 11, Galbraith 5, Allison 2;

Bears 25: Hollar 4, Ecton 4, Storm 13, Earlywine 2, Smoot 2; **Bulls 12**: M. Jenkins 8, Fryman 4;

Hornets 18: Brown 2, Hunt 1, Barnett 2, Buckler 13; **Wildcats 13**: Jolly 2, Mathes 4, McKee 2, Clark 4, Frederick 1.

Record

Hawks 10-0, Demons 8-2, Mustangs 8-2, rebels 7-2, Bears 7-3, Bulls 5-5, Hornets 4-6, Rockets 4-6, Pistons 3-7, Wildcats 2-7, Celtics 1-9, Patriots 0-10, Kats 10-0, Phillies 6-4, Panthers 0-10

Saturday, January 12, 1991

12pm Phillies vs Panthers
1pm Rockets vs Celtics
2pm Kats vs Saints
3pm Wildcats vs Rebels

Sunday, January 13, 1991

1pm Hornets vs Patriots
2pm Hawks vs Bulls
3pm Kats vs Panthers
4pm Bears vs Demons
5pm Pistons vs Wildcats
6pm Saints vs Phillies
7pm Rebels vs Mustangs

Little League Basketball

B-Teams

Panthers 4: Ishmael 2, F. Vance 1, S. Vance 1; **Saints 4**: McKee 1, Bussell 3;

Phillies 8: Hill 3, Vanmeter 4, S. Flora 1; **Kats 6**: Harmon 1, Smith 2, Grant 2, Hatfield 1;

Rockets 8: Stone 2, Caswell 4, Baird 1, Baker 1; **Mustangs 5**: Gray 2, Fay 2, Livingood 1;

Celtics 6: Tincher 5, Hamilton 1; **Rebels 3**: J. Hunt 2, Bromagen 1;

Pistons 10: Curtsinger 2, Morris 1, Whirles 1, Broderick 1, Robinson 3, King 2;

Demons 7: Stone 3, Gill 3, McGrabb 1;

Patriots 4: Fryman 3, Smith 1; **Hawks 1**: Angel 1;

Bears 8: Crump 5, Smoot 1; **Bulls 2**: Jenkins 2;

Wildcats 5: Ritchie 3, Miller 2, Frederick 2; **Hornets 6**: Lawrence 1, Anderson 2, Cark 2, Williams 1.

Denkins is named to all tourney team at Louisville event

Nicholas County's Kim Denkins was one of eight players in the 16 team Louisville Male Invitational Tournament chosen for to the all - tournament team.

Denkins and the Lady Jackets advanced to the semi-finals of the tournament losing to tournament runner-up Oldham County, 62-52.

Nicholas County did pick up wins over two Louisville teams, Sacred Heart and Assumption.

The Carlisle Mercury/File Photo
Kim Denkins

SPORTS

Oldham ends Nicholas girls' quest for tourney title

By Carol R.Bond
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

LOUISVILLE -- The purple stands, the dribble of the ball, the run and gun game, time wasting and the final buzzer are sights and sounds the Nicholas County Lady Bluejackets won't soon forget as they lost their first game of the season to 16th ranked Oldham County by a score of 62-52, the morning of December 29.

The Lady Jackets came into the semi finals of Louisville Male High School Holiday Classic after defeating Louisville Sacred Heart and Louisville Assumption.

"Throughout the Classic I think we learned a lot, we not only grew up, but we played as a team, not as individuals, but a team. The even scoring by our players shows that," Nicholas County Head Coach Barbara Kenney said.

"Coming into the semi-finals out of the four teams of Henry Clay, Graves County, Oldham County and us, we were the only team not ranked in Kentucky's top 20. The only team that has suffered a loss out of the four teams is Oldham County," she said.

The first quarter began with Tacy Earlywine getting the tip from Kim Denkins, but no score was produced as Earlywine threw it away.

The first score of the morning came to Oldham County when Brittany Martin took a two point shot at the baseline with 7:23 to go in the first quarter.

On the next play Nicholas County still couldn't produce as Earlywine threw the ball in to the hands of Martin giving Oldham County two more bringing the score to 4-0.

Nicholas County's first score came with 5:55 to go in the first on a shot by Earlywine from the baseline.

The Lady Colonels brought the score to 6-2 off of two foul shots by Tricia Martin when she was fouled going for the basket by Denkins.

Nicholas County played some catch up with 4:53 to go in the first as a two point jumper by Christie Hatton and a two pointer by Earlywine brought the Lady Jackets within two, 8-6.

With a fast break by Oldham County the score went back and forth until 3:19 in the first when the Lady Jackets took the lead of 14-12 off a two point jumper by Hatton.

The 16-16 tie score at the end of the first quarter came when Lady Colonels' Martin made her two foul shots.

The second quarter Oldham County got control of the ball as they held the Lady Jackets from scoring for three minutes while pulling away and the score suddenly became 21-16.

The Lady Jackets' first score, in the second quarter came at 6:08 to go from a two pointer by Hatton from the top of the key.

Her score pulled the Lady Jackets within two of the Lady Colonels as the score turned into 21-18.

The score became tied 21 all with 5:47 to go in the half, off of two free throws from Nikki Smoot.

This ended up being the only time the Lady Jackets would be even close to Oldham County.

After a Nicholas County time out with 4:49 to go the Lady Colonels took a fast break controlling the ball and the game until 2:51 in the second.

Oldham County took 10 points and turned the score into 31-21, which included two three point shots by Johnston.

Nicholas County's next score came with 2:51 to go in the half off an Earlywine steal to Smoot for a two point jumper.

Oldham County again controlled the game until a Nicholas County time out with 1:34 slowed them down.

After several Johnston shots Nicholas County's score reached 24 after a free throw shot by Hatton.

Until the half time Nicholas County never saw any higher than 24 points as Oldham County's Johnston controlled the boards leaving them in the lead by a score of 43-24.

In the second quarter of play Oldham County literally shut down Nicholas County with its run and gun game. Lady Colonels' Johnston controlled the boards in the second quarter with her three point shots.

Oldham County's fast break in the second quarter seemed to take Nicholas County for a loop as they had a hard time re-grouping and shutting Johnston down.

Nicholas County shut out the Lady Colonels for the first two minutes of the third quarter, but the Lady Jackets could only get one shot off.

The 43-25 score did finally come with 6:00 minutes to go when Smoot made the first of her two foul shots.

Nicholas County's Hatton in and out shot with 5:54 to go let Oldham County's Martin make her two points and raise the score to 46-25.

On the next play Nicholas gained two more as Earlywine took and easy jumper in the lane.

An in and out three pointer by Oldham's Johnston gave Denkins a rebound and another run for Nicholas. But Denkins shot for two went round and round but just didn't drop.

At 4:29 to go in the third on a break and a steal by Hatton Nicholas County raised their score to 46-33.

A two point run with 3:57 to go by Oldham's Martin gave them two more.

After a foul and Nicholas County regaining the ball Denkins had a little hand bobble under the basket but finally put it away for two and drew the foul. Denkins completed two free throws and raised the score to 50-39.

On an Oldham County knock out of bounds with 2:03 to go in the third Denkins got a turn around jump shot under basket to give Nicholas County 41 points in the contest. These points are what the team held until the end of third quarter.

The fourth quarter score of 56-41 remained the same as neither Oldham or Nicholas could get a shot off. But, with 5:53 to go in the game Kim Denkins took a shot for two and gave Nicholas two more.

On the play Earlywine got fouled and would shoot two. Earlywine was a smooth as silk as she put two more away for the Lady Jackets and raising the score to 45-56.

On Oldham County's attempt to score Martin attempted two shots which both went in and out as Nicholas County took the ball with 4:46 to go.

A two point shot miss by Denkins on the next play left the ball in the hands of Lady Colonel Johnston as she ran down the floor and made the easy lay up.

After a Nicholas County time-out with 4:08 to go in the game it was time for a Nicholas County rally.

However, the rally didn't get off as planned. After a two point jumper by Hatton, direction from Oldham Cgunty's head coach Dave Weedman who led his girls into a run the time out game.

This left the Nicholas County girls with a chance to get within nine of the Lady Colonels which came with 18 seconds to go when Smoot swished her first foul shot making the score 61-52.

This score carried until Oldham County's Cindy Hendron made the last score of the ballgame at 12 seconds when she made one of her foul shots after being fouled by Nicholas' Jennifer Willoughby.

"I feel like we have nothing to hang our heads about. It wasn't a good feeling losing, but I am glad we lost to someone in the top 20," Kenney said.

"I think we made a good show by making it to the semi-finals. I know some of the teams didn't think we would make it this far and a record of 9-1 isn't bad at all," she said.

"The entire team had good efforts: we missed easy baskets at the end which hurt us. Johnston's three point shots hurt us, but I think we shut her down in the second half," she said.

"I want to also thank our subs Schanding, Linville and Simons who run in and out a lot, they're always there in a moment, which sometimes can be a lot to ask," Kenney commented.

"I just want to let our booster know how much we do appreciate them."

Leading scorer for the game was Denkins with 17 points, Hatton had 14, Earlywine 12, Smoot nine and Barton who failed to connect.

Denkins' led with rebounds with seven, Hatton, Smoot five and Barton two.

Smoot led the assists with five, Hatton had two and Denkins with one.

Earlywine had seven steals and Barton had three.

The Carlisle Mercury/Matthew W. Theiss Photo
Tacy Earlywine goes to the bucket between a pair of opposing defenders of the Lady Bluejackets' game in the semi-finals of the Male Invitational Tournament, during the Christmas break. The Jackets lost to the Colonels 62-52.

Nicholas pounds Fleming County, 56-46

By Sandy Gibbs
The Carlisle Mercury Staff

MOUNT STERLING - In a game which wasn't as close as the score indicated, the Nicholas County Bluejackets walloped the Fleming County Panthers.

Fleming controlled the opening tap, but the game went down hill for the Panthers after that. Daniel Brown scored the game's first basket at 6:10 in the first quarter. Fleming's basket tied the game.

The Panthers added a score to take the lead at 4:50 in the first frame. This would be Fleming's last lead.

Brian Hilander canned a three point basket, to put the Bluejackets up by one. A series of Panther fouls, along with two three pointer's by Jarrod Wills put Nicholas up 15-8 at the end of the first

The Bluejackets went a bit cold at the beginning of the second quarter, missing several opportunities.

Then Nicholas scored several buckets in a row to lead by ten at the 3:49 mark.

At 2:00 Jamie Simons scored on a rebound putback, followed by four consecutive Nicholas County free throws.

The Bluejackets led 29-15 at halftime.

Travis Sims opened up the scoring for Nicholas after the intermission with 6:17 left in the first frame. Sims then picked up two quick fouls.

After a steal by Jamie Simons the Bluejackets nearly lost the ball back to Fleming but retained possession on a diving play by Daniel Brown.

A three point basket by Brown, at 1:40 in the third gave Nicholas a 20 point lead for the first time in the game.

At the end of the third The Jackets led 42-23.

Hilander drew a foul to open the fourth quarter, hitting one of two free throws.

After a series of Nicholas County fouls it looked like Fleming was going to make a run at the Bluejackets but an alley oop to Hilander at the three minute mark helped preserve the lead.

Brown closed out the Nicholas scoring, hitting one of two free throws with 22 seconds left in the game. The final score was 56-46.

Coach Ed Oakley said that even though the Panthers may have been tired, (The Nicholas County game was the second one for Fleming that day.) the victory was a good one for the Bluejackets.

"We came out and did what we do best and it was an especially good win since we had played Fleming the week before."

Oakley also said that advancing to the finals of the tournament was a good confidence builder for his club.

"We were scheduled to play Montgomery in the first round of the tournament. Generally when you're scheduled against the best team it means they think you're the weakest team in the tournament so it was good to advance to the finals."

Nicholas was led by Brown who had 16 points on 5 of 13 shots from the field. Brown also had two assists. Hilander had 14 points and seven rebounds.

Travis Sims had eight points and led the Bluejackets in rebounding with nine. Jarrod Wills also had eight points along with two rebounds.

Jamie Simons got six points and six rebounds. Rounding out the Nicholas County scoring were Shad Tibbs and David Sibert with two points apiece.

NCHS takes big first.....

Continued from Page 10

fused to give up, and battled back to to the game, 47-47 with 6:15 left in the game.

Nicholas went to Hilander as he quieted the home crowd with a three pointer. Owen County answered with its own three, and again tied the score.

Sibert got open for a leaning shot in the lane to start a Nicholas County run to put the Jackets ahead to stay.

Hilander added a bucket, and Sibert hit a three pointer. Owen County immediately called time, trailing 57-50 with 3:15 left to go.

Nicholas added two with another shot by Simms, but Owen again pulled within four on a three point shot and layup.

Nicholas County turned the ball over to the Rebels three times in the last minute, but Owen could not capitalize.

The Jackets were able to hang on 59-55.

Oakley happy with the win on the road.

"Oakley was happy with his team's play.

"After the loss to Bourbon County, we tried to work hard on our offensive execution. I think it showed up here tonight."

He added that the bench was a big factor in the game.

"The kids off the bench really helped us out tonight. They gave us a tremendous lift and let us rest up down the stretch."

"It's always good to come in to a place like Owen County and come away with the win", Oakley added.

"They play a tough schedule, and (Rebels coach Dom) Pucci always has a good ball team."

Nicholas County improved its record to 9-2 while Owen County dropped to 6-6.

In tournament finals . . .

Bourbon takes 75-60 win

By Sandy Gibbs
The Carlisle Mercury Staff

MOUNT STERLING - The Nicholas County Bluejackets suffered their worst loss of the year in the finals of the Montgomery County Invitational Tournament.

The defeat came at the hands of the Bourbon County Colonels, led by junior Corey Williams.

The Colonels jumped out to an early 5-0 lead at the six minute mark in the first quarter.

The Bluejackets first points came when Daniel Brown was fouled at 5:36 and canned two free throws.

Nicholas remained cold throughout the first, but pulled within two by the end of the frame to trail 11-9.

The Bluejackets played their best basketball of the game in the second quarter.

Travis Sims hit a jumper at 7:00 to tie the game.

This was followed by Brian Hilander's impressive defensive rebound and a three point basket by Daniel Brown.

The Bluejackets and Colonels traded buckets until the score was knotted at 23-23 with three minutes left until halftime.

A series of plays followed that turned the momentum in Bourbon's favor.

The Bluejackets failed to score on four consecutive possessions. This gave the Colonels just the time they needed.

Corey Williams led an eight point run by Bourbon with a thunderous dunk which he was fouled on and converted to a three point play.

After another Colonel basket Williams hit a buzzer beating 45 footer to put the Colonels up by eight at half, 31-23.

Nicholas County refused to quit. In the third quarter the Bluejackets pulled close to the Colonels several times even tying the game at one point.

Sims scored first for Nicholas, at the 7:30 mark.

The two teams traded turnovers with a foul by Jarrod Wills following a Nicholas County steal.

Brian Hilander canned a three pointer with 6:10 left in the frame. Hilander followed this with a defensive rebound.

Wills hit another three point basket at 5:00 to go and the Bluejackets had cut the Colonel lead to three.

Back to back baskets by Brown put Nicholas in what looked like an excellent position.

At the 2:41 mark the momentum shifted once again following a near fight when several players and the Bourbon County had to be warned by the referees.

After a Colonel run of nine points Bourbon led 48-39 at the end of three.

The fourth quarter was marred by another near fight involving Nicholas County's Shad Tibbs and a Bourbon County player at the 5:44 mark.

The Bluejackets went to a full court press with 4:07 left in the quarter. At that point Bourbon led by 21 points.

Travis Sims drew a technical foul with 3:15 left in the game. This proved to be all the help Bourbon would need.

A pair of three point plays by Brown helped close the final margin, but Williams led the Colonels with a pair of dunks and Bourbon cruised to a 75-60 victory.

Nicholas coach Ed Oakley said that the Bluejackets strayed from their game plan early.

"We had planned to control the tempo, to make two or three passes each time down the court. We might have done that for one possession before people started diving and throwing up prayers."

The Bluejackets were led in scoring by Brown who had 21 points, 1 rebound and 1 assist.

Hilander netted 17 points, pulled down seven rebounds and had an assist. Wills had eight points and six rebounds.Tibbs had seven points and one rebound.

Travis Sims tied for game rebounding honors with seven to go along with six points. Jamie Simons added one point and two rebounds.