

SPORTS

Brown's 26 not enough as Paris wins in opener

By William Millon
 The Carlsle Mercury Staff
CYNTHIANA — The Nicholas County Bluejackets ended their season with a heart-breaking 63-55 loss to Paris in the opener of the 29th district tournament.

The Jackets held a three-point lead at the start of the game's final period, but the Greyhounds rattled off eleven straight points.

Nicholas County had a chance to tie the game with less than 1:00 left, but a controversial call by the referee dashed the Jackets' hopes of an upset.

Nicholas County ended the season with a record of 18-8 in Head Coach Ed Oakley's 11th annual season.

The Greyhounds, 24-4, moved on to a semi-final match against Bourbon County.

Nicholas County appeared to have things going its way in a 72-63 loss in the All A Tournament to Paris, the Jackets fell behind by as many as 25 points.

This time, the Jackets kept things close from the onset.

The Greyhounds came out of the gate too cold, and the Jackets took advantage of Paris' 0-8 shooting to claim an early 4-0 lead.

Paris' sophomore star Alvin Sims tied matters up with a pair of quick lay ups.

Oakley questioned whether a foul had happened under the Paris basket, and got slapped with a technical foul at the 4:50 mark.

Joan Byars hit the free throws for a 6-4 lead.

Daniel Brown and Travis Sims provided much of the jackets' offense in the first quarter, and the Jackets had a 13-12 lead with 30 seconds left in the opening period.

Sims picked the ball up while the Jackets were trying to stall the game, and thundered down the floor for a dunk and a 14-13 lead.

Both team's went cold in the second quarter, managing only a 17-15 score at the 4:48 mark.

Jamie Simons left the game for the Jackets after catching an elbow in the mouth that would later require nine stitches.

There was no call on the play, and the Greyhounds took advantage for an uncontested layup.

Jarrod Willis hit a three pointer under pressure with 3:47 left in the half to give the Jackets their first lead of the quarter, 20-19.

The Jackets tried to set up a stall-offense, but Hillander got a hand on the ball and tipped it to a driving Daniel Brown.

The steal, and the probable basket, were called back by the referee, who contacted Hillander stepped on the out of bounds line.

The Greyhounds took the ball back and came away with a layup and a free throw.

The Jackets were only with a 60-55 deficit with only 30 seconds left in the game, quarter, 20-19.

The Jackets and Greyhounds traded basket for basket until Byars hit two shots in the half's final seconds.

The Greyhounds went into the break with a 29-25 lead.

The third quarter belonged to the Jackets.

Brian Hillander opened the quarter with a long three point shot.

The Greyhounds tried to cut the lead, but the Bluejackets kept chipping away at the lead.

Finally, at the 3:03 mark, Brown grabbed a loose ball and fired it in from 23 feet away.

The Jackets had claimed a 35-33 lead.

Brown added two more baskets, and Simons broke away from the defense for a baseline shot to provide the offense.

The Jackets allowed the Greyhounds a pair of layups, but still controlled a 41-38 lead at the end of the quarter.

That's when Byars and the Greyhounds took over.

Byars opened the final period with a pair of three point shots, and added a steal and assist to lead Paris to a 46-41 lead.

Oakley called time out at the 6:45 mark, but the Greyhounds kept on rolling when Lake Summers drilled a three pointer.

Sims cut into the leads with a pair of free throws, but Hillander controlled a 41-38 lead at the end of the quarter.

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The Jackets resorted to fouls to get another crack at the ball, but the Greyhounds responded with 3-4 shooting from the line.

The Greyhounds held on for the final margin.

Oakley said his team performed well, but let the game slip away at the start of the fourth quarter.

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Nicholas County's Jarrod Willis (23), Jamie Simons (44), and Travis Sims (20) try to stop Paris' Alvin Sims from getting a lay up. Sims led the charge with 26 points as Paris downed NCHS 63-55.

Nicholas lifts host competition

By William Millon
 The Carlsle Mercury Staff
CARLSLE — The Nicholas County High School weight lifting team hosted the Nicholas Invitational on Saturday, March 2.

NCHS and Millersburg Military Institute participated.

Lewis County High School was invited, but did not compete.

The lifters from Nicholas County controlled the individual competition.

The competition was made up of three events: bench pressing, squat lifting, and dead lifting.

Kron Watking finished first in the heavy weight class and Ed McClintin captured the super heavy weight title.

Nick Pope took the light weight division.

Jerlan Parsh took the middle-weight title by lifting a combined 6.06 times his body weight in the three events.

Chris Owsington placed a narrow second by showing a 6.0 standing.

Five lifters broke into the "1000 pound club," totaled over the three events.

Compton, 1045 pounds, Justin Abner and Chris Jones, 1027, each, Parsh and McClintin, 1000 pounds each, all rounded the club.

21 lifters participated from NCHS, one of the best tournaments of the season.

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