

Lady Jackets honored for a great basketball season

By Pam Bowles
OF THE CARROLL MERCURY STAFF
CARLEISLE - The 1991-92 Nicholas County Lady Jackets Basketball team held their annual banquet last Thursday night to honor the 37th district and 10th region champions.

The evening was filled with excitement from everyone and many words of wisdom from the speakers. This was the night to honor the champions of Nicholas County. The 1991-92 team was the first in the schools history to win a state tournament game.

It was 1957 the boys team won the 10th region and made a trip to the sweet sixteen, but lost in the first round. But Rob Lane, Nicholas County Director of Personnel took the microphone first.

Lane said, "This was like a story book with the inspiration these three ladies gave to the game."

"It was truly a thrill to be a fan. I actually enjoyed the season, but he did wear his t-shirt in Lexington. Criswell wished the seniors and the other members of the squad the very best of their lives."

"My contribution is I'm proud of you." The speaker of the evening was John Whitfield Criswell a coach, teacher, preacher, etc.

Criswell said he had only seen three ball games this season, but he did wear his t-shirt in Lexington. Criswell wished the seniors and the other members of the squad the very best of their lives."

He reminded the girls it is very difficult to repeat the feats they have accomplished and not very many schools to achieve these accomplishments. Criswell said Clark had been to the sweet sixteen five straight years, Duke and UCLA repeating.

Criswell repeated a saying from Coach Bob Knight of Indiana, "You must have the attitude to win, mental attitude in four to one in physical ability."

Kennedy said, "We have upgraded the program and the team."

Kennedy reflected on the last three years with a record of 75-17, two district titles, Class A Regional championship, regional runner-up, regional title and trip to the sweet sixteen.

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"You must remember what you have accomplished in what little girls dream of being like you."

Hammons said, "You can and will win and don't let anyone steal your dreams. If you work hard your dream will come true and they did."

"I wish the entire good luck."

Kim Martin, Nicholas County Lady Jackets cheerleader sponsor said, "I have 11 very special girls."

"They worked hard the entire season and it was a pleasure to cheer for the Lady Jackets."

Martin presented Nikki Sibert, Lori Berry, Laura Taber, Sunshine Hill, and Krystal Hamilton, each received second year bars.

Rebekah Darr, Lisa Livingston, Carol Mitchell, Jennifer Sweet, Tamille Smith and Jennifer Smith each received their first year bars.

Sibert, Berry, Taber, and Hill received their letter jackets.

The cheerleading booster president, Gary Sibert presented Kay Earlywine, Janet Kay Smoot, and Kim Martin. Assistant Coach Penny Bretz said her team was 15-4 and worked as hard as the varsity.

Bretz said the players gave 110 per cent each game.

Coach Barbara Kenny presented Elizabeth Schandling, Tina Fryman, Andrea Galbraith Kim Denkins, and Amanda Fuller.

Kennedy said Kristi Barton and Tracy had the dreams of doing great things. The ability and contributions will be missed.

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"This has been a great year of kids to work with and is a joy act."

Earlywine and Christie Hutton tied at 69 per cent at the free throw line to share the award.

Kim Denkins was recognized for pulling down a 1,000 rebounds in her career.

Jim Galbraith was presented an award as being the voice of the Lady Jackets.

The boosters presented gifts to the coaches.

Each of the team members received a sweet sixteen jacket along with Andrea Sparks.

The Lady Jackets dedicated their season to Andrea and recognized her at the banquet.

Janelle Sibert spoke to the crowd at the Nicholas County Lady Jacket Banquet last Friday night. The Nicholas County Boosters presented the coaches with gifts. Pictured from left to right: Sibert, Coach Barbara Kenney, Coach Penny Bretz, Tracy Earlywine, Kristi Barton, and Coach Mike Kenney.

Janelle Sibert spoke to the crowd at the Nicholas County Lady Jacket Banquet last Thursday night. Kenney hugged Kristi Barton and Tracy Earlywine after coaching the girls for seven years.

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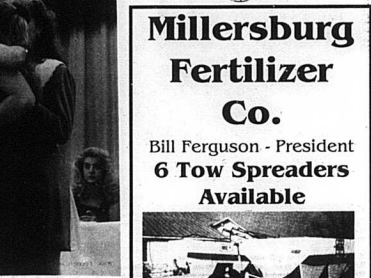
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The Carroll Mercury/Pam Bowles Photo

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Coach Barbara Kenney presents her two seniors with gifts at the Nicholas County Lady Jacket Banquet last Thursday night. Kenney hugged Kristi Barton and Tracy Earlywine after coaching the girls for seven years.



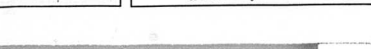
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John Whitfield Criswell



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Former University of Kentucky basketball player and professional player with the New York Knicks Kenny Walker is honored at the present time and has just finished playing in Spain was the guest speaker at the banquet.

Kenny Walker addresses Bluejackets at banquet

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OF THE CARROLL MERCURY STAFF
CARLEISLE - It had been 37 years since the Nicholas County Bluejackets Basketball team could meet a 37th district championship trophy.

Monday night teammates, family and other guests paid tribute to eight seniors and the entire 1991-92 basketball team.

Three members of the 1959 Nicholas County basketball team, R.S. Willis, Leo Lyman, and Steve Pumphrey, attended the banquet.

Former University of Kentucky and New York Knicks basketball player Kenny Walker was the guest speaker.

Walker told the team they must think of what is after basketball.

Walker said, "I know if I could never play basketball again after my injury I know I could go into telecommunication."

"Basketball has given me the opportunity to make something of my life."

"I came from a poor family when I was growing up."

"What ever you do give it your best."

Shelly Caldwell, Nicholas County High School cheerleader sponsor said, "This was a very exciting and meaningful season I will not forget."

"This is a very special and wonderful group of girls."

"This has been a great season and a wonderful group of girls to work with."

"I am very proud of how the junior varsity team progressed through the season. The team started 0-10 and then won seven out of eight games at the end of the season."

Assistant Coach Letcher said he was very proud of how the junior varsity team progressed through the season.

Couch Ed Oakley said this team can always feel proud of knowing they won the district for the first time in 33 years.

Oakley said, "When the season began I looked at the schedule and asked who made this schedule."

"This year team won 25 out of 34 games and only played 10 games at home."

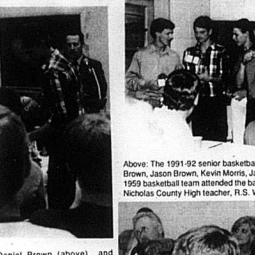
"Next years team must begin to work this summer on next season."

"Chris Smoot and Bobby Hatfield was recognized for their contributions to the team. Statisticians Julie Caswell and Rose Ann Parish were also honored."

Basketball awards were presented by Oakley field goal shooting at 63 per cent-Jamie Simons, Travis Sims-most rebounds at 107, Daniel Brown free throw shooting at 87 per cent hitting 285 out of 326, Kevin Morris was recognized as the best player on the team chosen by the coaches, and most improved player -Jared Witt.

The 110 per cent award is given to player that gives it all and never complains or misses practices was given to Jason George.

Brown was given a ball in glass for breaking the school record at 2,643 points.



The Carroll Mercury/Pam Bowles Photo

Daniel Brown (above) and Annette Flora (below) show off their awards from the banquet.



The Carroll Mercury/Pam Bowles Photo

Bradly Brown lettered this season in basketball. Charles Nicholas and Chris Smoot each received letter jackets.

Bryan Ockerman and Jim Compton received their jackets during football season.

The coaches and Annette Flora, bus driver, were presented with... thank you.

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