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A season of firsts for the Lady Jackets

DECEMBER

Nicholas 51 Bourbon 40
The Nicholas County Lady Jackets began their season with an upset of Bourbon County Lady Colonels 51-40.

At the end of the first half the Lady Jackets led the Colonels 21-16 despite early foul trouble from Kim Deakins and senior Tacy Earlywine. Nicholas scored nine straight points to begin the third quarter. With just over a minute left in the game Earlywine and Nikki Smoot buckets pushed the Lady Jackets lead to 51-40.

Lady Jackets 65 Madison Co. 45
The Lady Jackets jumped out to an early lead a never looked back as Nicholas ran off 14 straight points to open the first quarter of the game they coasted to a 65-45 victory.

Lady Jackets 68 Mason 45
Time ran out on the Lady Royals as they out the Lady Jackets lead to three points with 52 seconds left in the game. Fortunately for Nicholas, Mason never scored again and ended the game with a 45-68 defeat.

Nicholas 50 Hershon 34
The Lady Jackets outscored the Lady Polar Bears 17-4 in the fourth quarter to down 10th region foe 50-34. Junior guard Nikki Smoot shot into the school record books as she became only the second Lady Jacket next to Tacy Earlywine to join the 1000 point club on her 20 point performance.

Lady Jackets 60 Downing 27
The Nicholas County Lady Jackets held Downing to only eight points in the fourth quarter to roll over the Lady Devils 60-27 in 10th region action.

Lady Devils stayed close for two quarters with hot shooting from the three point line before the Lady Jackets pulled away in the third quarter.

Louisville Male Holiday Tournament
Lady Jackets 44 Oldham 37
The Lady Jackets spent the remainder of their Christmas vacation in Louisville for the Male Holiday tournament.

Nicholas 47 Harrison 39
The Lady Jackets handed the Lady Knights their first loss of the season as Nicholas had two shots at the basket in the last seconds of the game to win, but the ball just didn't fall.

Catch Barbara Kenney said, "Kim (Deakins) did an excellent job on Kim Cunningham, whose is said to be the best junior in the state."

JANUARY
Nicholas 70 Montgomery 47
The Lady Jackets put forth a blistering attack on the Lady Indians with an impressive 70-47 rout.

As the clock ran out the Lady Jackets cleared the bench and passed four starters in double digits.

Nicholas 65 Paris 62
Even during their worst season, it's not easy to defeat the Paris Lady Hounds on their home court. For the Nicholas County Lady Jackets, first used to be impossible.

The Lady Jackets set five to the odds against them, ignored all agreements to the contrary and fat out beat the Lady Hounds 65-62, on Paris Home court as the refs called 51 fouls.

Nicholas 78 Fleming 23
The Lady Jackets blanketed Fleming County where it was a game where several members of the team were able to participate.

Nicholas outscored the Lady Panthers 14-1 to push the lead to 62-17 at the end of the third quarter.

Lady Jackets 69 Jessamine 32
Nicholas roared out to a 16-0 lead in the first half and never looked back to post a 69-32 victory.

Nicholas 54 Madison Central 46
The Lady Jackets struggled back from a half time deficit to forge ahead to a 54-46 downing of Madison Central.

Lady Jackets 34 Bourbon 28
The Lady Jackets came out cold as ice Monday night as Bourbon County raced out to a 11 first quarter lead, but could not hold on as Nicholas edged out the Lady Colonels 34-28. The Lady Jackets gained the lead in the third quarter 14-13 off a Deakins basket.

All A Regional Tournament
The Lady Panthers were the first prey for the Lady Jackets on their way to the Class A Championship. Nicholas rolled over Augusta 75-22 handily in the first round.

Lady Jackets 60 Bath 36
Nicholas moved past Bath County in easy fashion to reach the finals of the Class A

tournament. Christie Hutton became the first Lady Jacket to score a 1,000 points in her high school career.

Nicholas 63 Hershon 51
Give the Nicholas County Lady Jackets credit: When they are on top of their game, there's little any team can do but watch.

Which doesn't mean the Bourbon County Lady Bears didn't give the Lady Jackets something to worry about in the 10th region All A Finals.

Also, Deakins became the fourth starter to earn 1,000 points along with the 10th region title.

Nicholas 55 Augusta 31
The Lady Jackets returned home to run their record to 16-1 by downing Augusta 55-31 after coming off the 10th region All A Classic championship.

Nicholas 59 Hiram 43
The Lady Jackets ran out to a 11-1 lead in the first quarter and held to a 43-29 margin in the third quarter.

Nicholas ended the game at the free throw line converting eight of nine for a 59-43 win.

Smoot, Deakins and Earlywine was selected to the all tournament team.

All A State Classic
Louisville Catholic 56 Nicholas 37
The Lady Jackets held to a 13 point lead in the second half before the Lady Knights ran off 21 straight points to tie the score at 46-46.

The Lady Jackets had several opportunities to preserve the win, but the ball didn't bounce Nicholas way as the Lady Jackets dropped a heart breaker in the opening round of the state All A tournament.

FEBRUARY
Nicholas 47 Harrison 39
A very young, but competitive Lady Bred team gave the Lady Knights a very close battle as Nicholas stepped back into district play for a 47-39 victory.

Nicholas 58 Nicholas 37
The Lady Jackets closed the year with a 58-37 victory over the second time the Lady Bears. Nicholas ran off 14 straight points to take a 21-4 lead and coast to a victory.

Lady Jackets 63 Bryan Station 34
Nicholas won their 20th game of season for the third year in a row with a 53-34 downing of Bryan Station.

Nicholas 61 Knott County Central 59
The Lady Jackets surprised heavy favorite Knott County as the Nicholas traveled.

The Lady Jackets just recently moved back into the number 19th position in the Courier Journal's top 20 rankings. The Lady Panthers have been ranked in the top 10 and just came off a big victory over number four perennial power Clay County.

Nicholas 46 Augusta 40
Coach Barbara Kenney won her 100th coaching win, but it didn't come easy.

The Lady Jackets were trailing with 2:56 left in the game despite Nicholas early defeat of Augusta twice this season.

Lady Jackets 62 Hiram 47
The Lady Jackets led farwell in two quarters, Krist Barton and Tacy Earlywine on senior night as Nicholas downed Hiram 62-47.

Clark 41 Nicholas 23
The 14th ranked Lady Cardinals played a very deliberate game as they handed the 19th ranked Lady Jackets their third loss of the season 41-23. Nicholas ended the regular season at 24-3 before entering tournament play.

MARCH
37th District Tournament
Nicholas 50 Bourbon 23
The Lady Jackets clinched a regional berth by downing Bourbon County for the third year in a row in the opening round of the 37th district tournament.

The Lady Jackets inside game could not be stopped by the Lady Colonels, as Deakins and Earlywine dominated the middle for Nicholas County.

Lady Jackets 46 Paris 41
The last leg of the 37th district title match was between the Nicholas County Lady Jackets and one of the toughest rivals this season, the Paris Lady Hounds.

A win in this game would break a Nicholas County record. No Nicholas County team has ever won more than 25 games in a single season. At 25-30 Continued on Page 13

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