

SPORTS

Bluejackets rebound from Mason, but fall short of win

By Josh Shephard
The Carlsle Mercury Staff
CARLISLE — The Nicholas County Bluejackets bounced back from Mason County loss and gave Nicholas County fans nearly everything but the outside shot.

Harrison avenges tourney upset

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CARLISLE — Wouldn't it be nice if everyone in the 10th region lost their starting team last year. Wouldn't it be a relief if the stars of last year were seniors and the Nicholas County Bluejackets weren't facing teams that remained virtually intact from the '91-'92 season?

Before last week began, one look at the final week of basketball games in December, Harrison County, who defeated the Jackets, 69-55, with its hallmarks of long shooters and spreader Jerry Fogle, Mason County with its sophomore and junior roster packed with yet another generation of Meyericks and Hines, was enough to give any head coach a developed team indication. Commenting on the week before it happened, Bluejackets Head Coach Chris O'Hearn breathed a sigh. "This week was a force drive in character as a team not to become discouraged you give up. We were coming up against teams with clearly more experience than ourselves. But if instead of setting out with the idea of beating these teams, we went out to finish the game and gain experience against good teams, then we could walk out without an overpowering sense of defeat," O'Hearn said.

Mental strength under the conditions they faced last week was as important to the Bluejackets as developing the skills to be better players, he said. "When you have defeats jump for it as the score with the kind of margin we went to 62-36 in favor of the Jackets early in the third. Adams came in with a rebound and a layup to give the Jackets early in the third. Adams came in with a rebound and a layup to give the Jackets early in the third. Adams came in with a rebound and a layup to give the Jackets early in the third."

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CARLISLE — With juniors and sophomores being predominant on the Mason County Royals, one can tell how much of a force they will be in the 10th region for at least the next two seasons. With but a few changes the Royals are pretty much the same team Nicholas County faced last year in the 10th region championship and in the double overtime contest in the '91-'92 regular season.

So when the final score is 62-30, one must feel proud the Jackets played well enough to keep the Royals from the triple digit mark. The Royals have speed with Shawn Meyerick and Lamont Johnson, range with sophomore Tim Meyerick, and height with P. J. Mack. It wasn't difficult to predict a winner. With the score 52-12 after the first half, fans could conclude with reasonable accuracy that this Bluejackets game would not be a thriller in the sense of a close game. The score, essentially, was pointless and the Bluejackets had core fans aware on the opposing side, showed that their appreciation of the game of basketball runs deeper than a determination of who won. They'll be the ones screaming the loudest and appreciating more the accomplishments this team will eventually achieve when youth and

apparently not suffered many drawbacks. Besides playing more to nose against Bourbon's formidable forward, Jonathan Fowler, Ockerman led the court as the Jackets' high scorer with 19 points.

Between himself and Mark Adams, the Jackets managed

at times to control the boards and take more than one shot at the net. That clearly made a difference in the game. But all in all, Jackets fans, The Colonels and the Bluejackets stand on equal footing. The difference in the game was mistakes. Mark

Adams came forward in the fourth to beg a five point run. But fans were brought to cheers when Fogle, on a fast break, missed the easy shot.

Despite the miss, Harrison nailed back to back three pointers to go ahead 53-46.

Brad Burden answered with a three to halve a nine point run toward the end of the game with Chris Allison hitting two and Adams and Stacy setting four points at the line.

Scoring was widespread for the Jackets with Adams at 18 points and Stacy at 13 points being score leaders.

John Brown had five points, Trussell, Bradley Brown, and Duane Kenney each had four points. Bradley Burden had three points, and Broderick and Chris Allison ended with two.

JV Jackets - 40
Harrison - 54

In Bluejackets junior varsity action, Nicholas County had a little more luck in challenging the Thunderbolts on the board and scoring was, again, very widespread. Bryan Simpson nailed 10 points, Wes Broderick followed with seven, Duane Kenney, six points including one three, Burden with five points, Allison with three, and Chris Sexton, Shane Kenney, and Kevin Peaback with two.

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Israel Stacy broke an outside shooting slump in the fourth quarter of his last home game of 1992 with a strong three pointer which ignited a last chance effort to overcome the Colonels' lead. After bouncing back from a solid defeat at the hands of Mason and Harrison Counties, the Jackets proved the season is far from over yet.

Jackets get work out against Mason

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Burying Threees.

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The Carlsle Mercury Pam Shephard Photo
 Nicholas County Head Start students were treated with stuffed animals supplied by the Carlisle-Nicholas County Chamber of Commerce and given by Kathy Howard and Pam Shephard of the Chamber.



The Carlsle Mercury Pam Shephard Photo
 Santa just arrived from his helicopter Saturday in the IGA parking lot. Sponsored by the IGA and the Nicholas County Fire Department.



The Carlsle Mercury Pam Shephard Photo
 Johnson-Mathers Nursing staff performed carols for residents of the nursing home Thursday afternoon during a special program.



The Carlsle Mercury Pam Shephard Photo
 Entering thoughts to all in an community for your friendship, loyalty and support.

The Jewelry Patch
 Main Street - Carlisle
 289-5108

Highway 57
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



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 Entering thoughts to all in an community for your friendship, loyalty and support.



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Keeping You In Touch
THE CARLISLE MERCURY
 289-2464

JOY

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- 1992 F-150 2-Wheel Drive, Stock No. #4363, List Price \$14,736.00 Sale Price \$11,999
- 1992 F-150 2-Wheel Drive, Stock No. #4363, List Price \$13,771.00 Sale Price \$11,229
- 1992 F-150 2-Wheel Drive, Stock No. #7521, List Price \$17,391.00 Sale Price \$14,148
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- 1992 Ford Mustang LX, convertible, loaded, factory program car, NADA Book Price \$16,125 Sale Price \$11,900

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