

**SPORTS**

**Seniors say farewell with 32-16 win over East Carter**

**By Josh Shepherd**  
*The Carlin Mercury Staff Writer*

CARLISLE — It took most of the season, but the Bluejackets are no longer an inexperienced team. With the exception of some first-half shortfalls defensively, the varsity clicked Friday night.

The Nicholas County Bluejackets have won two in a row with a 32-16 victory over the East Carter Raiders last Friday despite a game total of about 155 yards in penalties.

The Jackets also overcame two first-half changes in the lead and missing three two-point conversions after the touchdown which kept the Raiders a constant threat until their scoreless second half.

Defense caused turnovers, but was otherwise virtually non-existent in the first 24 minutes of the game, save for making costly mistakes out on the field. In all, both teams committed 13 penalties for 155 yards in the game, the majority of which were called for clipping and personal fouls.

Late in the first quarter, of ficially greeted East Carter senior defensive lineman Mike Marshall for unnecessary roughness, which set up Nicholas County's first game score.

Right from kicked off East Carter converted a three and two situation to the Bluejackets 42 yard line with Curtis Mackley running the ball.

But the gain was nullified as Justin Alms and Duane Kenney stalled running back Jess Cathy for a four yard loss. The Jackets very nearly stopped the Raiders drive after a holding call set up a three and 26 situation.

But a pass interference call against the Bluejackets gave the Raiders a first down at the Nicholas 45 line.

The Raiders failed to convert a fourth and four as Derek Stephens pass bounced off Richard Pennington's fingers, ending the drive six minutes into the game.

Nicholas County's first possession began explosively as veterans Jerry and Kevin Watkins and Newby pushed the Jackets to a first down and 10 at the 20.

Nick Pope picked up the key block that sent a pitch right to Jerry Watkins 25 yards down field to the Raiders 25. But the Nicholas County pattern had East Carter force and recover the fumble.

West Frederick had an above average night on defense highlighted by a blocked pass on the Raiders second drive. Two sacks caused a fumble that rolled out the Bluejackets, went elsewhere. At fourth down and inches, the Raiders fumbled and turned the ball back over to the Jackets in the last seconds of the quarter.

The Raiders were called for roughing the passer to put the Jackets on the 50. The Jackets clipped to send them right back to where they started, but with 25 yards to go for a drive on the 25.

Nicholas County pulled out the first down on the first ever televised reverse play that sent Pope flying to the Raider's 20.

After the Raiders were called for a personal foul and Marshall ejected from the game, the Bluejackets were escorted to the 10 yard line.

At third down Jerry Watkins leaped the front line for the touchdown and the extra point kick put the Jackets ahead 7-0.

The Raiders bounced back with a 50 yard D'Wayne Barber sweep into the end zone combined with a double reverse for the two-point conversion to take an 8-7 lead.

Pope carried the kick off back to the 35 yard line where Cathy, the kicker, prevented the run back to the end zone. With 5:40 left in the half and facing fourth and one Bluejackets fullback Kevin Watkins bludgeoned his way through for the score to tie the lead 13-13.

The Raiders sacked quarterback Shane Kenney on an attempted conversion pass.

At first and 10 from the 48, the Raiders almost lost their drive, but Newby caused a fumble that rolled out the Bluejackets, went elsewhere. At fourth down and inches, the Raiders fumbled and turned the ball back over to the Jackets in the last seconds of the quarter.

The Raiders were called for roughing the passer to put the Jackets on the 50. The Jackets clipped to send them right back to where they started, but with 25 yards to go for a drive on the 25.

Nicholas County overcame the deficit as it sent Jerry Watkins right for a 50 yard run stopped short of the score at the one yard line. Kevin Watkins bounded in for a 19-16 lead. The two-point conversion, however, continued to elude the Jackets.

Right off the start of the third quarter, the Jackets threw another sweep down the pike with Jerry Watkins breaking the end zone for a 25-16 game.

The Jackets fully intended to make it a 10 point lead, but without a kicking tee, they opted for the two-point conversion which, again, failed. But standing nine points ahead, the Jackets finally secured a lead that would take more than a touchdown to overtake.

Holding against East Carter turned a first down rush into a first and 20 situation. At fourth and 11, the Raiders delivered on a fake punt, and if it hadn't been for an illegal procedure call, it would have worked.

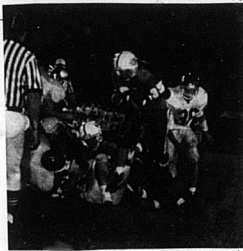
Suddenly, defense decided to get in the game. On three consecutive drives, the defenses forced each team to punt, away through to the fourth quarter.

East Carter's last sustained threat to the Jackets was Cathy in open ground for a 22 yard run to the 40. Barber broke 10 yards to the 30, then overcame an illegal procedure call to put East Carter at the 10 yard line.

Then Kevin Watkins and Duane Kenney hammered Stephens at the line of scrimmage and Jerry Watkins nearly came up with a turnover. Secondarily, man John Brown deflected a pass to the left at fourth and 21.

The Jackets scored with 6:26 left in the half of a 35 yard run to the goal. Pat Baker's split the sprinkles and the Jackets led, 32-16.

Defense waggled up the game with Nate McGuffey stuffing Mackley short of the first down, then followed up with a sack on Cathy to end it.



Jerry Watkins torpedoes ahead for one yard and the first touchdown of the evening for the Bluejackets Friday night. The Jackets defeated East Carter 32-16.

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**SPORTS**

**Junior High Lady Jackets take first round over Paris 50-6 in Bluegrass Conference**

**By Josh Shepherd**  
*The Carlin Mercury Staff Writer*

CARLISLE — The first round of the Bluegrass Conference Tournament was as good as snuffed by the Eighth Grade Lady Jackets whose defense and offense fairly overwhelmed the Southside Lady Greyhounds, 50-6.

Led by the scoring of Jennifer Caswell, 11 points, and Shania McNabb, 12 points, the rest of the Lady Jackets performed strong and controlled the game at all points on the court, passing well and driving the lane as well as forcing several turnovers that continued to frustrate Southside for the entire 24 minutes.

Nar were the high scorers necessarily dominant on the floor.

Sarah Smoot and Mickey Dray got the game rolling on the foul line.

Dray hit for a three point play in the game's opening minutes and Smoot took three of four free throws to launch the Jackets to a 6-0 lead.

McNabb hit another two before Southside's Tamasha Syers dropped one from the foul line to put them on the board, 6-1.

Kathy Schanding took her first two afterwards, leaving Jennifer Caswell the only Lady Jacket without points on the stat sheet.

After three Paris turnovers, however, Caswell picked up her first point, then sank two more with seconds left in the quarter.

Crystal McKinney rebounded Dray's shot to end the quarter, 21-3.

Kami Smith sank both sides of two shot foul followed by McNabb with two from the line.

Smoot hit for four more unanswered points and at the

No statistics were available sealed the win, 32-3.

Caswell hit for four before logging her third personal foul early in the third period.

The two knocked down by In points, besides McNabb Dawnell Ollham, which, as and Caswell, eight Lady Jackets were recorded with scores. Sara Smoot came in with eight points, Kathy Schanding, Mickey Dray, Kassi Tubbs discovered a and Kassi Tubbs all found the basket for four points, Crystal McKinney, Shellee Flora, and Kami Smith each pulled two points, and Faith stamp an even 50-50 with the Adamson was recorded with one.



Shania McNabb fires a 3 jumper over Southside's Paris team Monday night in the opening round of the Bluegrass Conference Tournament as the Lady Jackets eighth grade team won 50-6.



**TRICK OR TREAT**

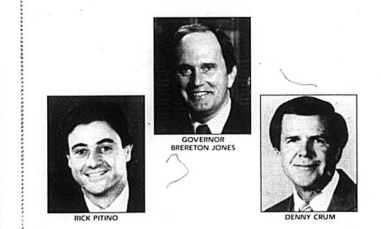
- JMHC wants to help keep the children of Nicholas County safe while trick or treating. Here are few safety reminders we want to share with the parents and children during this Halloween season.
1. Go Trick or Treating in Groups or with an adult.
  2. Use a flashlight while Trick or Treating.
  3. Be sure apparel is safe i.e.:
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