

Bluejackets take season opener over Powell 13-6

By Job Shepherd
STANTON — The Nicholas County Bluejackets took the 1992 regular season 1-0 Friday night, knocking off the Powell County Pirates with their best assets — size and conditioning.

Led by fullback Kevin Watkins, who rushed for 90 yards, the Bluejackets found their niche in a ground game, following the lead blocks of an effective, dominating front line.

But the game was no rout. The Pirates were given every opportunity to turn the heat on Nicholas County, but a lackluster Powell County effort early in the second half closed the door on them.

Being their second year as a team, mistakes and inexperience still plagued the Pirates overall performance. Powell, as Bluejackets' Head Coach Greg Letcher noted, Bluejackets was much improved over last year.

"Powell still plays a lot of young people, but their attack was much better over last year. They were getting people outside and raking up big yardage against us," Letcher said.

What was apparent was Nicholas County's weakness on the outside, Letcher said. "We were relying too much on the same people play after play. We established an inside game because we had a line doing their job. They deserve a lot of credit. Their conditioning in the off-season has really paid off."

"But when it came to the sweep and option, we weren't getting anywhere. A lot of the problem there, however, is experience," Letcher said.

At kick off, Nick Pope put the Jackets at the Nicholas County 22 yard line to begin the first series of downs.

The Jackets established the run right from first down, with Ron Newby's seven yard run up the middle setting up a first down conversion.

The Pirates secondary shut hopes of a first series score as the Jackets passing game stumbled. On fourth and long, the Jackets' punt knocked against a Pirates receiver. In the scramble, the Jackets recovered on the Powell County 20 yard line.

A pass attempt. A holding penalty ended the second half for a sack start, rushing twice for first down yardage and rolled into Jackets territory for the first time in the game.

The Pirates continued to make up for a sack start, hammering Allen on the inside, but another sweep blew past the ends to the one yard line.

Their progress, however, crumbled under the shoulders of Justin Abnee, Mike Caswell, Kevin and Jerry Watkins and Newby.

But the Pirates had fight left in them. In a last second, first quarter rush, Pirates senior running back Barry Allen scored 36 yards to plug his side toe late on the last

home field it will be won, whether the Jackets can step beyond last year, considering night with 1990 season challenge the Madison Southern Eagles at 8:00 p.m. on Bluejackets Field.

The Eagles, into their third season in the past. But if we can't improve sweeps and option plays, build on our passing, and continue to do the other things we already do well, it should be a close game," Letcher said.

Fan support, he said, will be crucial in this contest. It will affect the players mentally, and help get them keyed up. "There were many people predicting that at this point, we wouldn't be 1-0 at this time. The Eagles are favored to beat us as well. I hope we can use that expectation to our advantage and come out of it with an upset," he said. "But we have to be the team to want it."

Head Coach Greg Letcher said the Jackets will need to bring a better outside game to challenge the Eagles.

But home field being an advantage is in question. In this year's successful 1991 season, the Jackets only lost, with the exception of the past-season game against Erieanger Lloyd, came off of

team on the Nicholas County 29 yard line at the top of the second quarter.

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Instead of fired up, the Pirates began the second half with a mistake ridden and lackluster performance. Despite their trademark reverse hand off, which did make up lost yardage, four plays came down to a fight among defenses.

Nicholas needed to eat up the clock, but at fourth and three, they set up a fake punt. John Brown took the ball down five yards for the first and gave the Jackets breathing room to set up another clock eating drive.

They cut time down to 10:03 when Jerry Watkins, having an outstanding line performance, fumbled and Powell recovered.

Twice the Pirates faced a second down and twenty situation, brought on by a power rush sack and penalties. A pass saved them once, but most stunting was the second turnover. Showing pass, Randall dumped a short quick pitch to Brent Shull for a first down conversion and big yardage.

Danale Kenny ended the Pirates' march, throwing Randall at the 43 yard line, but the Jackets still played to the end of the game. The Eagles are favored to beat us as well. I hope we can use that expectation to our advantage and come out of it with an upset," he said. "But we have to be the team to want it."

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Lions Club Horse Show Results

Nicholas County Lions Club 10th Annual Horse Show Results
Saturday, August 29
Pleasure Class 11 years and under: First Place, Kitty Hawk, ridden by Shaina Benzie; Second Place, V.C. ridden by Teri Hatcher; Third Place, Sax, ridden by Chris White; Fourth Place, Misty, ridden by Arca Stacy.

Two-Year-Old Amateur Walking Horse: First Place, Go Boy China Doll, ridden by Terry Doyle; Second Place, Tramp's Mr. Ebony, ridden by Nathan Morris.

Western Type Pleasure: First Place, F.F.M. Astor, ridden by Kay Irving; Second Place, Mayor, ridden by Jim Anderson; Third Place, Harley, ridden by Mike Woolley.

Amateur English Type Pleasure Walk/Trot-Carriage: First Place, Due Justice, ridden by Teri Hatcher; Second Place, Honey's Golden Flame, ridden by Rachel Stanger; Third Place, V.C. ridden by Arca Stacy; Fourth Place, Super Maria, ridden by Julie Gomez.

Three-Year-Old Amateur Walking Horse, No Cantor: First Place, Ebony's Prince, ridden by Mike Black; Second Place, Charger, ridden by Jim Har-

Spotted Saddle Horses (Wade and Favorite Gait): First Place, J & J Peggy Sue, ridden by Ricky McFarland; Second Place, J & J Cherokee Kid, ridden by John Thomas; Third Place, Lakota Sioux, ridden by Jim Stacy; Fourth Place, Paints Limited Edition, ridden by Sue Holt.

Riding Horse Speed Only: First Place, Ebony's Prince, ridden by Mike Black; Second Place, Charger, ridden by Jim Har-

White, Second Place, Terminator, ridden by Greg White; Third Place, Duke, ridden by Jeff Stapp; Fourth Place, Bull, ridden by Keith Gilvin.

Amateur English 3-Gaited: First Place, Bobo Fox, ridden by Teri Perkins; Second Place, Delaney Street, ridden by Barbara Maloney; Third Place, Jackson, ridden by Cindy Hamon.

Nicholas County Only Pleasure Class Walk/Trot-Pleasure Gait: First Place, Sundance, ridden by Wanda Dotson; Second Place, Trance, ridden by Shanon Wesley; Third Place, Coy's Touch of Carlton, ridden by Kim Sosby; Fourth Place, Shakers Golden Parade, ridden by Tammy Cline.

Ladies Amateur Walking Horse: First Place, Fashions Wildcat, ridden by Lisa Newson; Second Place, Johnny's Trade Mark, ridden by Lisa Pruth; Third Place, Trampa Pruth; Third Place, Trampa Hot Line, ridden by Carolyn James; Fourth place, Dark Son's Holiday, ridden by Wanda Adams.

Country Pleasure Class: First Place, Tramp's Big Star, ridden by Pat Taylor; Second Place, Lady Lady, ridden by Sue Holt; Third Place, Cody's Inane, ridden by Melvin Trev Burton; Fourth Place, J

Junior 5-Gaited Horse: First Place, Primrose Pat, ridden by Janet Quillen. Road Pony to Ride 6'7" and under: First Place, Zigger, ridden by Adams Doyle; Second Place, Pike's Dream, ridden by H.S. James; Third Place, Vivasious, ridden by Vaughn Hatcher; Fourth Place, Mr. Spirit, ridden by Charles Hatcher.

Speed Barrel Race: First Place, Monkey Lips, ridden by Brenda Pollitt; Second Place, Harley, ridden by Mike Woolley.

Amateur Walking Horse (Cantor Required): First Place, Another Magic Man, ridden by Lisa Pruth. Plantation Pleasure Walk/Hunting/Walk: First Place, Lotus Spirit, ridden by Lori Fields; Second Place, Ultra's Miss Pam, ridden by Lisa Pruth; Third Place, Senator's True Colors, ridden by Christie Boyd; Fourth Place, Susa Grest Casser, ridden by Gary Kendall.

Walking Horse Stakes: First Place, Generators Duke, ridden by Terry Boyle; Second Place, Tramp's Election, ridden by George Sparks; Third Place, Delights Bad Dude, ridden by Steve Swinford; Fourth Place, E.T.'s Eliminator, ridden by D.P. Lustrail.

Catalog Race: First Place, Prince, ridden by Sarah Terrell; Second Place, Harley, ridden by Mike Woolley; Third Place, Monkey Lips, ridden by Brenda Pollitt.

6 & J Cherokee Kid, ridden by John Thomas.

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The Nicholas County High School Band performed at the Powell County during the opening game of the Nicholas County High Football team's game with the Pirates Friday night.

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