

## Jackets drop first game of the season to Madison Southern

By Job Shepherd  
of the Carlsle Mercury Staff

CARLISLE — It was second down and goal hanging through the fourth quarter when a Madison Southern fumble inside the Nicholas County six yard line was recovered by the Bluejackets.

Officials, however, ruled the ball dead, setting up a short touchdown push from Shannon Vanover to give the Eagles the lead and handed the Bluejackets their first season loss, 24-10.

At an early season record of 1-1, Bluejackets Head Coach Greg Letcher did not appear bothered by the final score. In fact, the assessment of the team performance was more heartening than disappointing. He felt the team had done more things right than wrong.

"We can't let games like this get to us. It's over and, though we might not like the outcome, I feel the team accomplished some things they set out to do. We just have to remember that the real season begins next week with Fairview and get ready for that game," Letcher said.

Obviously, the Bluejackets couldn't get things going. After a half-time lead, 10-0, the Eagles began the second half with renewed momentum and adjustments that picked apart the run and pass.

Combined with a time eating drive in the third quarter and a fourth quarter surge had the Jackets scrambling to hold to their lead, but to no avail.

"The defense let up on some third down situations and let

the Eagles grab some first down plays.

"But I'm proud of these boys. They've done what we've asked and, when things started going the other way and calls went against us, the boys didn't mouth off. That much class makes me proud to coach this team," Letcher said.

From the kickoff the name of the game was defense and turnovers.

The Bluejackets got two yards out of Jerry Watkins when a weak pitch play on second down resulted in a fumble recovery for the Eagles.

Using every bit of the time they could, the Eagles worked off every down to set into the clock. But at the 7:14 mark, Jerry Watkins hammered Eric Mundy and forced the pass to flip into Gilbert's hands for the interception.

John Brown put the Jackets into scoring range with a pass reception on the Madison 30 yard line. Pope and Watkins combined to drill the Eagles defense for a first.

Then things didn't go so well for the Jackets. Two motion penalties put the Jackets at a third and 21 situation when a bomb to French became a diving top-of-war at the six yard line. Officials ruled the ball complete and the Jackets had the first.

A field goal put the Jackets up 10-3 which held fast all the way into the half.

At the top of the third quarter, the Jackets defense proved effective until third down situations, when the Eagles managed to save themselves with big outside gains.

The Eagles got their score at the eight minute mark with a drive from their fallback, Vanover. With the kick, the Jackets had tightened at 10-7.

It took three kick offs to get the ball in play, but after four plays in Jackets' possession, the ball was punted back to the Eagles for the longest, and possibly most, damaging yard line.

At second down on the six yard line, the Jackets were certain they had recovered a fumble, but referees ruled the ball down and the next set up scored, turning the lead over to the Eagles for the first time in the game.

With the two point conversion, the Eagles led 17-10.

Vanover scored in the last seconds on a breakaway run intercepted and took over for another march. But the Jackets came out tough, highlighted by a lone sack from Robert Reed to stop the drive.

But deep in the Eagles territory, the Jackets, on fourth, gambled with giving a safety to keep the lead and hoping for a good kick off to allow the defense to work.

The plan backfired as the Eagles returned to the nine yard line.

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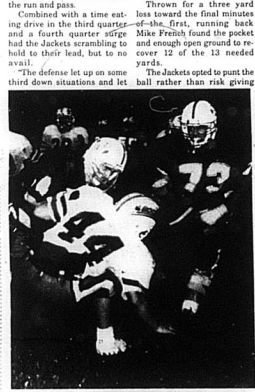
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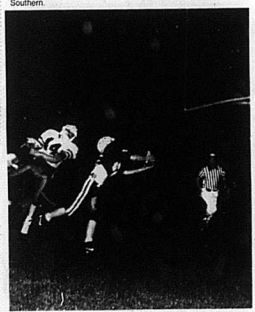
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The Carlsle Mercury/Pam Shepherd Photo Above, Nicholas County High School Football players Ben Newby (44) and Justin Abnee (73) drop David Lamb to the ground as he begins to make a move down the field. Below, Bluejackets Jerry Watkins stretches for a reception, but just inches from the recovery, Watkins drops the pass from quarterback Shane Kenney Friday night against Madison Southern.



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## Site-Based Council to appeal Board for no eighth grade Algebra credit

By Job Shepherd  
of the Carlsle Mercury Staff

CARLISLE — Nicholas County Site-Based Council, Tuesday night, resolved to go before the Nicholas County School Board to request permission to disallow high school credit for Algebra I taught in the eighth grade.

Contrary over high school credit for eighth grade Algebra class has been a sticking point between the schools for years. In past years, when the subject came up, field alone requested the school board agree to discontinue giving high school credit for the eighth grade class. Each time, however, the board felt the credit course to be an asset and a boon to the Nicholas County Schools overall academic program.

However, at the regular September meeting of the High School site based council, Reid presented the matter to council members with a suggestion they consider an alternative to removing high school credit from the course completely.

He asked the council to recommend that the high school accept eighth grade Algebra I as high school credit fulfilling a required elective rather than a mathematics credit.

"Students will get the graduation credit they want, but they'll still have to fulfill three math credits at the high school," Reid said.

To bolster his argument for the motion, Reid said new NCAA regulations concerning participating University athletic scholarships, scheduled to become effective in the 1994-95 season, would not accept any high school credits below the eighth grade.

These regulations, Reid said, affected all levels of NCAA affiliated schools.

"Basically, senior athletes may find they don't qualify for scholarships because a credit thought they had completed doesn't count on the application," Reid said.

However, Reid did not indicate whether any state or private universities and colleges themselves would hold academic or private athletic scholarships from students because of eighth grade high school credit courses.

Faculty members of the council expressed a desire to see high school credit courses be solely the realm of the high school.

"Junior High is junior high. High School is High School. I don't believe it fair for students to be forced into upper level math courses when they might not be ready to take them," Jim Simons said.

Council member and student parent Jane Kay Smoot expressed concern that students may be taken by surprise, assuming they have school credits only to apply to college and find they do not.

### OBITUARIES

**SAPP**  
Viola Herrin Sapp, 87, 507 East Main St., Carlisle, widow of Joe Sapp, died Tuesday at Good Samaritan Hospital in Lexington.

She was a member of Carlisle Christian Church, Homemakers Club, and was born in Nicholas County to the late Henry Clay and Mary Rose Herrin.

She is survived by three sons, Clay Sapp, Nicholas County, Luther Sapp, Bourbon County, and Roy Sapp, Millsburg; a brother, Billy Herrin, Nicholas County; a sister, Mrs. Jessie Blake, Corinth; five grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Services were held Friday at Mathers-Gaunce Funeral Home by Rev. Steve Smith, pastor of Carlisle Cemetery. Casketbearers were James and Paul Sapp, Danny Stam, Scott Gode, Shawn Parish, Woodie Blake Jr., and George Love. Honorary casketbearers are Charles Smith, Reese Smoot, Roger Hamilton, Paul Donovan, and the Women's Sunday School Class of Carlisle Christian Church.

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