

Youth Football organizes teams; sets schedule

By Heather Mathies-Harris
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

CARLISLE - Nicholas County Youth Football has organized the 62 children who came out ready to kick the old pigskin around into four teams.

Two teams are comprised of third and fourth graders and two include fifth and sixth grade children.

The teams, coaches and players are as follows:

Vikings - Coaches: Mitch Harmon, Kyle Hunt, Josh Milton, Kyle Reiter, Dennis Gill in, Jeremy Russell, Justin Kenner, E.D. Sexton, Aaron Cobb, Josh Gray, Charles Kinkaden, Chad Coker, and Brandon Hopkins.

Saints - Coaches: Ron Bower and Larry Trussell. Blake Bower, Justin Rawlings, Roger Trussell, Justin Tubbs, Josh Carr, Kyle Dabire, Darrin Harrington, Jason Jean, Earl Mitchell, Richard Reid, Mike Eads, Keith Hunter and John Hughes.

Dolphins - Coaches: Tom Hughes and Tony Fryman; Paul funding, Timmy Crump, Barkley Caswell, Jeremy Harmon, Ryan Hunter, and Wes Bower, Jeremy Dunn, Jeffery funds for equipment include: Little Dunn, Nathan Robinson, Brian League basketball, Minor League

Wagner, Tony Fryman, Jarrod Vice, Dustin Stoddard, Chris Marcus, Brandon Matton, Robbie Bidlo, Ryan McNeil, Dustin Hill and Rodney Trussell.

Blue Jets - Coaches: Kimball Booth, Dennis Dotson and Pat Letcher; Dugan Kelly, Weston Snow, Josh Earlywine, Daniel Eubanks, John Hall, Brian Anderson, Nick Dotson, Bobby Price, Jarrett Swill, Jeremy Hunter, Scott Terrell, Bradley Price, Steve Minton, Kevin Livingston, Brent Helbrook, Josh Fryman, Brandon

Jones, Rob Hunter, Josh Hunt and J. Terrell, waterboy.

According to Mitch Harmon, the biggest stumbling block in establishing a football league such as this is the great expense of equipment.

The group of concerned parents who wished to establish the league set goal funding at \$7,000. Larry (Owlhead) Trussell and Jim Galbraith headed up the fund raising committee, and with a great amount of elbow grease and

These organizations, businesses, and individuals who donated funds for equipment include: Little Dunn, Nathan Robinson, Brian League basketball, Minor League

Basball, V.F.W. Kenny Lyons, Deposit Bank, First National Bank, American Legion, Charlie Watkins, Don Jays Auto Parts, David Zachary, Garrett's Furniture, Rocky Club, Lina Club, Mattie Healy, Woodmen of the World Insurance, Robinson Masonry, Fryer Construction, Crockett's ShopWise Grocery, Dr. Sparks, Jimmy Glass, J & L Liquors, Roy Gansner, Field and Vice, Farm Bureau, Southern States, Bill Clark, Jack Randolph and Kentucky Utilities.

"All of the donations are being used to purchase footballs, shoulder pads and helmets. There is no way these players could have a program without the proper equipment, so we cannot thank the people who donated enough," Harmon said.

Nicholas County Youth Football teams will be practicing three days a week and play games on Saturdays through the YMCA in Paris.

Each player is required to pay a standard fee of \$20 to the YMCA in Paris, and each player must provide his own shoes, pants and mouthpiece.

According to Kaye Earlywine, some parents have expressed concern over the players going to Paris each week to play games and Ni-

cholas County being a member of the YMCA's league.

"We have got to get experience before we go out on our own, this is our first year and we need the guidance. And we have only got two teams in each age category, if they play the same teams each week the players will get bored with it," Jim Galbraith said.

"The Paris league has five or six different teams in each age category and it will provide wide varieties of competition. Paris is close and convenient for us to start out with."

"And we have every intention of playing teams in Mason, Lewis, Fleming and even Harrison County in the future, and even playing each other at home so parents and fans can see how much these players have learned. Plus, Harmon said according to people who have been involved in the past youth football league, teams were more successful and played on a more competitive level when they had the wider range of experience a little league football program provided.

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One of the last Little League Football teams from Nicholas County was coached by, top row, Kimball Booth, Wayne Shumate and Donald Robinson. Most of this team went on to belong to the high school football team which went to the state football playoffs. Readers should recognize a certain present head football of the Nicholas County Football team as well as a school board member, assistant football coach, head coach for Texas Creek and other community leaders. Top Row, left to right are: Sam Vice, Gary Williams, two Barton brothers, Rudy Randolph, Mike Berry; Second row, left to right, Mark Ruddle, Pat Lecher, Clifford Thompson, Cliff Shumate, Damon Booth, Greg Lecher, Jimmy Smith. Third Row, left to right, Randy Blunt, Kenny Hunt, John Hunt, Ernie Jones, Jimmy Joe Mitchell, Joe Ruddle and Allen Dale. The team was sponsored by the local Jaycees and traveled, according to Booth, "just like the high school players did. They learned a lot from being in a program before they got to high school, I think the little league players we have now could produce the same results."

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