

### Free Hunter Ed course offered

A free Kentucky Hunter Education Course will be held May 5 and 6, from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the basement on the Nicholas County Library. For more information, contact Buca Alexander, 289-2533, Freddie Marshall, 289-7972, or Marie Halpin, 987-2593.

### Fish & Game Club to hold meeting

The Nicholas County Fish & Game Club will hold their next meeting on Friday, April 22 at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the club, and the meal will be potluck. All members of Nicholas County Fish & Game Club are urged to attend.

### Community Action to hold Bring-A-Bike Day

St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital's "Bring-A-Bike Day" safety program will be conducted at Nicholas County Community Action Council Head Start Center the week of April 25. The program is designed to encourage safe riding behavior among children, and to raise funds to light crosswalk cancer.

### Area Weather Forecast

Thursday & Friday: Seasonable temperatures, dry, highs in the low eighties, low near forty.  
Saturday & Sunday: Continued warm, highs in the eighties, nighttime lows near forty-five.

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# THE CARLISLE MERCURY

SERVING NICHOLAS COUNTY SINCE 1867  
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## Court rejects ambulance service bid; judge says service too expensive

**By Leigh Stone**  
**OF THE CARLISLE-MERCURY STAFF**  
CARLISLE - The Nicholas County Fiscal Court has rejected the ambulance service bid submitted by Ronnie McDonald, operator of the Nicholas County Ambulance Service.

The fiscal court met in special session 3:45 p.m. Monday, April 18 at the courthouse.

Ronald and his wife, Joyce, have operated the ambulance service for the past 10 years. Neither were in attendance at the fiscal court meeting when the bid was rejected.

The McDonald's bid was for \$98,400. Last year's bid was \$78,000.

Dana Price, secretary to County Judge Executive Chuck Smith, said the unanimous vote to reject the bid was because the bid was so high. Members voted to re-bid the service.

"It's extremely doubtful if I re-bid," Ronnie said Tuesday afternoon at McDonald's Ashland Station, Main Street. The Ashland station is owned by the couple.

Although the county funds the service and owns the three ambulances and building and pays utilities, the McDonald's are responsible for six full-time employees wages including the couple and two part-time employees; routine ambulance maintenance, such as oil changes.

Nicholas County Superintendent Colbert Gilbert presented the next awards: Education: Kay Willis, a teacher for 32 years, 30 of them in Nicholas County and two years in Park.

Athletic: Nicholas County High School senior Mike French and senior Kim Denkins.

Spud Marshall presented the Helping Hand Award to Barbara Hopkins. Hopkins works with the family resource center in the Nicholas County Schools.

TTI Railway received the

changes; workman's compensation, state employment and a n e m p l o y e e n e a t a benefits, medical supplies, equipment, all training such as re-certification, and the telephone bill.

The service has approximately 500 runs per year and has a collection rate of approximately 60 percent. The McDonald's don't have much hope of collecting the other 40 percent. They don't have health insurance money, no vehicle insurance and they sure don't have money to pay us, Ronnie said.

The McDonald's wanted to add personnel and equipment to the service. Five people must be on call at all times so one back-up ambulance can be manned. Current working situations mean workers are practically working around the clock. "You can't wait 30 minutes to an hour for an ambulance," Ronnie commented.

Flemingburg Ambulance Service has an annual budget of approximately \$250,000 and has enough employees to have three shifts, Ronnie said.

County Judge Executive Smith said he didn't know why the McDonald's asked for an increase from last year to this year. "I can't answer that. He keeps the money he gets from the runs he makes. I don't know how the trial began Monday, April 18, under the direction of Judge Robert McGinnis.

Denkins named

Player of the Year

U.S.A. Today's 1994 AUSA Team has named Nicholas County High School senior Kim Denkins Player of the Year.

Players are picked by USA Today's national news network. The 6'3" Lady Jacket had 2,658 career points and 2,034 career rebounds. She was credited by the newspaper with leading the Lady Jackets to win the 1993 state championship.

**Winds wreak destruction**  
Several homes and other buildings in the Headquarters area suffered damage from extremely high winds last Friday. Nicholas and Hobson Counties were placed under a tornado watch for several hours, and high winds swept through the area. The Headquarters School, above, was extensively damaged. According to a local historian, the original school blew down in 1928, and a new building was erected the following year. 1930 saw the first classes at the school.

## Chamber elects new officers

**By Leigh Stone**  
**OF THE CARLISLE-MERCURY STAFF**  
CARLISLE - Rose Brady was voted president of the Carlisle/Nicholas County Chamber of Commerce during the Friday, April 15 annual dinner and awards ceremony.

"I want to listen to you if you have ideas," Brady, former director of the chamber, said following the sale.

Spud Marshall, executive director of the Carlisle/Nicholas County Industrial Authority, was voted vice president.

Four vacancies on the chamber's board of directors remain. Marshall said letters asking for nominations would be sent following the next chamber meeting.

More than 60 chamber members were present at the Nicholas County Elementary School cafeteria as awards were presented following a fried chicken dinner prepared by the cafeteria school staff.

Award winners of the evening were voted by the board of directors and other business leaders.

Dan Miller, administrator of Johnson Matthers Health Care, presented the following awards: Progress: The Dollar Store.

Wanda Martin, general manager, accepted the award.

Business: Ronnie and Joyce McDonald, owners/operators of the Nicholas County Ambulance Service.

Agriculture: James Caswell, also commercial producer of the year.

Nicholas County Superintendent Colbert Gilbert presented the next awards: Education: Kay Willis, a teacher for 32 years, 30 of them in Nicholas County and two years in Park.

Athletic: Nicholas County High School senior Mike French and senior Kim Denkins.

Spud Marshall presented the Helping Hand Award to Barbara Hopkins. Hopkins works with the family resource center in the Nicholas County Schools.

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many runs he makes but the county doesn't get anything from that. It's just got out of the The Judge said he doesn't know who prospective bidders on the ambulance service may be but that an ambulance service from Morehead called recently and asked if bids were closed. Smith told them bids for the ambulance service were closed at that time. The only bid received by deadline was from Ronnie McDonald.

Ronnie said two of his employees will lose their job as of July 1. Others work at a second job already.

The fiscal court must have an ambulance service under contract by July 1 when McDonald's

## IN BRIEF

### Farrow trial under way

At press time Tuesday, the jury was still deliberating the Joyce Farrow case at the Nicholas County courthouse.

Farrow, a resident of Nicholas County, was charged with murder for allegedly shooting and killing her husband.

The trial began Monday, April 18, under the direction of Judge Robert McGinnis.

## Denkins takes runner-up in Miss Basketball

**By Leigh Stone**  
**OF THE CARLISLE-MERCURY STAFF**  
LEXINGTON - Lady Jacket Kim Denkins came in second place last Friday at the Kentucky Lions Eye Foundation Miss Basketball competition.

Laura Townsend of Apollonia Owensboro was the winner announced at Campbell House April 15. Verda Jackson of Clay County came in third.

Denkins was accompanied to the awards ceremony with her Lady Jackets Coach Barbara Kenney, Kenney's husband, Mike, Denkins' mother, Yvonne Price, grandparents Dennis and Lowell Fryman and fellow Nicholas County High School senior Laura Hamm.

"I'm really disappointed in this," Coach Kenney stated following the announcement.

Meanwhile, Denkins and her family gathered in the Campbell House corridor off from the Magnolia Room. Holding her latest plaque, the 1993 Sweet 16 Championship Most Valuable Player and most valuable player in Class A State 1993-94 talked about the future.

"UK's gonna have four awesome players next year," Denkins exclaimed enthusiastically.

## Site-based Council discusses overcrowding at high school

**By Leigh Stone**  
**OF THE CARLISLE-MERCURY STAFF**  
CARLISLE - Teachers tired of trekking from classroom to classroom in an overcrowded high school and detention duty were the main topics discussed by the Nicholas County High School Site Based Decision Making Council Thursday, April 14.

Math teachers Anita Litton and Lisa Conn co-authored a memo sent to council stating in brief that these are teachers who only have as much as a book to carry from class to class. They should try carrying portfolio, protractors, compasses, rulers, colored pencils, papers, graph paper, calculators and books from room to room and rarely see the same room two hours in a row. "We were informed that the reason for the one room is



The Nicholas County Fire Department responded to this structure fire at the residence of Jack Randolph on Moorfield Road Monday. The garage adjacent to the Randolph residence was heavily damaged by the flames, as was an automobile parked inside the structure.



The Carlisle Mercury/Jason Hart Photo shows the Headquarters School, above, was extensively damaged by a fire that broke out in the building's main entrance on Monday, April 18, 1994.

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