

Boys' All "A" Regional Tournament Preview

Director discusses tourney organization

By Heather Mathes-Harris
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff
CARLISLE—Nicholas County High School will be hosting both the Girls 1994 All A Regional Tournament as well as the Boys this year.

Tournament Director, and teacher at Nicholas County High School, Sue Kirby, said the tournament could not have organized if not for the collaboration of high school and elementary faculty, staff at the board office and both schools and community residents.

"This is not just an effort by the athletic department, every one pitches in where they are needed. These tournaments have been a collaboration on behalf of the entire Nicholas County community," Kirby said.

And not just a game does a tournament make.

Advertisements for programs must be sold, programs must be printed. All the information and pictures from visiting teams are gathered for the program. Not to mention hospitality rooms, refreshments for teams and cheerleaders, changing rooms, parking, referees, volunteers, ushers and security and the list goes on.

"First of all the referees were assigned by the Assigning Secretary of the KHSAA, Jerry Pickrell. We have to have two for every game. 28 in total. Cancellations are handled out of that office as well, but they must be provided with a place in which to change and refreshments are provided as well," Kirby said.

Items for the hospitality rooms are being provided by Criss Reed Chevron, Lardner Grocery, Abner's at Blue Licks, Crockett's ShopWise and Carlisle USA.

The entire Home Economics department at the high school is getting everything together and set up," Kirby said.

"Whenever we had tournaments in the past and were responsible for hospitality rooms we had to cart everything here and there, but now we are at an advantage by having this here. Security will also be provided by local officials."

The Kentucky State Police, Carlisle Police Department and the Nicholas County Sheriff's Department are all donating their time to help with security. When you have this many people, since seven girls teams and nine boys teams will be represented in the All A, extra security is needed, and we really appreciate them helping out," Kirby said.

The Nicholas County Ambulance Service will also be present at the tournament for emergency medical attention and transportation.

"They will still be on call for the rest of the county, and will be parked in a place readily accessible in case they should have to leave, but they will be in attendance every night in case we need them on hand," Kirby said.

The tournament also received donations from Small's Greenhouse for flowers in the hospitality rooms, the City of Carlisle has provided barricades, Pappi Cola is providing drinks for all athletes, teams and Little Debbie's will provide snack cakes for the cheerleaders hospitality room.

Kirby, and other members of the Nicholas County Athletic Department have also speculated on parking problems during the tourney.

"We anticipated large crowds because we are hoping for a large Nicholas County turnout, but also because these schools are so close they will probably bring a large amount of fans," Kirby said.

Chevron has donated parking at their location. If that parking is utilized and if others are forced to park at the base of

the hill, volunteer bus drivers have donated their time in order to shuttle spectators to the high school.

"The Rotary and Lions Clubs will direct traffic and park cars on school grounds."

And students at the high school will represent Nicholas County as hosts during the tourney.

"Members of the Nicholas County High School Student Council will be there to meet each team and stay with that team the entire time they are at Nicholas County. They are representatives of our county and I believe they will do well," Kirby said.

"The student council will be wearing blue shirts with NCHS Student Council on them. And our visiting cheerleaders will be wearing blue shirts with NCHS on them."

"We honor RPOS and KHSAA passes. Tickets will be \$3 across the board. Ticket money is split between all participating schools," Kirby said.

Although space is limited in NCHS, Kirby has made room for all the necessities.

"We have provided room for two hospitality rooms as well as a room for every cheerleading team and every basketball team.

Even though space is limited, we have made accommodations," Kirby said.

"We will also be hosting three radio stations and other press from surrounding towns. WJCN will be broadcasting during every game in the tournament. They will be located at the scorer table. WPTM and the radio station in Bath County will broadcast their team's games."

And other community members are also playing a vital part of the tourney. Mark Vize will be scorekeeper, Jim Gallbraith, announcer, Billy Hunter and Rob Lane, time keepers and Richard Gardner is moving all the extra school buses behind the bus garage to make way for additional parking.

Other various volunteers will take care of two doors — one for games and the other for paid tickets.

"And our visiting cheerleaders will be hosted as well. The top's cheerleaders will host the girls' cheerleaders and when it comes time for the boys' tournament, the girls' cheerleaders will act as hosts."

"But as you see, this is a collaborative effort, everyone is pulling together, and that in itself is something to be proud of."



Brad Brown passes off to Mark Adams in preparation for a torry into the opponents' zone defense during season play.



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Bath County Wildcats

43- Shane Ratiff; 3- Josh Henderson; 32- James Moore; 30- Joey Spurlock; 22- Ben Shields; 33- Chip Hart; 11- Jason Wright; 25- Clay Rogers; 20- Chris Calcutt; 14- Ashley Garrett; 52- Josh Ratiff; 10- Timmy Butcher; 23- Bobby Uery; 5- Scotty Caudill; 15- Jared Baber; Head Coach- Awn C. Ratiff; Assistant Coaches- Paul Christy, Gary Boyd.

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