

For what it's worth...

By: Karina Jordan

Thanks, and Farewell

I would like to begin my final column (what few I actually wrote) with a BIG THANK YOU to all the citizens of Nicholas County and Carlisle who have made me feel so welcome over the past year and a half.

You have showed me that even though a community may be small, a community like yours can be a wonderful place to live and raise a family and even have a great county newspaper that carries county tradition and strives to move forward in the times.

Although The Mercury, and I might not have been the best that I could have put out, I feel that we at The Mercury strive to present the news in the most fair and honest way.

For those who may not have heard, I am leaving The Mercury to be closer to my family. I have been away from them for twelve years and it is now time to go home. My family was always important to me, and ever since the summer when my son was sick and after the death of my grandfather, my need to be closer to my own parents and siblings grew stronger.

As I have worked hard this week to complete the final pieces of what I had hoped to be a great paper, I wish for all in Nicholas County to continue to believe in what we stand for. With your help in letting Elisha and Melissa know of all news events I hope to see the Mercury continue to grow. Elisha and Melissa have a wonderful Regional Sports Editor named Deaver Brown working hard to bring Nicholas County sports to the surface. He did an excellent job with the state coverage of the Nicholas County Bluejackets Baseball team, and will work hard to bring all sports to the Mercury. If you have a sports event you wish to report, contact Denver at 606-794-1116.

I would like to give a special thank you to Nicholas County Judge Executive Larry Tinker, his staff, Wanda Denson, Dana Price, and 7 Magistrates Billy Dixon, Daryl Stacy, Avery Thornsbury, Jeff Randolph, and Steve Hamilton. County Attorney Donald Brumgar, Josh Shepherd, Jack and Joan Conley, Bob and Carolyn Sparks, Greg Reid, Bodie Stevens, and Paula Hunter, you all have been so gracious to me, and are definitely wonderful people who care about Nicholas County and its people.

So in closing my final two cents... for what it's worth is

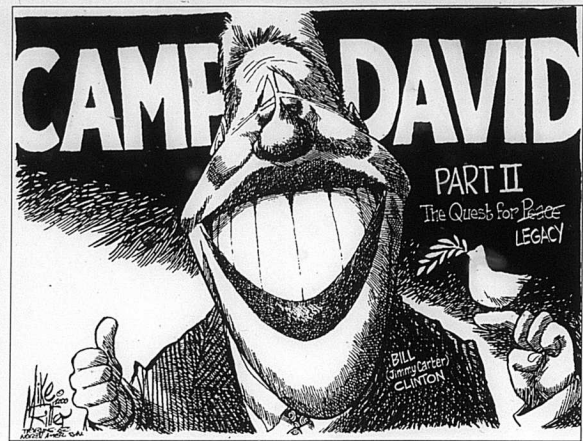
THANK YOU AND I WILL MISS YOU!

The Carlisle Mercury Editorial Board: Jack McNeely, Elisha Insko, Denver Brown, Steve Warren, Melissa Garrett, Orville Maxson

Send letters to: THE CARLISLE MERCURY, PO Box 232, Carlisle, KY 40311

Letters to the editor, and other guest editorials and the opinion of the writer represent a broad range of views and do not necessarily reflect the position of the Carlisle Mercury. All letters must be signed and include the writer's full name, address and telephone number. We reserve the right to edit any letters for length, clarity, and to ask that they be written in good faith, and no more than 250 words. If you have a suggestion for the question of the week, feel free to contact The Carlisle Mercury at 606-295-2464.

Viewpoint



Letter to the Editor

Dear editor: Rates for health insurance in Kentucky have doubled and tripled since the implementation of health care insurance reform. As a result the average working family must sacrifice and struggle to meet the increased costs of protecting themselves from the financial disaster of illness or disease.

Thousands of families remain uninsured due to the high costs, which often add up to more than food or shelter. In four years Governor Patton's accomplishments remain minimal. Corruption is what keeps Kentucky/Kentuckians poor and corruption occurs when neither "Major" party will produce a candidate who can honestly address the chronic problems of our Commonwealth. The problem of corruption can only be solved by electing Third Party Candidates who are not owned by special interests.

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Candidate in the 6th District answers that call. With this new law, we will reconstitute the people of the people, by the people and for the people. The voice of those in need will be well represented. Sincerely, Danny Pinner, 510 West Third Street, Lexington, KY 40508

The Light Side ...

Pete Rose and the 10 Commandments

Nearly as I can tell, from reading the papers and listening to the radio, the world's two most pressing challenges today deal with the 10 Commandments and Pete Rose.

No, the issue is not how many of the Commandments Pete may or may not have broken, or whether or not Pete should be hanged in a public place. I don't think.

There probably are some people, like former Reds catcher Johnny Bench, who'd do just about anything, including a hanging, to keep Rose out of baseball's Hall of Fame.

But we've got two totally separate questions here. Should Pete Rose be named to the Hall of Fame, and (2) should the 10 Commandments be posted in public places? I may be wrong, but I still don't think the two are related.

I'll cast my vote on Pete Rose first. Yes. Beyond any doubt, Pete Rose the baseball player belongs in the Hall of Fame.

Pete the person may not have much to offer, but as a player he did more than most any athlete I've ever watched. "Charlie Hustle" was a thorn in the side of every opponent, an average athlete would play any position and would do anything to help his team win a game.

Rose's personal life doesn't matter to me, one way or the other, and I doubt that many of the Hall of Fame players followed the 10 Commandments to the letter.

Which brings me nearly to question Number 2. It would not bother me if the 10 Commandments showed on billboards, bars, sides, bank statements, and on the backs of milk cartons.

When I went to school we opened each day with the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance, which if nothing else sent a clear signal that it was time to stop playing and start working.

I suffered no permanent damage from the ritual, and Pete Rose the baseball player save none inflicted anybody. Anybody who wants to make sure that their kids have access to a copy does not have to depend upon the schools. The 10 Commandments are allowed in homes, which is where they do the most good, preferably when accompanied by actions to match the words.

Head of the Hollar: Garry Barker, Guest Columnist

else. The same applies to the public posting of the 10 Commandments. Maybe, if it'd help clear the air, we could ask the editors of Readers Digest to condense the text down to the 8 Commandments, and the shortened version could be used.

And don't think for one second this argument is about religion. It's about righteousness, puffed-up perceptions of importance, and the absolute certainty that anything regarding the 10 Commandments will get full-blown media attention.

Anybody who wants to make sure that their kids have access to a copy does not have to depend upon the schools. The 10 Commandments are allowed in homes, which is where they do the most good, preferably when accompanied by actions to match the words.

And "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" will continue to be the very best guideline for a life worth living.

How to reach your Elected Officials

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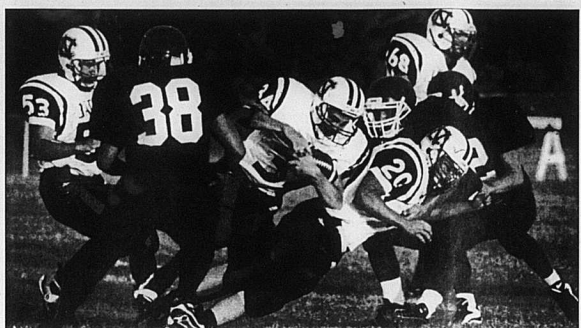
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Bluejackets running back Seth Saunders bulls his way through the line during Nicholas County's romp at hosting Bath County High School.

JACKETS come over

are committed to making our football program the best that it can be, "first-year athletic director Robby Storie told The Carlisle Mercury. "The more success your program has, the more interest it generates and the kids will want to come out and play," Storie added.

and stayed together, that's the key - hopefully we can continue that." With starting quarterback Josh Fryman returning from last season's success (and enjoying the Bluejackets ramp through the State Tournament this spring, it's tough to decide which side of the ball will bring this year's bunch the most ink. Against the weary Wildcats last week, Fryman's offense exploded in shoulder pads and helmets. This year's roster of 40-plus is a five-year high for the school.

The current swell of interest and enthusiasm generated by Letcher's club is evident in the number of Bluejackets sitting up in shoulder pads and helmets. This year's roster of 40-plus is a five-year high for the school.

Letcher has been in the trenches with the Bluejackets for 18 years, the last dozen as Head Coach, and he hands off the reins to the feeder youth football programs. "A lot of it goes back to our feeder program," Letcher said. "The league ages, with the real good quality teams at that level, and the fact that these guys have stayed with it

week this week as they gear up for West Carter at home Friday. "I expect us to come out and continue to play as hard as we can," said senior running back and defensive lineman Ryan Hunter. "We need to stay aggressive on defense and pound it the entire game." While he wouldn't predict a score against the Comets, Hunter said the players were "pretty confident" of another Nicholas County win, "if we play like we should," Hunter added.

"Right now, all of us just love playing the game," Hunter told The Carlisle Mercury. "We've had successful seasons in junior high and through our freshman year - now it's carrying over into our varsity playing." The sounds of the clanking bricks, constant construction and pounding nails are

FARM from cover office before September 1, 2000. We want to remind the quota holders that tobacco away for 2000 are still entitled to a basic quota payment as well as tenants tobacco producers and quota owners have been in to apply at this time. We will be sending a reminder postcard to those who have not come in. will not be accepted."

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