

Ag News

Cold temperatures prevailed throughout the state last week with many areas receiving multiple frosts. Temperatures averaged 53 degrees for the week which was six degrees below normal. Precipitation averaged 0.01 inches for the week which was 0.66 inches below normal. **Topsoil moisture** as of Friday, October 13 was rated 9 percent very short, 30 percent short, 59 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 12 percent very short, 30 percent short, 57 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. **Days suitable for fieldwork** averaged 5.7 out of a possible six days. Primary farming activities included harvesting corn and soybeans, sowing winter wheat and baling hay.

Tobacco: As of Sunday, October 15, burley tobacco was 12 percent stripped. Tobacco stripping was well underway with good leaf color reported. A few reports of houseburns in early stripped tobacco were received. Condition of the housed tobacco was reported as 2 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 18 percent in excellent condition.

Corn: Eighty-seven percent of the corn crop was harvested as of Sunday, October 15. This compares to 95 percent the previous year, and 80 percent for the five-year average. Reports of excellent yields continue.

Soybeans: The soybean crop was yielding well. The condition of the crop last week was rated 1 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 42 percent good, and 29 percent excellent. Ninety-six percent of the state's soybeans are harvested. This compares to 66 percent last season, and exceeds the 5-year average of 56 percent. A few producers reported late soybeans being damaged by the frost which may result in loss of yield and quality.

Other Crops: Winter wheat seeding was 27 percent complete as of Sunday, October 15. This compares to 30 percent last year and the five-year average of 35 percent. Pasture condition was rated 5 percent very poor, 11 percent poor, 27

percent fair, 46 percent good, and 11 percent excellent. Kentucky farmers report excellent conditions continue to report excellent conditions for the state's livestock.

U.S. Highlights

Corn production was forecast at 10.2 billion bushels, down 2 percent from the last forecast, but up 8 percent from 1999. **Corn yields** are expected to average 139.6 bushels per acre, down 2.2 bushels from the September 1 estimate and up 0.8 bushels from a year ago. If realized, this would be the largest production and yield on record.

Soybean production was forecast at a record high 2.82 billion bushels, down 3 percent from September 1, but 6 percent above 1999.

Soybean yields are expected to average 38.7 bushels per acre, down 0.8 bushels from last month, but 2.1 bushels above 1999.

Eight-State Burley Belt production was forecast at 416.5 million pounds, 1 percent above the September 1 forecast, but 25 percent below a year ago.

Burley yields are expected to average 5,072 pounds per acre, 24 pounds above last month and 243 pounds higher than 1999.

Kentucky

Crop growing conditions continue to be good and Kentucky farmers are expecting good to excellent yielding crops. Production of corn, soybeans and dark tobacco was larger than last year's drought reduced crops while burley production was down from last year due to a reduction in effective quota.

Production of burley tobacco was forecast at 262.5 million pounds, up 2 percent from the September estimate while down 31 percent from the 1999 crop. The production increase from September resulted from a larger estimated yield per acre. The October 1 estimate was down from 1999 due to a decrease in the effective quota that says how many pounds of tobacco a farmer can market. The estimated burley crop would be 26 percent larger than the effective quota of 208.7 million pounds. Yield per acre was estimated at 2,100 pounds per acre, up 50 pounds from the September estimate. This would be the largest yield per acre in 5 years.

Harvested acreage was estimated at

125,000 acres, down 85,000 acres from the previous year. Tobacco harvesting has progressed well, with 96 percent cut and banded as of October 1. Good to excellent yields have been reported. Cutting was progressing well, although some farmers are concerned that the tobacco may be curing too quickly. Moisture has been adequate, thus reducing the risk of mold and widespread disease or insect problems.

Corn for grain production was forecast at 179.5 million bushels, up 2 bushels from the September 1 estimate and up 3.7 percent from the drought reduced 1999 crop. The 2000 corn crop would be the largest since 1992. The increase in production resulted from an increase in the forecast yield, yield per acre was estimated at 130 bushels per acre, up 3 bushels from the September 1 estimate and the largest yield in 8 years. Harvested acreage was estimated at 1.31 million acres, up 130,000 acres from the previous year. Weather had been favorable for corn development and harvesting. As of October 1, the corn crop was 64 percent harvested.

Soybean production was forecast at 42.2 million bushels, up 11 percent from the September 1 crop while up 77 percent from the small 1999 crop. The 2000 crop would be the largest soybean crop in 4 years. Yield was forecast at a record high 40 bushels per acre, up 4 bushels from September 1 and 19 bushels from the previous year. Harvested acreage was estimated at 1.08 million acres, down 80,000 acres from 1999. The soybean crop continues to mature with 15 percent harvested as of October 1. As of this period, seventy-five percent of the crop was reported to be sufficiently mature to be safe from frost damage.

All hay production was forecast at 5.87 million tons, up 2 percent from August and 22 percent above 1999. Alfalfa hay was calculated at 700,000 tons, up 27 percent from August and 5 percent from the last year. Yield was estimated at 3.8 tons per acre. Other hay production was forecast at 5.17 million tons up 27 percent from last year and the largest production on record. Yield was forecast at 2.2 tons per acre. The weather was excellent for hay production this year in contrast to last year's drought. The multiple cuttings that farmers were able to get this year helped bring stock levels back up for the winter season.

Wilson attends Sullivan University

Eric Wilson, a 2000 graduate of Nicholas County High School and daughter of Ronald and Betty Wilson, recently began his collegiate career at Sullivan University in Lexington. Eric is currently pursuing an Associate degree in Computer Science.



Eric Wilson
Associate, Bachelors and Masters degrees.

Local students included in National Dean's List

A total of four students from this area are among scholarship awards funded by approximately 140,000 students included in the 23rd Annual Edition of *The National Dean's List, 1999-2000*. The *National Dean's List*, published by Educational Communications, Inc., is the largest recognition program and publication in the nation honoring high achieving college students.

Local students selected include Danita D. Berry, Georgetown College; Allison L. Grant, Morehead State University; Karen R. Livingood, Georgetown College; and Jennifer J. Ramey, Maysville Community College.

Student Viewpoint



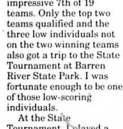
Golf season ends

The 2000 golf season has come and gone and this year's team was led by four seniors: Stuart Baird, Brandon Jones, Scott Terrell and Forrest Hunt.

Throughout the season, we had many close matches and finished strong in the four tournaments we competed in. Our first tournament was held in Powell County at Beechfork Golf Course and we placed in the top-9. The next one was the Eastern Kentucky Conference tournament. The first round was held at Fleming Golf Association, as a team we finished fourth and just missed qualifying for the second round at The Oaks in Ashland by just four strokes. At that event, Terrell qualified as an individual and I qualified and missed winning low-medalist honors by losing a one-hole playoff. Both of us made good showings in the finals in the event at the Maysville Country Club—we finished in the top 15 of 25 golfers.

The final tournament of the year for the team was at Pendleton County Club. This was the Regional Tournament and we placed a very impressive 7th of 19 teams. Only the top two teams qualified and the three low individuals not on the two winning teams also got a trip to the State Tournament at Barren River State Park. I was fortunate enough to be one of those low-scoring individuals.

At the State Tournament, I played a very challenging, narrow golf course and shot an 82—I missed the cut for the final round by one stroke. Although this golf season is over and the team will lose four of its top five golfers, great things are expected of the young upcoming team. Keep an eye out for Kyle Hunt, who will be a senior next year. He will be one of the top players in the Region and a possible State contender.



Coach Greg Letcher

Senior Nigh celebration Nicholas County honors fall sport seniors with 42-20 win over Raceland

Herrington scores 3 TDs in 'good bye' to senior class

By DENVER BROWN
Sports Editor

Nicholas County fall sports fans turned out in droves to honor their seniors as the football Blue Jackets ransacked Raceland, 42-20, to gain another District-win last Friday night. Senior members of the NCHS Golf and football teams and the senior cheerleaders were announced in pregame festivities.

After the halloos, confetti and tears, Head Coach Greg Letcher's Jackets took (8-1) to the field against the Rams—and found themselves in a hole on the opening series.

Raceland, (1-8) needing wins in their final two showings for any hopes at a playoff shot, used four plays in the game's opening minutes (including a near 50-yard touchdown pass) to score and take a 7-0 lead over their blue-and-white hosts.

But there's nothing like a little dazzle to answer some early naps. With Josh Fryman taking the snap for Nicholas County on their first play of the matchup, the senior quarterback staged a perfect fake, hiding the ball against his hip, and then unleashed an 80-yard scoring catch to junior Seth Saunders!

With junior Darrin Herrington holding for the extra-point kick, he took the snap and tossed to junior receiver Richard Reid

unmarked in the back of the endzone for the two-point conversion and the 8-7 lead. The Jackets never trailed the remainder of the game and had postgame hope of the Rams' evaporated at the final horn.

Senior Night is special for the seniors, Herrington told *The Carlisle Mercury* after the win. "And we wanted to do good for them."

Definitely, the occasion is motivation for us to play well," Herrington said. "From us to the seniors, it's like a good bye, where we gave our all for them. We know it's an important night for the seniors and their parents and as underclassmen we wanted them to feel special so we gave it our all."

Herrington's all secured the senior class of 2001 a win on their night. His first of three touchdowns came at 3:12 in the opening period when a swarm of Jackets blocked a Raceland punt and Herrington scooped up the loose ball and fell into the endzone. Fryman's kick made it 15-7.

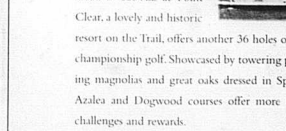
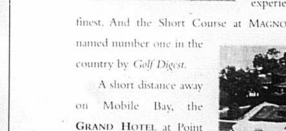
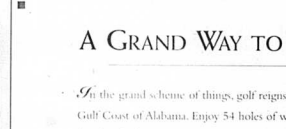
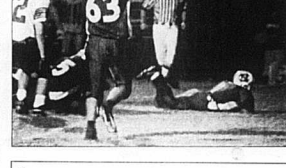
The junior back added two more scores on the night. Letcher's troops had rolled to a 29-7 lead in the first three quarters before the teams went even, 13-13 in the final period.

Seniors Dustin Hill and Dustin Stoddard each made it into the endzone in the win. The Jackets have one more regular-season District game at Paris. And in all probability will host a first round State Playoff game. Raceland ends its season tomorrow night.

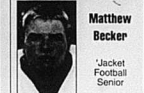
Sports



Above, senior Dustin Hill, 35, breaks around the right end and through the Raceland defense Friday night. Below, junior Wesley Earlywine, 63, signals Darrin Herrington's fumble recovery touchdown in the first half of Nicholas County's 42-20 senior night win.



Student Viewpoint



Activities beneficial

As football season seems to be coming to an end, I realize that extra-curricular school activities are very beneficial to a student's high school life.

I have been on teams where to try as hard as you possibly could still wouldn't be enough to bring home a win. There were times when it wasn't always "good" to be on the football team because according to the scoreboard, you were unsuccessful.

Extra Curricular activities such as sports and band teach valuable life-long lessons. Character traits such as the development of a positive attitude and self-esteem are life skills that can only be gained from learning to function as part of a group and then accomplishing a goal with them that you could not have accomplished alone.

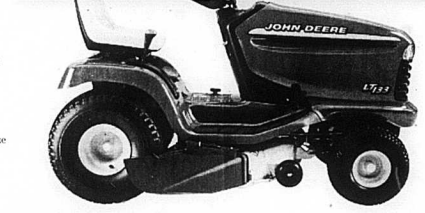
I have realized from my extra curricular experiences when it is appropriate to assert my viewpoint and when it is for the common good of all I've learned to listen to others. We have recognized the connection between hard work and success that will carry with us into our futures after the stadium lights have dimmed.

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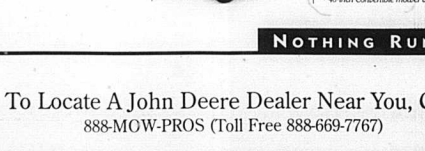
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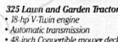
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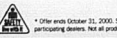


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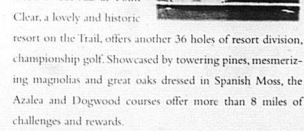
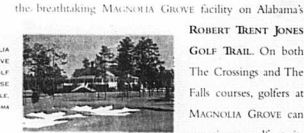


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