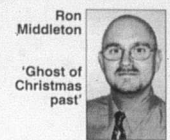


**DEC**  
**27**  
**2001**

**OPINION**



**Ron Middleton**  
"I've learned the error of my ways Santa..."

*Opinion*  
Denver Brown takes a vacation

On the Record

**The Carlisle Mercury**

Vol. 156, No. 52 "Proud to be serving Nicholas County since 1867" 50¢ Thursday, December 27, 2001

**Across Nicholas County**

**Veterans rep to be in Carlisle**  
A Veterans Benefits Field Representative with the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs will be at the Nicholas County Courthouse in Carlisle, on the third Wednesday of each month, from 9 a.m. to noon. Veterans and their families may receive counseling and assistance in applying for state or federal veterans benefits. This is a free service, provided by the state department of veterans affairs. Bring appropriate documents at visit. For details or to answer questions, call 1-866-376-0308. Leave a message if office staff are unable to answer.

**Free higher ed guide for seniors**  
The 2001-2002 edition of "Getting In," a free guide to postsecondary education in Kentucky, is now being sent to guidance counselors for distribution to all high school seniors. The booklet is published by the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority and is available online at www.kheaa.com, as well. It offers information on financial aid. For more information, call 1-800-928-8926.

**Assistance for adults returning to school online**  
Adults interested in returning to school have an online guide to help them plan and pay for college or technical training, the 2001-2002 edition of Adults Returning to School can be accessed at www.kheaa.com, the website of Kentucky's Higher Education Assistance Authority. It is the state agency that administers grants, scholarships, work-study, savings, federal family education loans and related information for Kentucky students. For more information about programs and services, write to the Kentucky Higher Assistance Authority, 1050 U.S. Highway 127 S., Frankfort, KY, 40601-4323 or call 1-800-928-8926, extension 2381.

**Reddick's Rhetoric**



"D'rat! I can't seem to access his left ventricle without the proper username and password!"

**Winter Wonderland**



**Ron Middleton photo**  
Due to the mild weather during the months of November and December, the only snowman to be seen was this inflated winter staple in front of the house of Glen and Gloria Gravett, who live just off KY 36. Ironically, the temperature took a dive to more winter-like temperatures on Dec. 21, the first day of winter. The cold temperatures, along with a few snow flurries, were present for the Christmas holiday, and are predicted to stay around for a while.

**Jackets blast Sayre, 70-56**

**Three score in double figures**  
By DENVER BROWN Sports Editor and RON MIDDLETON Staff Writer  
Nicholas County won its season opener against Bath Co. Nov. 27 and had lost three in a row before netting the victories last week. Leading the way for the Jackets was Derrin Herring-ton with 28 points, earlier last week and the pair of w i n e s m o v e d C o a c h B o b b y S t o r i e ' s team to 3-4 on the Herring-ton season. Saunders added 18 points, and Derrin Bretz finished with 16. The Boys in Blue set the tone for the game early, leading by 10, 19-9, at the end of the first quarter. Sayre then settled into the game, out-scoring Nicholas 17-14 in the second quarter, but still trailing at the half 39-26. Nicholas kept the pressure on in the third, extending their lead to 47-27. In the fourth quarter, Nicholas kept Sayre at arm's length and adding to their lead, winning the game 70-56. Both the boys and girls Varsity Blue Jackets will be in action Jan. 2 at Bourbon County.

**Next deer seasons proposed**

The Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission approved the proposed statewide deer and fall turkey hunting season opening dates for 2002-03.  
• Archery deer - Sept. 21, 2002  
• Crossbow deer - Dec. 2, 2002  
• Muzzleloader deer - Oct. 26 and Dec. 14, 2002  
• Modern firearms deer - Nov. 9, 2002  
• Youth deer hunt weekend - Oct. 19, 2002  
• Archery turkey - Sept. 21, 2002  
• Fall turkey shotgun - Dec. 4, 2002  
All closing dates to be approved in March 2002. The Commission exempted Addington Enterprises employees from purchasing the Addington Wildlife Management Area use permit requirement. The next Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission meeting will be held at 8 a.m. on Friday, March 8, 2002 at the KDFWR Frankfort office off US 60 West. Persons interested in addressing the Commission must notify the KDFWR Commissioner's office in writing at least 30 days in advance to be considered for placement on the meeting agenda. People who are hearing impaired and plan to attend the meeting should contact the KDFWR at least 10 days in advance and the agency will provide a translator. Please write KDFWR, Commissioner Tom Bennett, 81 Game Farm Road, Frankfort, KY 40601.

**Legislative update**  
**The 2002 session to begin**

By State Sen. Ed Miller D-Cynthiana  
In just a few short weeks, I will join my fellow legislators in Frankfort to begin the 2002 session of the Kentucky General Assembly. And while it's certain that we will discuss a wide range of issues, the biggest challenge will be crafting a state budget under some fairly difficult conditions. It's well known that we've had budget shortfalls in each of the past two years. Gov. Patton has taken steps to address those shortfalls through budget cuts and tapping into the state's rainy day fund. Some tough decisions had to be made, and even tougher choices will confront lawmakers as we try to put together a responsible budget that meets the needs of Kentuckians in the 2002 session. Adding to our difficulties are budget shortfalls in our Medicaid

See SESSION on 2

**Weather**

See the forecast on page 2!

The Carlisle Mercury is printed on recycled paper.

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