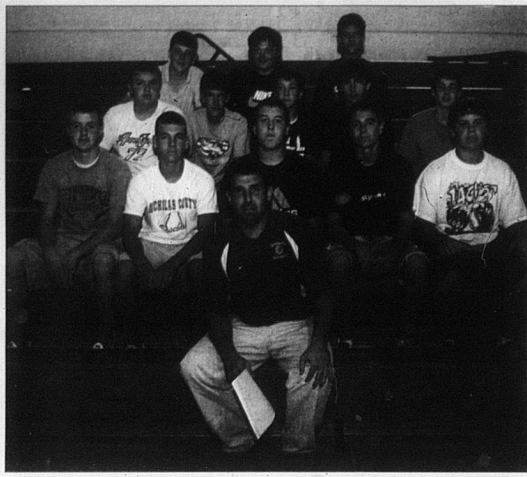
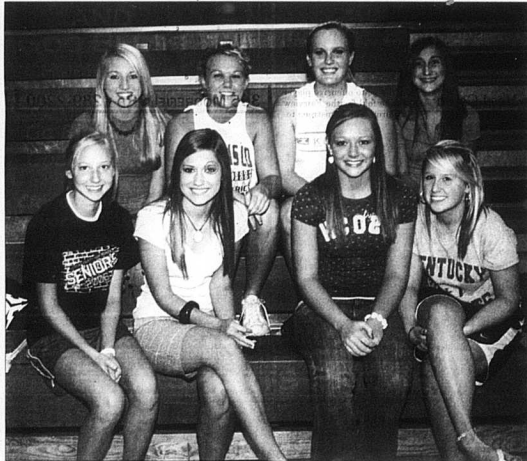


FALL SPORTS PREVIEW



2007 NCHS boys' golf team

Members of the Nicholas County Boys' Golf team are, left to right, front, Coach Michael Cofer. Second row, Kaleb Brierly, Casey Fryman, Todd Byrd, Chad Ockerman and Zach Lemons. Third row, Joe Beatty, Nathan Faulkner, D.R. Purvis, Dalton Hampton and Brennan Gabriel. Back row, Jordan Stewart, David Abne and J.T. Fryman.



2007 NCHS girls' golf team

Members of the Nicholas County Girls' Golf team for 2007 are, left to right, front: Kendall Wills, Madeline Gallagher, Hali Webb, and Brandy Norman. Back row, left to right: Haley McConnell, Shelby Sosby, Megan Hunter, and Kimber Letcher. The Lady Jackets are coached by Phil French.

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FALL SPORTS PREVIEW

Gridiron team district tough; two expected to be in top 10

Kentucky high school football now has six classes. That's two more than the four-class system fans across the state had grown accustomed to as the tradition and will be tough as a

"We'll probably have two, maybe even three teams from our district ranked in the top 10 throughout the season."

Robert Hopkins
Nicholas County Head Coach

Following the Kentucky High School Athletic Association's realignment, Nicholas County now calls Class A, District 5 home.

"It's a tough district, there's no doubt about it," said Nicholas County Coach Robert Hopkins. "We'll probably have two, maybe even three teams from our district ranked in the top 10 throughout the season." Nicholas County finished last season 2-8.

The Blue Jackets blanked Lewis County 24-0 in a season-opener. In Week Five, Nicholas County posted one of its most impressive wins in school history, blasting Berea 52-0.

The realignment took Berea and Bath County, another team the Blue Jackets had in their sights, out of the same district.

Berea has dropped out of district competition. Upstart Bath County, thanks to the realignment, now resides in Class 2A, District 7 along with Morgan County, Prestonsburg and Shelby Valley.

"Realignment was tough on us," Hopkins commented. "It took away Berea and Bath County, the two district teams we were most competitive with. But we have to go out and play football. Our kids are excited about the start of the season."

Lexington Christian, Raceland and Paris are expected to emerge as the top three contenders for the Class A, District 5 championship.

"Our district will be a tough Class A battle each and every district game," said longtime Raceland Coach Randy Vanderhoof.

"Lexington Christian will be tough with good talent as another Paul Rains led-coached team. The Fairview Eagles are always a good team but with a strong and veteran team they will be a contender for the championship."

"Our district will be a tough Class A battle each and every district game."

Randy Vanderhoof
Raceland Head Coach

Go Teams

Good Luck Jackets

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Good Luck Jackets

Vanderhoof forecasts a tough district from top to bottom.

The Paris Greyhounds have great football tradition and will be tough as a

Three-year starter Zack Duff (6-2, 210) returns to play along both the offensive and defensive lines. Duff is the top lineman back for the Eagles. Ross Hill (6-0, 250) is a second three-year starter. Junior Michael Harmon (6-2, 245) adds to the experienced offensive and defensive lines.

Last year's game: Lexington Christian 42, Nicholas County 6.

This year's game: Oct. 5 at Nicholas County.

RACELAND (11-2): Another veteran football coach, Vanderhoof guided Raceland to 11 wins last season. The Rams played for a regional championship with proven quarterback Scott Grizzle calling the signals. Following Grizzle's graduation, Raceland will look to Tyler Boyles to take over under center.

"We lost several key players from last season and we have some holes to fill in this year," said Vanderhoof. "Our coaching staff and players have been working hard in trying to improve

to beat."

The Paris football program features numerous quick offensive threats.

Senior linebacker Travis Angel (6-1, 230) ranks as one of the district's top players.

Lawrence Myers (6-0, 210), another senior, joins Angel as a proven performer for the speedy Greyhounds. Senior running back Tavone Fields escaped many opposing defenses during his junior season.

"The talent is here," Thompson added. "We've got nine players who run the 40 in 4.5 or better."

Junior Tion Thomas (5-11, 180) and sophomore Cory Daulton (6-1, 225) are Fairview's top non-senior players.

Last year's game, Paris 40, Nicholas County 8.

This year's game: Sept. 14 at Nicholas County.

FAIRVIEW (4-6): Rex Cooksey is once again at the helm of the Fairview football program.

Cooksey replaced Chad Tackett, who enjoyed some success as the Fairview head coach before resigning in early July. Tackett is currently on the staff at Ashland Paul Blazer.

The Eagles struggled somewhat last season, failing to reach the Class A playoffs.

Cooksey took over the program during the second week of July. He has 30 years of experience as a football coach - 14 as a head coach.

Senior Daniel Armstrong is the go-to offensive player in the fold for the Fairview gridiron unit. Armstrong totaled 1,000 yards as a junior. On the defensive side, Armstrong recorded 57 tackles.

Versatile seniors Casey Clark and Justin McCoy will also get touches and are the Fairview offense in its efforts to cross over into the end zone.

Linebacker Keith McClelland (5-10, 190) posted 100 tackles, including nine for losses, last fall. McClelland is back to lead the Fairview defense.

Injuries hindered Fairview's chances during the 2006 campaign.

Last year's game: Fairview 30, Nicholas County 24.

This year: Sept. 7 at Fairview.

2007 NCHS Football Schedule

Paris (7-4): First-year Greyhound head coach Matt Thompson is clearly excited about the Paris football team's chances during the upcoming season.

"I think we can be the team to beat in this district," an upbeat Thompson commented. "The kids are working hard to be the team

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