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## HALL OF FAMERS

### Former player, coach recognized for hoops accomplishments

Former teammates, coaches and friends of the late coach Louis Litchfield and 1970s Lady Rocket basketball star Jeanne Hinchee are invited to join ceremonies for their induction to the Marion-Crittenden County Basketball Hall of Fame Friday night (see page 8B for details). A hospitality area will be available in the gymnasium conference room for everyone to visit with Hinchee and the Litchfield family.

### Belt gets 2-year contract extension

After meeting in closed session Tuesday night, the Crittenden County Board of Education voted to renew Superintendent John Belt's contract for two years. Belt will have completed his first two years as the head administrator in the district when the new contract begins July 1.



### Courthouse open President's Day

Most of the offices in the Crittenden County Courthouse, including the clerks offices, will be open Monday on President's Day.

### Free food Friday

Free food will be available for Crittenden County residents only from 12:30 p.m., until 2 p.m., Friday at the PACS Senior Citizens Center on North Walker Street across from Fohs Hall. Free venison donated by the Crittenden County Hunters for the Hungry is also available.

### School out Monday

There will be no classes Monday in observance of President's Day.

### Rushing suffers heart attack

County deputy and school resource officer Greg Rushing suffered a mild heart attack Monday, according to the Crittenden County Sheriff's Department. Rushing was hospitalized and no further details were available.

### LOCAL MEETINGS

#### MONDAY MORNING

Crittenden Fiscal Court will meet at 9 a.m., Monday at the courthouse.

#### MONDAY NIGHT

Marion City Council will meet at 6 p.m., Monday at Marion City Hall.



VERY COLD  
Mostly Cloudy  
28/11



30% MIX  
Cloudy  
35/24

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

#### Rain gauge

Last 7 days .....1.28"  
Last 30 days .....3.33"  
Year-to-date .....7.77" (+2.69")  
UK Ag Weather Service, Observations at Paducah as of Tuesday

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# Strep throat, influenza create record sickness

#### STAFF REPORT

Flu and strep are wreaking havoc on Crittenden Countians and creating record-setting numbers at local clinics.

Patients are flocking to the doctor's office seeking relief from a myriad of symptoms this winter.

Dr. Gary James recently saw 140 patients in a single day at Family Practice Clinic. Among the normal colds and viruses, the doctor confirmed multiple cases of influenza and strep throat.

"We've had an epidemic of flu and strep for nearly three months," Dr. James said.

In January, Family Practice Clinic saw more patients than it had in any single month since it opened in 1980.

Schools have been closed for a few days this year due to widespread illness.

ness.

Dr. James said it's mostly children he is seeing with strep and flu.

The bacteria that causes strep throat is generally found in the nose and throat, so normal activities like sneezing, coughing or shaking hands can easily spread the infection from one person to another.

Practicing good hygiene can lessen one's chance of getting a contagious disease like strep. Washing hands often and under hot water for more than 15 seconds is a good preventative measure.

With waiting rooms full, Family Practice has started moving patients



DR. JAMES

with flu and strep symptoms straight to the laboratory where their illness can be confirmed after a nasal or throat swab.

Phyllis Campbell, lab supervisor at the clinic, said having those diagnostic procedures done prior to seeing the doctor saves time.

"Otherwise you see the doctor and he sends you to the lab then you go back to the doctor," she said. "This just cuts down on some of that."

One day alone, Campbell said the lab ran more than 100 tests for flu and strep.

"It's been like that since the first week of January," she said.

Dr. James said he has been discussing with area school officials the possibility of starting an immunization program for students.

"Out of all of the patients I have

## COMMON POINTERS...

#### STREP SYMPTOMS

- Red and white patches in the throat
- Difficulty swallowing
- Tender or swollen glands in neck
- Red and enlarged tonsils
- Headache
- Lower stomach pain
- Fever
- Loss of appetite and nausea

#### FLU SYMPTOMS

- Fever
- Headache
- Tiredness
- Dry cough
- Sore throat
- Stuffy, congested nose
- Muscle aches and stiffness

seen with the flu, only one of them had had a flu shot," he said. "So the immunization must be working pretty well."

About 10 days of antibiotics is the normal routine for fighting strep throat. If you get the flu, expect a prescription of the antiviral drug Tamiflu or something similar.



## Teacher Testing

In a series of satellite health clinics offered in Marion and Salem, Livingston Hospital's Home Health Agency made a stop at Crittenden County High School last Thursday. Between classes, teachers like Don Trent (center) had his blood pressure, heart rate and oxygen saturation level taken by LHHS staff Diana Wallace (foreground) and Diane Jones.

# Policy change

## Schools respond to lice problem

#### STAFF REPORT

As a result of a persistent outbreak of lice at Crittenden County Elementary School, the board of education is temporarily reverting to a No Nit Policy on lice.

Until recently, students with nits, or lice eggs, were allowed to stay in school, and only those with active bugs were sent home.

Because students are continually being affected and new cases identified, Superintendent John Belt said he is recommending the return of the school system's No Nit Policy through the end of the school year.

The problem is concentrated to Crittenden Elementary, Belt said. Because of their age, students are more likely to have close contact or share items such as headphones. Additionally, because of the physical layout of each classroom, children's coats touch on wall-mounted hooks therefore propagating the spread of the pests.

"The problem is really in all grades," said Principal Melissa Tabor. "Between August and December we had 57 absences as a result of head lice."

Belt has asked the school to keep records from now through the end of school to see whether the problem subsides with a return of the No Nit Policy.

Acting on a recommendation from a national health organization, Crittenden and other boards of education did away with the No Nit Policy. The rationale was that eggs, or nits, could not pass from one child to another and pose no health threat. Now, however, the local board is re-examining its position since so many students have contracted the pesky bugs which are normally smaller than fleas and attach to hair, typically at the root or back of the neck.

If nits are found through classroom checks, Belt has recommended that children be sent home for two days, with absences excused, while parents remedy the situation. Letters are also being sent home with children in each class where lice is found. Belt said siblings in the middle and high school will also be checked.

Tabor said she will use discretion and ask teachers to

# Trooper breaks ankle after chasing down suspect wanted in 2 counties

#### STAFF REPORT

Kentucky State Trooper Donald Crawford of Salem was injured last week while making an arrest of a man wanted in Crittenden County.

Trooper Crawford stopped a vehicle just before 8 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 7 at the Crittenden-Livingston line near Salem. A passenger in the vehicle was Stanley Wade Hopkins, 34, of Jackson School Road in Crittenden County. Hopkins was wanted in Crittenden County for eluding police and game wardens in a high-speed chase before Christmas.

Trooper Crawford suspected that Hopkins was a fugitive from justice and while he was attempting to determine the passenger's identity, Hopkins jumped out of the vehicle and attempted to flee the scene on foot. Crawford

chased him down and the two began to scuffle.

Hopkins tried to take the trooper's gun, according to state police reports.

Trooper Crawford used pepper spray along with other techniques to subdue the suspect and take him into custody before backup officers had responded to the scene.

Barry Meadows, spokesman for the state police, said Crawford broke a bone in his ankle during the altercation. He was treated and released from Western Baptist Hospital.

Hopkins was also injured, but refused treatment. He was lodged in the McCracken County Jail.

Hopkins was charged with third-degree assault, possession of marijuana, first-degree fleeing and evading (on foot), resisting arrest, attempted dis-



Trooper Crawford



Suspect Hopkins

arming of a police officer and giving police a false name. He was also served 16 additional local warrants, including several from Crittenden and Lyon counties.

# Budnick is now CEO at LHHS

The Livingston Hospital & Healthcare Systems, Inc. has announced the appointment of Michael J. "Mike" Budnick as its new CEO and hospital administrator.

Budnick, who has served as interim administrator at LHHS since December of last year, succeeds Yvonne Maddux, who announced her retirement before the end of last year.

Maddux was an employee of LHHS for 29 years, serving the past six years as the hospital administrator.

"We are grateful for the many achievements and years of



BUDNICK

service Yvonne gave to the business of Livingston Hospital," Randall O'Bryan, LHHS Board Chairman said. "We thank her and appreciate her for a commendable performance."

"We're very pleased to announce Mike Budnick as our new Administrator," O'Bryan added. "Mr. Budnick comes to LHHS highly recommended, well

qualified and well experienced for the challenges we have placed before him."

In the short time he has served as interim CEO, his expertise, influence, and knowledge of the business has made quite an impact on the operations of the hospital for the good, O'Bryan said.

See CEO/page 3A

See LICE/page 3A



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Pictured are former Crayne students who attended the September reunion. They are (back from left) Jimmy Bigham, Doug Fox, Clinton Bigham, Jackie Winters, Parker Holsapple, Warren Thomas Moore, (standing behind post), Wayne Keeling, J. E. Cannon, Dorothy Stone Alexander, Cindi Hicks Short, Dennis Mott (behind Cindi), Donna Linzy Haire, Betty Conditt Bleichroth, Sheryl Ferguson McKinney, Helen Cruce, Lois Bradford Fox, Harold Cannon, Mary Jean Cruce Fear, Jimmy Fox, Jewell Myers, Edith Tabor Cronin, Clement Butler King, Wilma Fletcher Allen, Houston Kirk, Louise Jones Kroeger, Kerry Wayne Crider, Peggy Crider Malcom, Heneritta Baird Warren, Gladys Parmley Brown, Jim Keeling, Isabelle McMican Thompson, Bernice Sutton Jennings, Nell Boyd Perryman, Martha Ordway Fletcher, Bruce Ordway, Keith Shewcraft, (middle row) Doug Binkley, Harold 'Cotton' Tabor, Paul Rushing, Arlena Maroney Fowler, Kenny Kirk, Charlotte Coleman Booker, Evelyn Coleman Beavers, Billie Travis, Frances Paris Teer, Sandra Ferguson Cook, Brenda Travis Underdown, C. W. Stevens, Linda Woodall Gilland, Vernon Gilland, Edwin White, Mark Norman, Glenda Alvis Chandler, Jane Alvis, Shelby Belt, Elaine Gilland Shinall, Bob Highfil, Marilyn Highfil Appleton, Donna Highfil Brantley, Linda Kirk Tabor, Joyce Winders Cleghorn, Jerry Holsapple, Gwen Clement York, Billy Wayne Baird, Dot Shewcraft Young, Betty Shewcraft Hodges, Earl 'Butch' Jackson, Sue Boyd Clayton, Linda Jo Baird Nelson, Perry James, James Robert Dorroh (behind sign), Preston Perryman, (front) Wanda Elder Eli, Jim Kirk, Danny Timmons, Richard Cruce and Carolyn Shewcraft Despain. Other students attending but not in picture: Martha Nell Woodall Byford, Donald Moore, Paulette Rushing Myers, and substitute teacher Clara Mae Woodall Belt.

# Remembering Crayne school

On these dark wintry days, when it is cold and miserable outside, it's nice to have memories of a warmer time, of sunshine, happy days and a good time spent with many old friends.

One of these warmer happy memories occurred on Sept. 9, 2006 at Crayne. The first ever Crayne Grade School Reunion was held at the Crayne Presbyterian Church on Crayne Cemetery Road.

Plans were being finalized, announcements put in the

**Brenda UNDERDOWN**  
**Area History & Genealogy**  
**Forgotten Passages**

paper, phone calls made and e-mails sent. The responses started coming in. The students of the Crayne School were indeed interested in having a reunion.

The sun shinned bright and warm on this much-anticipated day. Old friends and classmates, some that hadn't seen one another since their grade school days, hugged, talked, laughed and remembered their days at Crayne School.

The first Crayne School was known as Crayneville and it was started in 1896. The school was located on McCaslin land. That land is across the road from the United Presbyterian Church, and the former home of the Seth Ferguson family.

A new school building was needed and in 1923 property was bought on Highway 91 and a new building was built consisting of two rooms. Later it became overcrowded and a one-room block building was added for grades 1-3 with Mrs. Mildred Paris as teacher.

There were no students living from the first school to attend the gathering last September, but many of these first Crayne students had children and grandchildren present. Those later generations had attended the Crayne School built on Highway 91.

Some of the teachers that were remembered were: Fannie Gray, Owen Davenport, Homer Davidson, Emmett Chandler, Randell Woodall, Opal Wicker, Reva Cleghorn, Mary Todd, Eda Fritts, Mrs. Bob Lear, Geneva Holcom, Anna Hayes Easley, Mildred Paris, Mary Todd, Hayden Harpending, Edna Fritts Easley, Evelyn



**DORROH**  
*Oldest alumni at the reunion*

**KIRK**  
*Oldest alumni at the reunion*

Bragdon, Lela McMican, Annabel Alexander (who was the teacher when school closed in the 1960-61 school year) and Mrs. Clara Mae Woodall Belt (who had been a substitute teacher for several years).

On the day of the reunion the only teachers that were still living were Edna Fritts Easley (who has now passed away), Anna Hayes Sherer (who lives at Tolu) and substitute teacher Clara Mae Woodall Belt.

Clara Mae Belt was the only one able to attend the reunion.

Some of the special acknowledgments made were: Oldest student attending: Maurie Houston Kirk, 84. Second oldest: James Robert Dorroh, 80.

Drove the farthest: Cindy Hicks Short, Hot Springs, Ark., 418 miles, and Edwin White, from Kingsport, Tenn., 390 miles.

There were approximately 125 attending the reunion, with 80 of these being former students.

Crayne once again had many members of its former families, neighbors, and friends back together for a

**THIS WEEK IN HISTORY**  
**From The Crittenden Press Archives**  
**Local news articles from this week in 1957...**

■ Marion and Crittenden County school boards merged. Superintendent Louis Litchfield's salary, including a stipend for board secretary, totaled \$6,000. Gene Simpson and D.L. Wight were appointed to fill board vacancies.

■ The Golconda, Ill., ferry, that transports cars from Livingston County reopened after an eight-year lapse. Marion resident Robert Frazer had the franchise on the ferry.

**Local news articles from this week in 1982...**

■ Livingston Board of Education negotiated the purchase of 22 acres for the new high school at a cost of \$66,775, paving the way for a \$4 million building.



**Jim Kirk was master of ceremonies for the reunion and Linda Kirk Tabor was one of the event organizers.**

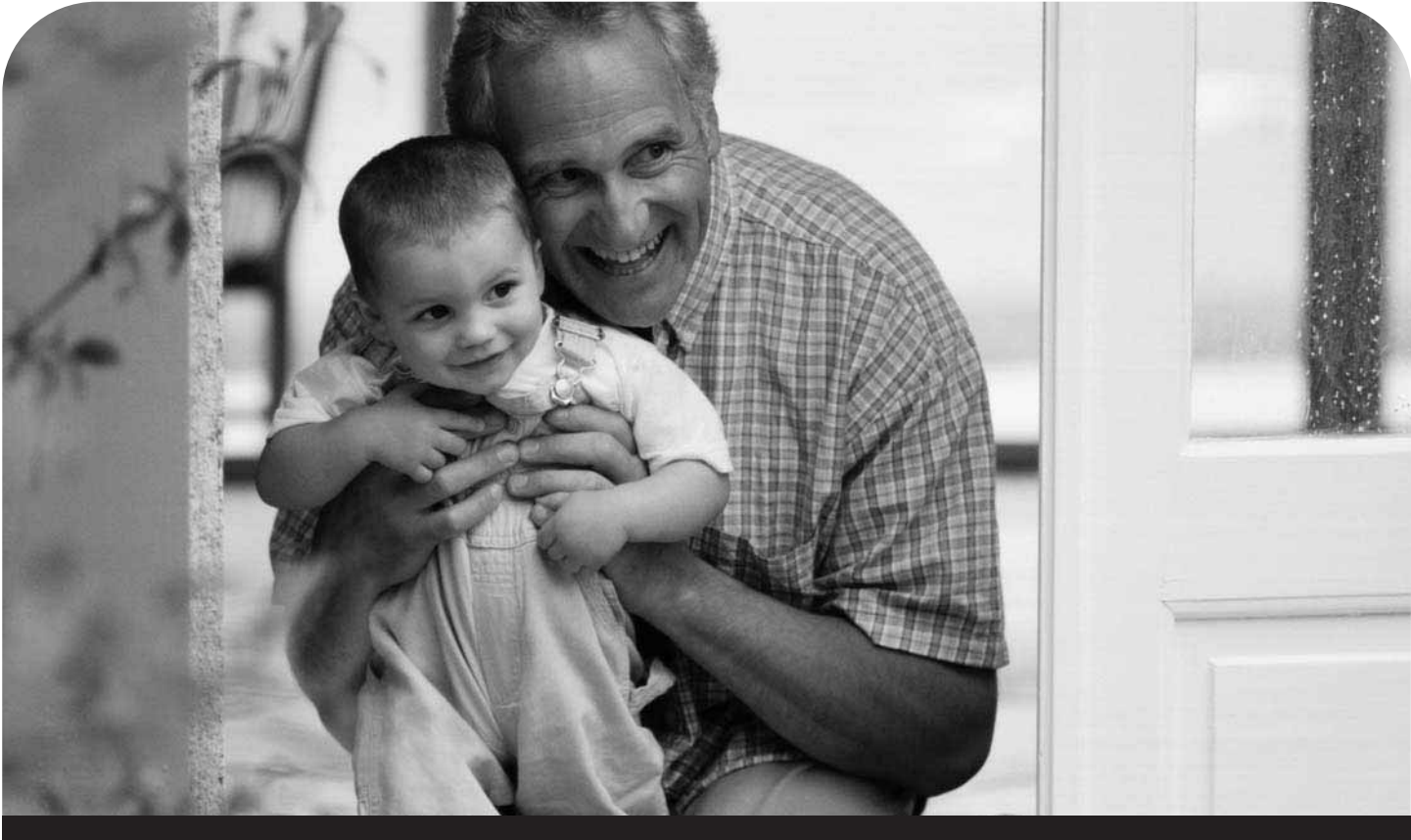
wonderful day of reminiscing and being thankful for those good days and friendships that were made at the Crayne School.

The next Crayne Grade School reunion is planned for 2008.

If I have misidentified or left anyone's name out of the picture, I apologize for the error.



Players on the Crayne basketball team about 1947-48 were (standing from left) teacher Hayden Harpending, Bruce Ordway, Norman Winters, Jim Norman (front) Edwin White, Richard Cruce and Jimmy Keeling. Notice the locomotive roaring down the tracks behind the the boys, and the outhouse in front of the train.



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# Hall of Fame inducts 2

## Hinchee played on first girls' team & first to be enshrined

BY CHRIS EVANS  
PRESS EDITOR

By shooting out the lights, Jeanne Hinchee brought her life and career out of the dark. "You have no idea how many doors were opened up for me and my career because of basketball," said Hinchee, a 1978 graduate of Crittenden County High School and very possibly the Lady Rockets' all-time leading scorer.

Hinchee will become the first female basketball player inducted into the Marion-Crittenden County Basketball Hall of Fame during a ceremony Friday night.

Being first in basketball is nothing new to Hinchee. As an eighth grader, she started on the very first girls' basketball team at Crittenden County High School. In 1973 when girls programs were instituted in schools throughout Kentucky, Crittenden put one of its most successful teams ever on the floor. In eight games that inaugural season, the Lady Rockets were undefeated.

Crittenden was blessed with some pretty good talent that initial year with a couple of players who went on to the college ranks. Hinchee had a very successful career at Austin Peay and teammate Markita Brown played collegiately in Mississippi.

Cindy Almindinger, a physical education

### Ceremony between games

The Hall of Fame Ceremony will be held between the boys' and girls' game Friday night. The boys play the first game of a doubleheader against St. Mary. It is also homecoming.

#### JEANNE HINCHEE

At Crittenden County 1973-1978

Points: 1,559  
All-Fifth District 4 times  
All-3 Rivers Conference 3 times  
All-Second Region 1978  
East-West All Star Game 1978



At Austin Peay University 1978-1982

Assist: 507 (2nd all time)  
Steals: 131 (10th all time)  
Games played: 115 (7th all time)

teacher, was the first coach. Hinchee said Crittenden had some other really good athletes on that team – including Mary Ann Green who had played organized basketball in Tennessee before transferring to Crittenden – and with other clubs just getting started, the Lady Rockets were just a cut above the rest in the area.

The next season, point guard Hinchee led the Lady Rockets to a Fifth District championship. Hinchee scored 1,559 in her high school career, a period when the three-point shot was not part of the game. Although Hinchee was a good long-range shooter, she specialized in the 16-foot jumper.

As a senior, the Lady Rockets played for the Second Region championship under coach Joe McCord. It was the best post-season performance in team history.

"I would have to say that coach McCord's influence on my basketball skills was the main reason I got an opportunity to play in college," Hinchee said. "He developed what skills I had and pushed me to be better than

I was."

Hinchee said the team her senior year was comprised of some great players, including C i n d y Brookshire, Teresa Fox, Debbie York and Cindy Wright. The Lady Rockets breezed through the Fifth District beating Trigg and Caldwell behind Hinchee's 74 points in two games.



Hinchee at CCHS

The girls beat Providence in the Second Region semifinals, but lost to West Hopkins in the title game.

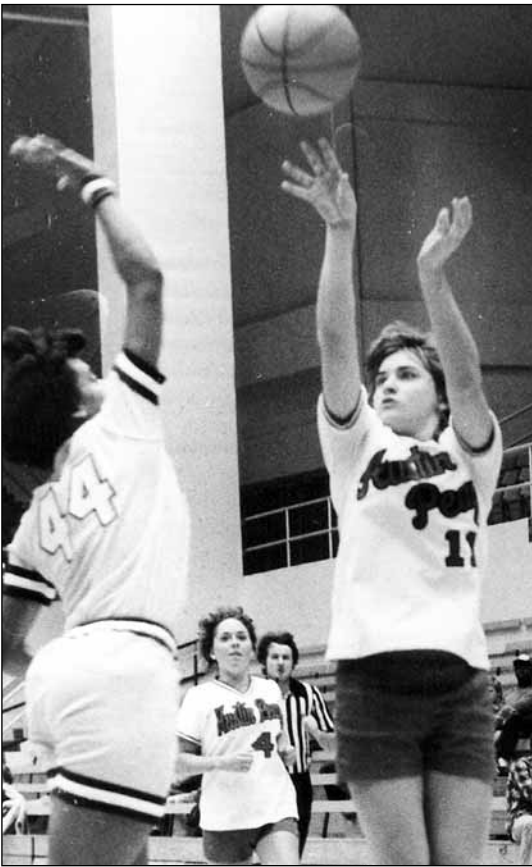
"Playing basketball at Crittenden County was the most memorable, fun time in my life," Hinchee said. "As a new program we enjoyed great support from the community."

"Those are the times I look back on in my childhood and think about the great fun we had."

Hinchee said she never realized at the time how much of an impact basketball would have on her professional career.

"I had no idea how many doors it would open up for me and my career. I finally realized that after college."

Basketball paid for her college education



Hinchee at Austin Peay

at APSU where she was an All-Ohio Valley Conference Freshman, four-year starter and up until only recently the school's all-time assist leader.

After college, Hinchee spent a few months as a substitute teacher then joined the military. She went to officer training school and eventually retired from the U.S. Army as a major and returned to college in Chattanooga, Tenn., where she also works full-time as a consultant for a community college. She's months away from graduating with a second bachelor's degree.

## Litchfield's accomplishments vastly numerous for 58 years

BY CHRIS EVANS  
PRESS EDITOR

Although Louis Litchfield has been gone for nearly 40 years, his legacy lives on in Crittenden County.

Litchfield, born at Blackford in 1910, rose to become one of the most noted individuals in Crittenden County history. He was a respected educator, accomplished coach, excellent public speaker, devout Christian and one of the most decorated administrators from this area.

Litchfield will be inducted into the Marion-Crittenden County Basketball Hall of Fame Friday night. His inclusion into the shrine was based as much on his accomplishments away from the basketball court as it was on his many successes as a coach.

In six seasons as a coach in Crittenden County, Litchfield won five district championships. He coached three current Hall of Famers – George Hart, Bruce Belt and Don "Sucky" Brasher – and took his Blackford team to the state tournament.

Ironically, Litchfield was blind in one eye and it's not clear if he ever played basketball himself. His daughter, Bettye Vaughan, who lives in Marion, doesn't ever recall her father speaking of playing ball as a youngster growing up in the edge of Webster County on the Tradewater River.

Litchfield, just 20 years old, took his first coaching job at Blackford in 1930. Later that season, in early 1931 his team won the regional championship and advanced to the state tournament at Lexington. His team beat



Louis C. Litchfield

#### LOUIS LITCHFIELD

As a coach

Teams: Blackford, Cobb, Nebo, Farmersville, Frances, Fredonia, Crittenden.  
Titles: At least 7 district championships and 1 regional championship.  
State Tournament: Blackford 1931

As an educator, administrator & other

Principal and superintendent  
Chairman KHSAA Board of Control  
Chairman Murray State Board of Regents  
Asst. Commissioner of Agriculture for Kentucky  
Deacon Marion Baptist Church  
Referee for state basketball tournament  
First District Education Association president

heralded Carr Creek, but lost to Tolu, the eventual state champion. Blackford was dubbed as a "gymless wonder" by the Louisville newspaper because the team didn't have an indoor court.

Litchfield left Blackford after one season and enrolled at Murray State College.

"He would teach and coach one year to earn a little money then he would go to Murray for a year. He did that for several years and coached at several little schools around the area," his daughter said. "He finally graduated from Murray in 1937."

All told, Litchfield coached at Blackford, Cobb, Fredonia, Farmersville, Nebo, Frances and Crittenden County. He spent three seasons at Frances, building the small school into a regional powerhouse. He won the district championship every season he was at Frances, from 1947 to 1950. It was there that Litchfield coached Hart, the state's all-time leading scorer at the time.

Litchfield was the first principal and basketball coach at the newly formed county high school following consolidation in 1950. His Crittenden County basketball teams were as well superior to most others in the area. In



Louisville Courier-Journal article noting that Litchfield had been elected president of the KHSAA Board of Control.

three seasons, he won two district titles. Ironically, his best team – a club that won 24 games in 1951-52 – was beaten in the district tournament because several of the players came down with the mumps.

Although his team was knocked out of post-season competition, Litchfield stayed active. A highly respected basketball official, he was a referee for the state championship game that year.

After retiring from coaching, Litchfield

### Marion-Crittenden County Basketball HALL OF FAME

Member	Inducted
Carlisle Towery	1998
George Hart	1998
Bennett Smith	1999
Curtis Turley	1999
Gerald "Hoopy" Tabor	2000
James Phillips	2000
Don Green	2001
Bruce Belt	2001
Don "Sucky" Brasher	2002
Greg Thurman	2002
Hugh Highfil	2002
Tommy Wring	2002
Glenn "Ace" Davidson	2003
Lige Shadown	2003
Ercel Little	2003
Spencer Cozart	2004
Jeff Shewcraft	2004
Ronnie Moss	2005
Ellis Simmons	2005
W.A. Franklin	2006
Jeanne Hinchee	2007
Louis Litchfield	2007

became superintendent and oversaw the consolidation of Marion and Crittenden high schools in 1957.

Charismatic and sharp witted, Litchfield was a success in every endeavor he sought.

"As a coach he was strict," Brasher said. "He ran a tight program. He was fair, but it was clear that he ran the show."

Indeed, he ended up running nearly every organization with which he became affiliated. Litchfield served several terms on the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Board of Control, the First District Education Association and the Murray State Board of Regents. He rose to the leadership post of each one of those. Litchfield was also assistant Commissioner of Agriculture for Kentucky from 1943 to 1947.

Litchfield died tragically young in 1968 of rheumatic fever. He was just 58 years old.

## More from Hall of Fame on WMJL...

In case you can't make the game Friday night, catch all of the action on WMJL Radio at 102.7 FM.

Basketball play-by-play announcer Nicky Winders will have Hall of Fame inductee Jeanne Hinchee on as his halftime guest during the first game of Friday's doubleheader.

Tipoff for the boys' game is 6 p.m.