



Boys lose to Barbourville
Page A-10

Mount Vernon Signal

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Mount Vernon, Kentucky 40456 - Volume 113 - Number 20 - Ph. (606) 256-2244 - .50 a copy - Thursday, February 17, 2000

Major drug bust takes place Tuesday

By: Richard Anderkin
A major drug bust took place in Rockcastle County Tuesday and involved mostly members of the same local family.

The suspects were taken into custody by U.S. Marshalls and were arraigned in federal court in Lexington late Wednesday afternoon.

Most of those arrested were members of the Floyd and Bernice Lovell family, which resides in the Burr area of the county. Floyd and Bernice Lovell were not arrested or charged Tuesday with any crimes.

Other suspects, not members of the Lovell family, were also charged yesterday and apparently included three Cubans from Miami and a local man, already serving time in federal prison on drug charges.

According to a media release from the U.S. Attorney's office for the Eastern District of Kentucky, on February 3, a federal grand jury in Lexington returned a multiple count indictment charging those involved with various violations of the federal drug and money laundering statutes.

The indictment charges that from January 1, 1995 to February 3, 2000, Richard Allen Lovell, Kathleen Lovell, Charles Lovell, David Lovell,

Wendell Ford Lovell, Brian Lovell, Darren Sturgill, Charles Brock, Teresa Lovell Cunnagin, Charles Cunnagin, Donald Wayne Crouch, Gustavo Bidal, Alberto Travieso, Alejandro Cabrera and Ronnie Bradley conspired and agreed together and with others to possess with intent to distribute and did distribute cocaine, and that they used the proceeds from such unlawful drug distribution to purchase additional cocaine and property.

One of those indicted, Ronnie Bradley, 46, of Quail, is currently serving a ten year sentence in federal prison after he pled guilty last March to drug trafficking charges.

And, David Lovell and his wife Barbara, are already in jail awaiting trial on murder charges handed down last year.

The couple is accused of killing Charles "Toddy" Baker, 31, of Mt. Vernon and burying his body at Tark Hill, which was finally discovered in February of 1999.

Federal search warrants and arrest warrants were executed on Tuesday for all sixteen individuals and

Final vote on ordinance is Monday night

By: Richard Anderkin
The Mt. Vernon City Council will once again try to pass a final reading of an ordinance that will tax the wages of employees and the profits of businesses inside the city limits.

The ordinance calls for a half cent of every dollar tax on the wages and profits to go to the city each quarter.

The second and possible final reading was rescheduled for Monday, after the ordinance was amended during a meeting last Monday night.



F.B.I. agents, D.E.A. agents, state and local police spent much of Tuesday and part of Wednesday making numerous arrests throughout the county, after federal drug indictments were returned against local suspects. Most of the arrests involved one Rockcastle family. Police used at least three helicopters in Tuesday's operation. The suspects were arraigned in federal court in London on Tuesday afternoon.

City Attorney John Clontz told the council and Mayor Karen King they would have to have a first reading of the ordinance again, because of the amendment.

If the ordinance passes Monday night it will become effective April 1.

Orlando man indicted again by Rockcastle Grand Jury

The amendment to the ordinance was requested by council member Clarice Kirby, who also presented six other amendments that did not pass.

The one amendment that did pass calls for no tax to be assessed on the wages of any employee in the city that is 65 or older. All council members voted in favor of the amendment, but that wasn't the case on the other six suggestions.

An Orlando man was indicted on three separate charges Friday by the Rockcastle County Grand Jury.

Mark E. Baker, 34, was indicted on a charge of retaliating against a witness, on February 5, by threatening to engage in conduct with intent to cause bodily injury to witness in an official proceeding, according to the indictment.

Baker was also indicted on two counts of first degree murder endangerment. He is accused of pointing a gun at Shondale Philbeck and Patrick Elkins on January 29.

Elkins and Philbeck are witnesses in a case against Baker, who was indicted in January on five counts of wanton endangerment.

In that case, Baker is accused of shooting into the former Orlando Post Office on October 9 while five people were inside the building which also houses Philbeck's Grocery.

Baker was also indicted on one count of receiving stolen property.

He is accused of having a stolen ATV in his possession on August 22 of last year.

Baker is currently being held in the Rockcastle County Detention Center awaiting arraignment.

Michael Saylor, 19, of Old 461, was indicted on a fourth degree assault charge, a misdemeanor.

He is accused of breaking the fingers of Debbie Cromer, of Mt. Vernon, on November 19.

According to police reports Saylor is accused of grabbing Cromer while she was attempting to protect her daughter and bending her fingers back to the point they were broken.

Saylor, who also has convictions in Rockcastle District Court for D.U.I., possession of marijuana and carrying a concealed deadly weapon is free on bond until a March 22 hearing.

Troy Dean Bullock, 26, of Rt. 1, Mt. Vernon was indicted on three counts. He is accused of trafficking in cocaine and having a set of scales in his possession to weigh the cocaine, on January 8.

Bullock was also indicted for being a persistent felony offender second degree.

Kenneth E. Begley, 20, of Mt. Vernon was indicted on one count of theft by unlawful taking. He is accused of taking over \$300 from the Superbest Gas Station in Mt. Vernon where he worked on January 19.

Glenna Faye Williams, 34, of Richmond was indicted for allegedly

Cont. to A-11

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Cont. to A-11

Eddy Montgomery candidate for Commonwealth Attorney

Acting Commonwealth Attorney for Rockcastle, Lincoln and Pulaski Counties, Eddy Montgomery, has officially announced his candidacy for office in Rockcastle County.

Since being named Acting Commonwealth's Attorney some eighteen months ago, Montgomery says he has been hard at work trying to put criminals behind bars. Montgomery was named to the post when former Commonwealth's Attorney Lawrence Ray Carmichael was indicted on charges of extortion and attempted extortion.

Montgomery is a 1983 graduate of Somerset High School. He holds a bachelor of arts from the University of Kentucky and completed his Juris Doctor in May 1990 from the University of Louisville. Following a four-year tenure in the United States Air Force as a Captain he returned to Kentucky to practice law.

"There is one main reason that I am seeking the office of Commonwealth's Attorney," Montgomery said. "My mother's family has been in the area for more than 100 years and my father's family has been here for equally as long. I have a deep commitment to the area and as the Commonwealth's Attorney I feel that I can give back to the community. I am qualified and have the experience to perform the duties of the position."

The Office of Commonwealth's Attorney is unique due to the fact that it requires the prosecution of felony offenses in three counties (Lincoln, Rockcastle and Pulaski) as well as

the presentation of cages to the grand juries of all three counties for indictment, Montgomery stated.

Montgomery says he is keeping his emphasis on putting violent offenders behind bars and the collection of restitution from nonviolent offenders.

In 1999 Montgomery's office was successful in obtaining court orders for restitution in the amount of \$347,717. This money is to be returned to the victims of crime. Also, in 1999 Montgomery's office sent 73 people to prison for a total of 320 years.

Montgomery maintains that his office works closely with all law enforcement authorities, including the Sheriff's Department, City Police Department, Kentucky State Police as well as the federal authorities. Tuesday, Montgomery spent the day with local and federal law enforcement officials as they executed several arrest warrants in Rockcastle County for Drug Offenses. "I feel that it is important that we, as law enforcement, have a positive working relationship with each other for the benefit of all citizens of the circuit, because working together we make the chance to get out into the community and see how everyone is doing," Montgomery said.

"Being a prosecutor has allowed me to give back to my community in a way that I love," Montgomery said. "I plan to continue working hard to put criminals behind bars."



Eddy F. Montgomery

Most recently Montgomery's office has convicted Ronnie Patrick

Fatal Accident



A Lexington man was killed in a single car accident on Interstate 75 Monday morning.

According to Rockcastle County Coroner Bill Dowell, Donald Robert Zielke, Jr., 50, was pronounced dead at the scene of the 4:15 a.m. accident.

According to police, a passenger in the vehicle, Joseph F. O'Daniel, 50, of Springfield, was injured in the accident. He was treated at Rockcastle Hospital and transferred to the University of Kentucky Medical Center, where he was listed in fair condition Monday.

Police said that O'Daniel was wearing a seat belt but Zielke was not.

Cont. to A-11

Shown at right are Mt. Vernon firemen Jason Hannel and Steve Griffin and Coroner Bill Dowell before they remove the body of Donald Zielke from the scene.



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