

Sports Opinion

Girls...Tough or puffs?

by Cheyenne Carmack

Where have all the tomboys gone? Are there any of us left? I'll admit it...I am a tomboy. I made mud pies and played with matchbox cars when I was small. I tried to climb trees and keep up with the neighborhood boys. I usually had bruised knees and I loved to fish or camp alongside my dad. I didn't want to be a boy, but I definitely enjoyed the things they did for fun.

It's hard for me to believe that some girls never grew up watching Kentucky basketball or never owned a *My Buddy*...Admit it - *Kid Sister* was for wimps!

Of course, this is the point where I began to think about just how differently girls relate to the world of boys and sports and, well, all the things in between.

First you have *The Tough Girl*. She picked fights with boys in elementary school, claimed to be able to take on any school athlete - and beat them, and she refused to wear ruffles on Sundays. These girls would rather watch the Knicks or the Cowboys than a soap opera any day. (Oh, and boys, they still think they can take you.)

Then you have the *Sweet-and-Sour Girl*. This would be the one who played with her Barbie dolls, as long as the tires on her bike were flat, or the one who liked to fish, but had, say, a Snoopy pole? These girls have their picks of teams, and to these, they are ever loyal. But life does not revolve completely around the Braves - especially when there's a dance or perhaps a good sale at The Gap. (And yes, these girls will bait a

hook without sticking out their tongue or seeing yesterday's lunch!)

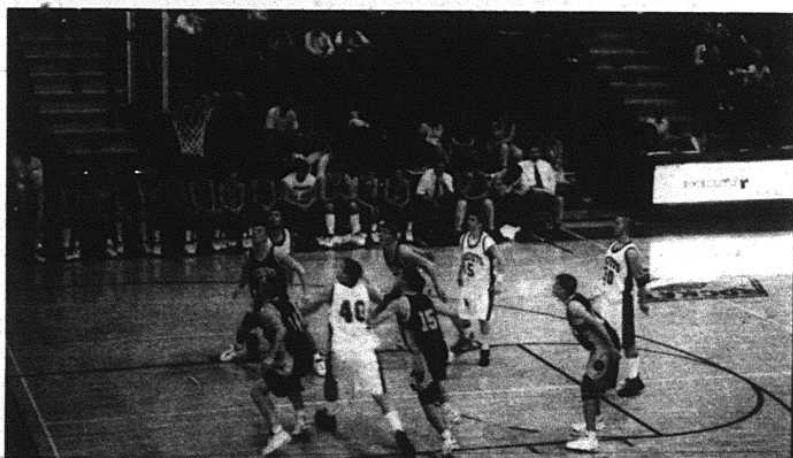
Who could forget the *Girly Girl*? You know? The ones who were constantly wearing ruffles and beads and playing dress-up? These girls thought the sandbox was for those "icky, yicky" boys and they never liked the fact that dogs would pant and jump and lick...Sports were invented for boys, and these girls wouldn't mind keeping it that way. (This is where the term, "You play ball like a GIRL!" came from.)

It's okay, girls, if you aren't tomboys. I happen to fall in that middle category. For instance, I'm a die-hard Chipper Jones fan, but that could have something to do with the fact that he's a babe. Or maybe that I love to fish, but only when I'm catching them.

But just like the fact that some of us weren't born to be supermodels, some of us weren't born to like sports, or fishing, or boy stuff in general...Some boys don't even like that stuff!

Wherever you fall on the tomboys scale, girls, I have a final word for you. For you Tough Girls, play hard. For you Girly Girls - the bleachers aren't too comfortable...But can't you find just a little school spirit? And for those of you like me, you can fit in that game of flag football, just make sure you don't miss Dawson's Creek!

Oh, and by the way guys, none of us are powder puffs, regardless of what you may think.



Senior Nick Leger contributes another point to the Rockets' big win over McCreary County during senior night, February 25. The boys won in the first round of district tournament against Jackson County on March 1.



Senior band members, cheerleaders, and boys basketball players were honored at the boys game on February 25. Above are seniors with their parents (from left) Debbie Spencer, Matthew Hayes, Nick Leger, Matthew Brown, and Andrew Cash.

Players, cheerleaders honored at football banquet

by Courtney Alexander

Despite the cold weather outside, the atmosphere inside RCHS was warm during the Rocket Awards Banquet, January 25. In addition to the traditional awards ceremony, the evening included a potluck style dinner and a powerpoint presentation recapping the 1999 season.

The evening's emotional tone was set when a special award in memory of Wayne McNew was given to begin the ceremony.

Mr. McNew passed away suddenly in November. His son, Brad has played for the Rockets for the past 4 years.

Rockets head coach Tom Larkey presented Mr. McNew's wife Mary Ann, and Brad with this award that was dedicated to a man who meant so much to the football program.

The Rocket cheerleading squad

was recognized by sponsor Rhonda Rose for the high academic standards they set during the first semester.

The cheerleaders will have their own awards banquet later in the semester to recognize their accomplishments.

Freshman and JV coaches briefly recapped their seasons and presented Defensive and Offensive MVP's for each team.

Over 20 awards were given out in gratitude for all the hardwork and dedication Rocket players give.

"An opportunity to give a very meaningful salute to the senior class," is how Coach Tony Saylor described it.

Over 20 awards were given out to honor team members, and each senior player was presented with a personalized hooded sweatshirt and key chain.

Senior guard Chris Kirby remembers the night as "a chance to show how much our team has accomplished over the years as one. Unfortunately the reality that my career as a Rocket was officially over also hit hard."

All ten of the seniors were given at least one award which recognized their individual talents.

Coach Larkey was very pleased by the number of compliments from past players and parents on the organization of the banquet, stating simply, "This was the most successful banquet we've ever hosted at Rockcastle."

Coach Saylor commented, "The organization of this banquet was an outstanding representation of what this team, especially the senior class, sacrificed for this county and its football program."



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