



JROTC Awards B 4-8

Mount Vernon Signal

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Dead tree falls, kills Corbin man

A Corbin man was killed in an accident two miles east of Brodhead at Possum Kingdom last Thursday morning.

According to Rockcastle County Deputy Sheriff Darrell Doan, Carl Ridner, 26, of Corbin, was clearing right of way near utility poles when the accident occurred at approximately 10:30 a.m.

Rockcastle County Coroner Billy Dowell pronounced Ridner dead at the scene.

Dowell said that Ridner died after a tree struck him in the head.

According to Dowell, Ridner was struck by a tree that had fallen and was leaning against a tree he was cutting.

When the tree fell that Ridner was cutting, the dead tree dislodged and struck Ridner in the head.

Ridner was an employee of Phillips Tree Trimming Service of Corbin.

Four local students are Governor's Scholars

Four Rockcastle County High School students have been selected to participate in the prestigious Governor's Scholars Program.

RCHS students Mindy Bullock, Chelson Stratton, Ashley Lawson and Amanda Chism, were named to the program which is exclusive to the state's top juniors.

Bullock is the daughter of Lawrence and Phyllis Bullock of Mt. Vernon, Stratton is the daughter of Phillip and Serena Stratton of Wildie, Lawson is the daughter of Terry and Marlene Lawson of Roundstone and Chism is the daughter of Dr. James and Marcia Chism, of Mt. Vernon.

The Governor's Scholar Program is a stimulating five-week summer program for Kentucky's outstanding juniors and offers them an opportunity to be responsible for their own learning.

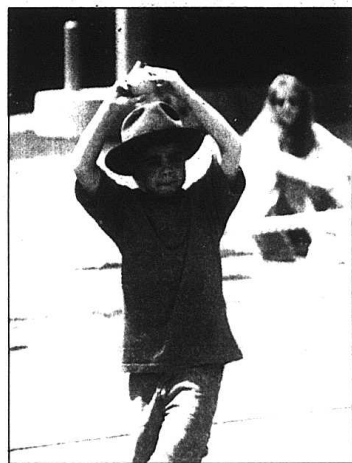
The purpose of the program is to help exceptional students achieve their academic and personal potential, to cultivate leadership abilities, expand students' horizons and reward excellence in Kentucky's schools.

Rockcastle typically is represented in the Governor's Scholars Program by at least two students. Four Governor's Scholars from the county is rare.

This year's selection of Bullock, Stratton, Lawson and Chism for the 2000 Governor's Scholars Program makes just the third time since 1992 that RCHS has had four students chosen.

"We are very pleased to have four students chosen from RCHS."

(Cont. to A12)



The first annual Fish Fry Festival was held in Brodhead on Saturday. Shown above is Bobby and Clara Proctor, Grand Marshals for the Parade. At left, one youngster got his throws in at the dunkin' booth, as did Mrs. Irene Brown, shown above. Other photos of the event can be found in this week's A-section.

Important public meeting concerning transportation

A public meeting will be held to discuss the future goals of transportation in Rockcastle County on June 8, at 6:00 p.m. in the EOC Room on the 2nd Floor of the old section of the Rockcastle County Courthouse in Mt. Vernon.

The information obtained at this meeting will be a key role in a Regional Concept Plan being developed by the Cumberland Valley Area De-

velopment District for the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet.

Numerous items regarding local and regional transportation will be on display. Come and join us as we discuss the transportation issues that will help Rockcastle County and the Cumberland Valley Region travel successfully into the future. If you have any questions call Mr. Clay McKnight at (606)864-7391.

Sectional finals will be Thursday

Rockets, win regional title for first time

The Rockcastle County Rockets baseball team is headed to the state baseball tournament for the first time in school history.

The Rockets advanced to the sweet sixteen after sweeping through

No word on "new town" decision

Local leaders still have received no word on whether or not Mt. Vernon and Rockcastle County will be selected as one of Kentucky's new towns by Kentucky Governor Paul Patton's Appalachian Commission.

The commission was to have submitted two recommendations to the Governor by May 24, but apparently that has not happened, according to Bigg Towery, Jr., Executive Director of the Rockcastle County Development Board.

A mammoth application was submitted to the commission in January and seeks millions of dollars in funding for improvements throughout the county.

Under the commission's Kentucky Appalachian Community Development Initiative, which Patton proposed in 1996, government targets money and attention to one community until its problems are solved. A pronounced shift from development efforts that sprinkled aid across the region.

Rockcastle County is one of eight applications this year. The others include: Lawrence County, Elliot County, Johnson County, Lee County, Harlan County and Bell County.

Hindman in Knott County and Jenkins in Letcher County have already been selected to participate in the program.

"If we are selected it could mean great things for the entire community," Towery said.

Towery said he thought some would come from the Governor's office as soon as next week.

the 49th district and 13th region tournaments for the first time since 1973.

The Rockets defeated Oneida and Clay County in the district tournament and Bell County, Corbin and Middlesboro in the regional tournament. Both the district and the region were held at the Rockcastle County High School.

The baseball team, which is currently 24-6 on the season played Lee County on Wednesday night in the first round of the state. If they won they played either Paintsville or Boyd County on Thursday night.

Rockcastle's sectional of the state (Cont. to A12)

Blood drive scheduled

The need for blood is always critical during summer months. Vacations and factory shut downs cause many people to forget about donating and the need for blood. Also, warm weather means more outdoor activities and traveling, which leads to a greater number of accidents. Therefore, less blood is available while more blood is needed.

How can we fight this potentially dangerous situation? The solution begins with blood drives, like the one in Rockcastle County.

Rockcastle Extension Homemakers will sponsor the next county blood drive Thursday, June 15, 2000 from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the basement of the Rockcastle County Extension Office. Donors are needed at this drive to help fight summer shortages and to help patients in Central and Eastern Kentucky Hospitals. Anyone who is in general good health, is 17 years of age or older and weighs at least 100 pounds is eligible to donate. Donating only takes a few minutes and can mean a lifetime to someone in need.

Please fight summer shortages before they start. Donate blood on June 15, 2000 in the basement of the Rockcastle County Extension Office. For more information contact Loretta Robinson at 679-7413.



The Rockcastle County High School baseball team captured the school's first ever baseball regional championship last Thursday night. At right are some members of the RCHS Girls' track team which also captured the regional title. (See special section inside this week's Signal.)



Wildie postmaster Jan Stevens, far right, was presented with a certificate and a gift, in honor of his forty years of service to the U.S. Postal Service. Stevens, who ran the Post Office out of his Wildie General Store since 1960, officially retired last Wednesday. Shown above, center, is Howard Baker, Postmaster at Berea making the presentation. At left, is Mrs. Barbara Thacker, the current Officer in Charge at Wildie.