

Rockets head to state tournament

(Cont. from A2)

The Redhounds had been ranked in the top ten in the state all season long and were expecting to win the region.

Thursday night, Middlesboro held both of their best pitchers for the Rockets and had a three to two lead until the Rockets tied the game in the top of the fifth inning.

The game remained tied until the top of the ninth when Bussell got a single and stole second. He moved to third on a pass ball and scored when Parsons hit a groundball to shortstop that was bobbled.

Bishop finished off the Yellowjackets with the help of a good defensive play by Shea Taylor.

Bussell, Billy Hackworth and Jacob Burdette all doubled in the game and Cash had three stolen bases.

Head Coach Ryan Riddle, who has been head coach at RCHS for eighteen years, now has 226 wins to his credit.

The Rockets have had three straight twenty win seasons and

have been to the regional tournament ten years in a row and 12 of the last 13.

Riddle said he attributed this year's success to talent.

"This is probably the most talented team from top to bottom, that has played at RCHS," he said.

And Riddle said that his seniors have provided the much needed leadership.

"Those four seniors have a lot of experience between them and they know what it takes to win against good teams," Riddle said.

"Their leadership has been invaluable to this team," Riddle said.

If the Rockets defeated Lee County, they will face either Paintsville or Boyd County, both excellent teams.

That game will also be played at Corbin on Thursday night at 7 p.m.

Riddle likes his chances at a state title. "Baseball is a strange game sometimes and you never know what can happen, these kids have a lot of heart - we certainly could go all the way," he said.



All-regional performers for the Rockcastle County High School Rockets were from left: Greg Harper, Christopher Parsons, Brandon Bishop and Derrick Bussell.



Congratulations! Rockets - Girls Track!

Rockcastle County
Judge/Executive
BUZZ CARLOFTIS

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