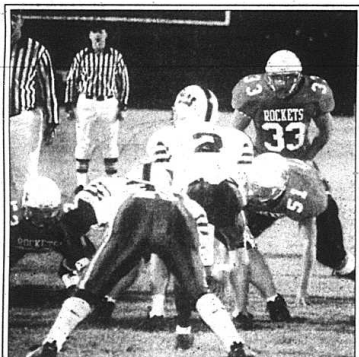




The Rocket defense has scored twelve times this season. Some of the members of the varsity squad are shown above, from left: Sean Smith, Tanner Abney, William Blair, Dackery Larkey and Greg Harper. The Rockets play Whitley County Friday night in a district showdown at the ROCK. Game time is 7:30 p.m.



Seniors Greg Harper, Derrick Bussell, Christopher Parsons and Sean Smith relaxed in the fourth quarter of the Friday night homecoming game against North Laurel. The Rockets are 6 and 0 on the season and face their toughest opponent of the season on Friday night when Whitley County comes to town.



The Rocket defense has allowed only 5.6 points per game this season, much to the credit of middle linebacker Travis Ingram, #33. Ingram has led the Rockets in tackles the past two seasons.



Rocket High School Band Field Commander Amanda Chism directed the band at half-time of the Rockcastle - North Laurel homecoming game.

Rockets beat N. Laurel 55-7

by: Richard Anderkin
The Rockcastle County Rockets won their sixth straight game of the season Friday night with an easy 55-7 win over visiting North Laurel.

The Rockets are undefeated in 2000 and last week's win set up a showdown between the ROCK and the Whitley County Colonels on Friday night.

Senior tailback Derrick Bussell had his best game of the 2000 campaign on Friday night, gaining 250 all purpose yards and scoring five touchdowns.

It took the Rockets less than two minutes to get on the scoreboard.

North Laurel got the ball first in the game but were unable to move the chains and had to punt.

On that punt Bussell took the ball and made an outstanding return of 61 yards for the Rocket score.

The Rockets next score also came on defense when Bussell picked off a North Laurel pass and returned it 47 yards for the score. Senior placekicker Greg Terry's kick was good and Rockcastle led 13-0 with four minutes left in the first quarter.

The second quarter would prove deadly for the winless Jaguars as Rockcastle would find the end zone three times.

After North Laurel punted again the Rockets took over on the 17 yard line and it took only six plays, for Senior Quarterback Chris Parsons to score on a four yard run.

Terry added the extra point and it was 20-0.

The six play drive was highlighted by two nice pass plays, one a completion to Senior Greg Harper on a third and five situation that resulted in a first down and the other a 45 yard completion from Parsons to junior Josh Hale.

The Rockets extended their lead to 27-0 when Bussell scored again, this time on offense when he caught a 20 yard pass from Parsons for the

score.

That score was set up by sophomore Marty Reagan who picked off a Jaguar pass, giving the Rockets the ball on their own 45 yard line. Harper also caught a 35 yard pass in the drive before Bussell scored.

Terry's kick was good and the Rockets extended their lead to 27-0.

With one minute left in the half, North Laurel had the misfortune of punting the ball to Derrick Bussell again and this time he returned the ball 42 yards for the final score of the half.

Terry's kick made it 34-0 at the half.

The Rockets wasted little time scoring in the second half.

Outside linebacker Greg Harper stripped a North Laurel runner of the football and raced 13 yards for the score and Terry's kick made it 41-0.

The second score of the third quarter came on a 70 yard shuffle pass

from Parsons to Bussell. Terry's kick made it 48-0.

The final score came on a two yard run by sophomore quarterback Aaron Anderkin, who, along with the rest of the junior varsity, took over in the fourth quarter.

The Jaguar offense finally got on the board in the fourth quarter breaking a 17 quarter streak for the Rocket defense. But that score was not against the Rocket varsity defense, which left the game at the end of the third quarter.

All total the Rockets gained 394 yards on offense and allowed only 114 total yards on defense.

Defensively for the Rockets, senior middle linebacker Travis Ingram showed once again, why he is one of the best defensive players in the region. In only three quarters of action Ingram picked up a staggering 17 tackles and assists.

(Cont. to A9)

Showdown is at the ROCK Friday

The premier high school football game in the state of Kentucky will probably take place at the ROCK on Friday night when the Whitley County Colonels come calling.

Rockcastle County Head Coach Tom Larkey and defensive coordinator Tony Saylor, said this week that Whitley County was big, fast and quick off the football.

"That will probably be the third best offensive team we have faced in the last eight years," Saylor said. "Danville's 1992 team and Lawrence County's 1999 squad are the only two better offensive teams I've seen than Whitley County," Saylor said.

"We have made some changes on offense in order to give them a little different look than they have seen on film," Larkey said.

"Our players will have to be completely focused on what they are supposed to do, if we are to come out with a win Friday night - we absolutely cannot make any turnovers," Larkey said.

Tuesday the Rockets were ranked third in 3A and Whitley was ranked

8th, in the Associated Press Poll.

In 1A, *Herald-Examiner* poll, Rockcastle was third in 3A and Whitley was 10th.

Overall the Rockets were ranked 16th in the state by the *Herald-Examiner* and Whitley County was not in the top 20.

The Rockets are number one in the state in scoring at 51.4 points per game. Whitley County is third at 47.0.

Rockcastle is seventh in the state in points allowed, giving up only 5.6 points per game. Whitley is 12th, allowing only 8.4.

The Rockets are also first in the state in scoring margin with a 45.8 average win and Whitley is 5th at 38.6.

Whitley County is third in the state in rushing, averaging 367.2 yards per game. Their premier back, Johnathon Blakely is 12th in the state in rushing with 153.6 yards a game. Last year the Rockets slipped by the Colonels in Williamsburg when they took the lead on their last possession of the game and won 21-20.

Game time at the ROCK is 7:30 p.m.

Defense leads ROCK JV past Briarjumpers

The Rockcastle County High School football JV team continued its winning ways Monday night with a hard fought 12-0 win against the Somerset Briarjumpers.

The win, at Somerset, brought the JV record to 7 wins against no losses for the season.

Things did not look good early for the Rockets as the Briarjumpers marched the opening kickoff down

the field against the Rocket defense.

But, the Rockets goal line defense stepped up and forced a fumble on the five yard line.

The fumble recovery by Benny Northern took the early momentum from Somerset and set the tone for the back and forth struggle for the entire first half.

At the end of the third quarter it became apparent that the first team to get a good break, would probably win the game.

That break came for the Rockets after an attempted pass on fourth down, resulted in a pass interference call when the Somerset defender ran into receiver Coty Reams before the ball arrived.

The ROCK offense took advantage on the very first play of the fourth quarter when tailback P.J. Rowe got loose on a hard run up the middle and scampered 50 yards for the first score of the game.

The win was sealed for the Rockets when defensive back Michael Hayes picked off a pass and returned it 70 yards for the score with less than two minutes left in the game.

The interception was the fourth of the game for the Rocket secondary which had an excellent showing against the wide open attack of the Briarjumpers. Coty Reams had two interceptions, Josh Taylor and Hayes had one each.

The win for the Rocket JV puts them in control of their own destiny. The Rockets play host to Russell County next Monday for the JV conference championship.

The game will be played at RCMS at 6 p.m. A win will give the Rockets the number one seed in a two game play-off and guarantee home field for the first play-off game.

Youth League Football Results - Week Three

BENGALS 12 (Record 3-0)
REDSKINS 8 (Record 1-2)
Bengals Scoring: Tanner Perkins, 1 TD, Zach Burkhardt, 1 TD.
Redskins Scoring: Jamie Todd, 1 TD, Mark Valario, 2 pt. conversion.

WILDCATS 22 (Record 1-2)
Y-JACKETS 6 (Record 1-2)
Wildcats Scoring: Cody Carpenter, 3 TDs, Dakota Smith, 2 pt. conversions.

Yellowjackets Scoring: Cody Mize, 1 TD.



This doe was killed by Jerry Hoskins on Opening Day of Bow Season.

Rocket Freshmen undefeated in 2000

The Rockcastle County High School Rocket football Freshmen are undefeated in their 2000 campaign.

The Freshmen have wins over Lexington Catholic, South Laurel, Southwestern Pulaski County and Pulaski County.

The Freshmen last victory came Thursday night in Somerset when they defeated Pulaski County 58-13.

The Freshmen fell behind 7-0 when they fumbled the opening kickoff, but it was all Rockcastle County after that.

Josh Brewer scored the Freshmen's first touchdown on a 25 yard run and Josh Hayes added the extra points on a pass from quarterback Devin Taylor.

Devin Taylor then scored on a three yard run and Devon Bussell added the extra points on a run.

Josh Brewer then scored on a 35 yard run, just before half-time, but the Maroons scored on the last play of the half, making the score 22-13.

Rockcastle scored 36 unanswered

RCHS Freshman play at Home on Tuesday October 17, against Knox Central

points in the second half.

They began the second half scoring when Caleb Blair scored on a 40 yard run from Devin Taylor. Devin then found Josh Brewer in the end zone on the 2 point conversion.

Devon Bussell then scored on a 25 yard run and Josh Hayes added the two point conversion.

Brandon Reams scored on a 22 yard run and Devon Bussell scored the conversion on a run.

Jamieson Cable then scored on a 12 yard run and the Rockets ended the game and scoring when defensive lineman Doug French picked off a Maroon pass and ran 50 yards for the final score.

The Freshmen's next game is Tuesday October, 17 against Knox Central at home. Game time is 6 p.m.

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