



Rockets win 42-0

# Mount Vernon Signal

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## Four jail inmates indicted

Four inmates at the Rockcastle County Detention Center were indicted Friday by the Rockcastle Grand Jury. Benji Jones, 31, of Sand Hill, and Karl Wayne Pittman, 26, of Mt. Vernon were indicted on one count of promoting contraband, first degree.

They are accused of knowingly introducing Oxycodone, schedule II controlled substance and Cocaine, a schedule II controlled substance into the jail on August 27.

Both men's bond were set at \$5,000 cash.

Jones is the inmate who was the subject of a highly controversial appeal bond by Circuit Judge Dan Venters a couple of weeks ago.

In May, Jones was found guilty of two counts of unlawful imprisonment, one count of assault and two counts of menacing.

On September 25, he was sentenced to eight years in prison, although a Rockcastle jury recommended ten.

On September 29, Jones' attorney Damon Preston filed a notice of appeal in the case and asked that his client be released on a \$20,000 bond, while he awaits the outcome of the appeal.

On October 2nd, Judge Venters ruled that Jones could be released on an appeal bond of \$20,000.

But, on October 4, Commonwealth Attorney Eddy Montgomery and assistants David Dalton and Chris Brown filed a motion asking Venters to reconsider his order.

Venters denied their request, but Jones is still in jail because he is serving a nine month sentence on a different conviction in District Court. Preston has also filed notice that he will appeal that decision.

Two other inmates, Terry Owen Mink, 37, of Hwy. 70 and Shannon Eaton, 24, of Mt. Vernon were also indicted on drug charges connected with the jail.

Mink is accused of introducing illegal drugs into the jail on July 21 and Eaton is accused of introducing illegal drugs on August 18.

Mink is the inmate who sued the Rockcastle Detention Center in Small Claims Court earlier this year, claiming money was stolen from him while he was in jail serving a weekend sentence. The case was dismissed for a lack of evidence.

Both men's bonds were set at \$5,000 cash.

Another detention center inmate, Tabetha S. Kates, 28, of Mt. Vernon was indicted on seven counts of forgery.

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## Livingston man robbed at gunpoint

A Livingston man was robbed at gunpoint Friday night around 11 p.m., as he walked up Sand Hill Road, off U.S. 25.

According to Livingston police officer Danny Keeney, Jeffery Vanzant, 34, of Bullock Street, Livingston, was robbed of about \$35 and a back pack by two men wearing ski masks and carrying a shotgun and rifle.

Keeney said that arrests are pending in the case and that Vanzant was probably the victim of mistaken identity.

Kentucky State Trooper Lale Owens and Rockcastle Deputy Sheriff Charles Gray assisted in the case.

## Homecoming

### Reunion of

### Livingston School

Livingston School will hold its annual Homecoming Reunion at the Charcoal House at Days Inn, I-75 and Highway 192, London on Saturday, October 28.

Social Hour will begin upstairs at 6 p.m. and dinner will be served downstairs at 7 p.m. The cost is \$14.25, including tax and tip. Payment will be collected in the dining room this year. No advance reservation is required.

All Livingston School alumni are urged to attend.



Enjoying last week's Bittersweet Festival and participating in the one mile run for kids were from left: Katie Howard, Logan Cable, Danny Johnson, Jacob Bussell and Johnny Johnson. (Other Festival photos appear inside.)

## Board hears good things about Alternative School

By: Richard Anderkin

Things are going extremely well in the first year of the county's Alternative School located on the campus of the Rockcastle Middle School, according to students and faculty alike. Coordinator Steve Bullock and teacher Donna Roberts, along with at least two students at the school, shared various stories of success with the Rockcastle County Board of Education at their regular monthly meeting last week.

The board held their monthly meeting at the Alternative School where they were treated to supper before the meeting.

Currently 15 middle and high school students attend the Alternative School, which was established by the local board in an effort to make other Rockcastle County schools safe and provide a needed service to some of the county's school children.

The recommendation for the Alternative School was the first recommendation of the school system's safe schools committee.

Coordinator Bullock was quick to point out to the board that students at the Alternative School had very, very few discipline problems, after they got to the school and in most cases, each student simply had special needs of some type that are addressed by the school.

Bullock said that he thought the individual attention provided to the students was very important and he praised the students for their hard work during the first nine weeks of school.

"These are not bad students as some would have you believe, they are just students who need more structure in their lives," Bullock said.

Currently there is room for 15 more students at the Alternative School, which is funded in part by a \$55,000 state grant. The rest of the money is provided by the local board of education.

Mrs. Loreta Powell, Director of Student Services, said that the total budget for this school year is about \$130,000.

## Meeting set to discuss ATV riding in forest, on private land

There will be a citizens meeting of landholders and others from Rockcastle and Laurel counties pertaining to the operation of off-road vehicles in the area and on both public and private lands without permission.

This will be held at the ASPI Nature Center on Route 1329 in southern Rockcastle, one mile from U.S. 25 and two and half miles from Exit 49 on Interstate 75. ASPI is located near the banks of the Rockcastle River.

The meeting will be held Wednesday, October 25 at 7:00 p.m. All interested parties are urged to attend and voice any ideas on what to do about this growing problem. You are welcome to bring friends, relatives, children and parents. Refreshments will be served.

Powell also said that the Alternative School was here to stay. "I think everyone will agree that this something that the school system as a whole benefits from - it seems to be going well and students seem to be getting the services they need from the school," she said.

Besides the two teachers, two full-time instructional assistants, Janet Robinson and Estill McFerron, are also on staff.

The Board of Education also contracts with Comprehensive Care for counseling services for the students.

The school is totally self contained with meals being provided each day at the school.

In other business, Mrs. Powell also announced the second month attendance figures for county schools.

Mt. Vernon had the best attendance with 97.2 and the Rockcastle High School had the worst at 94.1.

District wide the attendance was a 95.7 percent during the second month of school.

Rockcastle School Superintendent Larry Hammond also announced his personal actions.

Tim Merlin, Substitute Teacher:

## Farmers-Business

### Banquet is Friday

The Rockcastle County Conservation District and Mt. Vernon Lion's Club will host the 41st Annual Farmer's Business Banquet on Friday, at 6:30 p.m. at the Rockcastle County Middle School.

The featured guest speaker for the banquet will be Jody Richards, Speaker of the House of Representatives in Kentucky.

Tickets, which are \$6.00, can be purchased from any Conservation District member, Mt. Vernon Lion's Club member, or may be purchased at the Rockcastle County Conservation District office in the USDA Service Center located on Highway 150.

## Pleas entered

Eddy F. Montgomery, Acting Commonwealth Attorney for Rockcastle County announced Monday that Gary Denny, age 37, of 810 Bishop Road, Brodhead and Alfred Jim Britton, age 36, of 820 Hellard Road, Annville, each entered guilty pleas in the Rockcastle Circuit Court on Friday.

According to Montgomery, Denny entered a guilty plea to the offense of Possession of Marijuana over eight ounces. The charges resulted from the execution of a search warrant by the Kentucky State Police. Montgomery said Denny admitted that the marijuana belonged to him. The Commonwealth recommended a sentence of three years.

Montgomery further stated that Alfred Britton pleaded guilty to the offenses of Menacing, Criminal Mischief, Second Degree and Burglary, Second Degree. The charges resulted from a domestic incident at the home of Britton's estranged wife at Big Sandy in Rockcastle County. The Commonwealth recommended a sentence of five years imprisonment. Final sentencing for each defendant has been scheduled for November 10.

## Davy Stewart indicted for Clark murder

By: Richard Anderkin

The Rockcastle County Grand Jury returned an indictment for murder Friday against an Orlando man.

Davy E. Stewart, 32, is accused of killing Patty Clark, 25, of Conway on August 9 in a remote section of the county near Cove Branch.

Police were led to her badly decomposed body on August 13th, by Sally Hoskins, 24, of Crooked Creek, who told police that Ms. Clark had been shot to death by Stewart.

Clark's body was found in a wooded area, off a logging road near McNew Cemetery, where police had found an abandoned Jeep the day after Clark was reported missing.

Sally Hoskins told police that, Stewart and Clark were both sitting in the Jeep at the McNew Cemetery when Stewart shot her (Hoskins), after an argument.

Police say that Stewart then took the two women, both of whom he had dated or was dating, into the woods where he told them to pray for their souls.

Hoskins told police that she prayed, but that Clark didn't and Stewart shot her.

Kentucky State Police Detective Gary Lane, who is the lead investigator on the case, said that autopsy results showed that Clark had been shot twice, both times in the head.

The day after Patty Clark disappeared, Sally Hoskins walked to the home of Sammy Stewart. Sammy

Stewart is Davy's brother and is currently serving jail time. However, police say that Sandra Laswell was at the residence and that she got someone to take Hoskins to the hospital.

However, before Hoskins went to the hospital she took a bath.

Rockcastle Deputy Sheriff Darrell Doan said that Sandra Laswell told police that they thought Hoskins had been in a car wreck and that is why they cleaned her up.

Deputy Doan said that when he interviewed Hoskins about the shooting, she told him she had been hit in the head and didn't know what happened.

Hoskins would later tell police that she was scared for her own life and that is why she didn't tell police sooner about the murder.

Hoskins had been shot one time, but the bullet hit her in the wrist, went through her left leg and lodged in her right leg. According to Doan, doctors at the University of Kentucky Medical Center did not remove the bullet from Hoskins' leg because they thought it would do more harm than good.

The Tuesday night before Patty Clark's body was found, Kentucky State Police in Madison County shot Davy Stewart, after he apparently tried to steal a van from a rural residence.

Police said that Stewart was apparently high on drugs when he broke

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A large crowd attended Citizens Bank's Open House at their new facility on Hwy. 150 in Mt. Vernon on Sunday. Shown above, are Russell Houk, Vicki Petrey, Norma Houk and Citizens Bank President Keith Smith. Below, Anna Goff and Melissa Hayes, left, of Citizens Bank are shown with Tincy Payne, right. (Photos by Doug Brock.)

