

Basketball Special
Section Inside

Mount Vernon Signal

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Mount Vernon, Kentucky 40456 - Volume 114 - Number 10 Ph. (606) 256-2244 - .50 a copy - Thursday, December 7, 2000

Local stores burglarized

Mt. Vernon City Police are investigating break-ins at the Family Dollar Store and the Dollar General Store on Hwy. 150 in Mt. Vernon.

The break-ins occurred last Wednesday night around midnight, according to Family Dollar Store manager Charles Colwell.

Colwell said that thieves broke out a front door to gain entrance, but that apparently little, if anything was stolen.

Evel Bullock, store manager at Dollar General said that thieves also broke out a front door at her store by throwing a rock through it.

Mrs. Bullock said that thieves got away with only petty cash.

Police are also investigating a robbery at the Mt. Vernon Drug Store and a break-in at Kidwell's Cigars station on Hwy. 150.

Larkey named Coach of Year

The awards keeping piling up for the Rockcastle County High School Rockets football team.

Last week Head Coach Tom Larkey was named Associated Press coach of the year in Kentucky.

"It was a great honor, but one that I could not have received had it not been for the hard work and dedication of my staff and my head assistant Tony Saylor and the tireless efforts of our football team," Larkey said.

Larkey is the first coach at RCHS ever to be named to such a high state honor.

Senior defensive back Derrick Bussell was also named first team all-state as a defensive back.

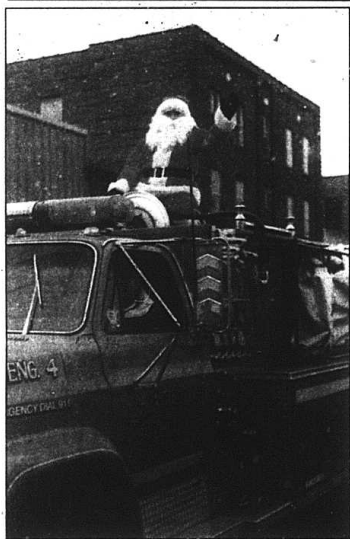
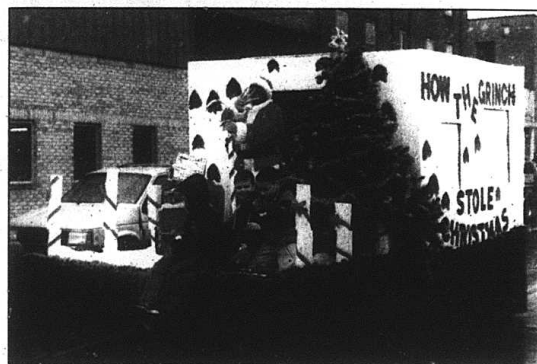
Bussell had eight interceptions this season and had 17 in his career at Rockcastle. Bussell was also the team's leading offensive runner.

Senior placekicker Greg Terry

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Tom Larkey



The annual Brodhead Christmas parade was held Saturday in downtown Brodhead. Several local people attended the parade and many people took part in the annual event. At left, Santa Claus, (Keith Rigsby) got a ride intown from Larry Taylor on the Brodhead fire truck and above, Sherry Asher and the rest of the Taylor Produce gang waved to the crowd. The snowfall Saturday added a festive air to the parade.

Sexual harassment cases filed at RCHS

By: Missy Wilburn

Special to the Signal

This year, five cases of sexual

harassment have been filed at the Rockcastle County High School.

As a result, Dr. Roger Cleveland, from the Kentucky Department of Education, came to speak with high school students about sexual harassment earlier this month.

Dr. Cleveland told students that sexual harassment is a degrading power issue that makes its victims feel bad.

"It's in the classrooms and hallways - all around you see sexual harassment. Most offenders don't even realize they're committing a crime," Cleveland said.

RCHS assistant principal Barry Noble said that was the problem with

the five cases already reported this year.

Last year 21 cases of harassment were filed at RCHS. Five of the cases filed last year, were sexual harassment. With this school year not even half over, the exact same number of sexual harassment cases have already been filed.

"The numbers are already so high this year. Myself, Loretta Powell, Director of Student Services and Principal Ruth Allen agreed to bring in Dr. Cleveland to explain to the students what sexual harassment is," Noble said.

As a result of Dr. Cleveland's presentation, RCHS students are now

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Parade

The annual Mt. Vernon Christmas Parade is scheduled for Saturday at 2 p.m.

The city is also sponsoring a food drive for the needy, from December 1 until Saturday, when the parade begins.

Those participating in the parade are asked to donate one can of food the food drive as their entry fee.

The city of Livingston fire department will also sponsor a Christmas parade on December 23 at 6 p.m.

Flu shots

The Rockcastle County Health Department is currently giving flu vaccines to Rockcastle residents.

To receive a shot, local residents must be at least 65 years old or older.

Shots will be given Monday through Friday at the health department from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Shots are \$6.00, for those without Medicare Part b or Medicaid.

The health department is located on Richmond Street in Mt. Vernon. For more information call 256-2242.

EPA forcing Mt. Vernon to clean up pond

By: Richard Anderkin

The Mt. Vernon City Council will accept bids soon on a project that will clean out the lagoon at the city's water plant at Renfro Valley.

But it will be costly.

Mt. Vernon Mayor Karen King and water superintendent Dennis McClure told the council during their regular monthly meeting on Monday night that the estimated cost of the cleanup was \$43,000 to \$66,000.

King said the city had already been cited by the federal Environmental Protection Agency because of the poor condition of the lagoon, which is actually a settling pond.

The pond is used for back washing when employees at the plant clean the filtering system.

Mayor King said she wasn't sure where the city would get the money for the project, but that it had to be done, or the EPA would shut down the city's water plant.

Once completed, the city will not have to clean out the lagoon for another eight to twelve years.

The city also discussed the construction of a new firehouse on Main Street in the city's lot next to the Rockcastle County courthouse.

Fire department members Brian Hanel and Steve Griffin presented some rough drawings of the new fire house to the city council.

The drawings call for the building to face the building housing Silver Threads and Castle Cleaners. The dimensions would be 100 x 60.

The building will have four bays in the front and one in the back.

The total cost of the project has not been calculated, but some estimates range in the \$100,000 area.

City councilman Joe Mullins had asked about the possibility of selling bonds to raise enough money to build the building, but City Clerk Kaye Rader told Mullins that the state says the project is not big enough for a bond sale.

However, Mayor King said the state had a bond pool program, in

which the city could possibly participate. That program offers cities a lower rate than they can get at a lending institution.

The Mayor said the city's new payroll and net profits tax had not generated as much money as expected, as of yet, and could not currently foot the bill for the new building.

The Mayors said after the meeting that while she was in full support of a new fire house - she has hopes of a building being built that would house the city police department and the fire house.

The plans that were submitted Monday night did not include any space for the police department.

Mayor King said she would discuss the matter with the fire department at a later date.

The city also discussed parking on Main Street.

Council member Loretta Daugherty told the council that a local businessman had complained to her about employees of RTEC parking on Main Street and leaving their cars all day long.

She said the businessman said it was becoming a serious problem.

Asst. Chief Eddie Delaney said that the city allows two hours of free parking, but that he had not been made aware of any problem.

During his police report Delaney said that Mike Peters had been rehired as a full-time officer.

He also said that Brian Doan and Rodney Vanzant had been placed in the first phase testing program at Eastern Kentucky University.

Delaney said that if the two pass the requirements at Eastern, they would be hired as city police officers.

Vanzant and Doan will replace Coby Smith and Barry Adams, who will become Kentucky State Police officers in the near future.

Adams will also receive his sixth award from the Governor's office for his high number of driving under the influence arrests.

Scholarship in honor of Rader being established

A scholarship fund is being set up in honor of a local man who died in August in an automobile accident.

The Calvin Rader Scholarship will be awarded annually to a Rockcastle County senior, who intends to seek education at a higher level.

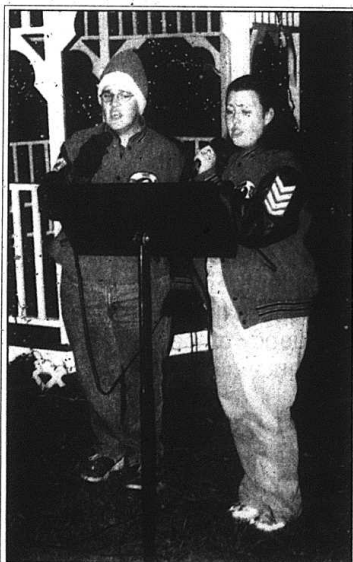
Bank of Mt. Vernon loan officer David Woodall, who was a very close friend of Rader's and who like many other Rockcastle countians, coached with Rader in the Rockcastle Little

League program, is spearheading the effort.

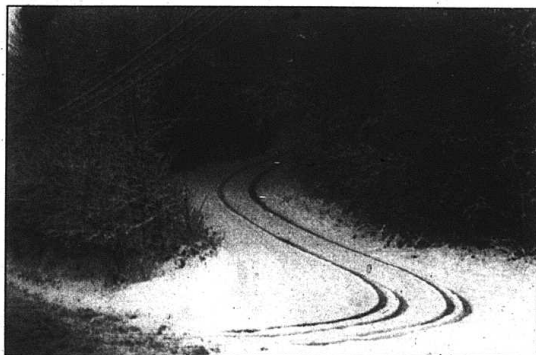
"Calvin loved to work with kids and he touched the lives of so many of them that we thought it was only fitting that we establish some way to remember him by and some way that memory could benefit more children," Woodall said.

Woodall said that a local committee of himself, John McQuay, Johnny Boone Saylor, Steve Phelps

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Tom Mills, Jr. and Amanda Chism, along with Shawn Burdette, shared their special musical talent during the tree lighting ceremony in Triangle Park last Friday night. Several members of the Rockcastle Kiwanis Club joined with Mayor Karen King in ushering in the annual event.



Rockcastle County got anywhere from four to six inches of snow Saturday and Sunday night. The early winter snowfall made for hazardous driving conditions early Sunday morning, but by midday road crews had all of the main roads clear and most of the heaviest traveled secondary roads. School was dismissed on Monday, but resumed on Tuesday.