

Anderkin, Hammond combine for 48 to lead Rockets past Eagles

The Rockcastle Rockets put together two of their most impressive wins this last week. Rockcastle traveled to Madison Southern Tuesday night for the 76-55 win and hosted a very young Williamsburg team last Friday night for the 76-52 blowout.

Sophomore Aaron Anderkin was the leading scorer in both games, but on Tuesday night he could not be denied as he racked up 29 points against the Eagles.

Anderkin hit seven threes and added three buckets and two free throws for good measure.

Junior center Andrew Hammond also put together two of his best performances of the year each night, as the Rockets were able to get the ball low in Hammond who finished off the plays with easy buckets.

Hammond had 11 points in the Williamsburg game and 19 points against Madison Southern.

Senior Jeremy Neeley had the defense for the Rockets against Southern under control, stealing the ball four times and causing two other Eagle turnovers. Wherever the ball was, so there was Neeley.

Aaron Cash, along with Anderkin and Hammond, gave the Rockets the boost they needed in the first quarter to stay ahead of the Eagles, with 6, 6 and 4 points each, respectively. Josh Rowland also added a bucket in the first for the Rockets.

Madison Southern held tough with the Rockets through the first half, however, hitting five threes to go into the locker room down only two, 31-29.

The Rockets switched defense from zone to man-to-man late in the second quarter and the entire second half, and this proved costly for the Eagles as the Rockets held Southern to only ten third quarter points.

The five threes that the Rockets hit in the third, two each by Anderkin and Neeley and one by Chris Settles also helped the Rockets begin their rout, giving Rockcastle the 52-39 third quarter lead.

A fifteen point fourth quarter by Anderkin, as well as 8 points by Hammond were the icing on the cake for Rockcastle in the fourth, as they easily defeated the Madison Southern Eagles 76-55.

Last Friday night, the Rockets dealt a mighty blow, to a very young Williamsburg team, easily defeating the Yellow Jackets 70-32.

Williamsburg, who graduated eight seniors last year, could not get much done against a much stronger and bigger Rockcastle team.

Jeremy Neeley started the game off with a three, and the Rockets then went on a 15-4 run to end the quarter. The Rockets did not stop in the second, going on a 18-3 run before the Yellow Jackets could find the basket.

Anderkin hit two threes for the Rockets in the second as Rockcastle was just too much, going into the locker room at halftime up 35-12.

By the end of the third quarter, nine Rockcastle players had been scoring action with the Rockets outscoring Williamsburg 20-8 to end the third up 55-20.

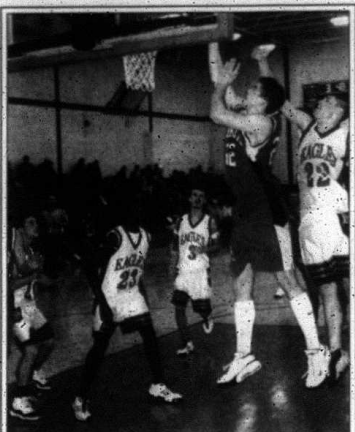
Much of the fourth quarter belonged to the starting JV players, with Austin Miller and Chris Settles each adding a three for the 70-32 Rockcastle win.

Aaron Anderkin led all scorers with 13, followed by Andrew Hammond with 11.

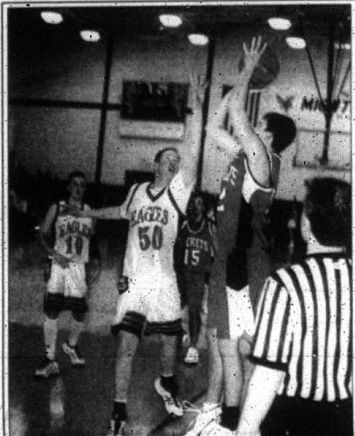
ROCKCASTLE LINESCORES
Rockcastle 15 20 25 15 70
Williamsburg 4 8 12 32
Aaron Anderkin 13; Andrew Hammond 11; Austin Miller 9; Aaron Cash 9; Josh Rowland 8; Jeremy Neeley 7; Jason Reynolds 5; Chris Settles 5; Thomas Coffey 2; Devin Taylor 2.

Rockcastle 10 11 21 24 76
Southern 17 12 10 16 55
Aaron Anderkin 29; Andrew Hammond 19; Jeremy Neeley 10; Aaron Cash 9; Chris Settles 5; Josh Rowland 2; Thomas Coffey 1; Stephen Boring 1.

JV Linescores
Rockets 5 8 5 2 20
SW Pulaski 12 9 17 7 45
Jason Reynolds, 2; Austin Miller, 2; Chris Settles, 12; Jarrod Burdette, 3; Devin Taylor, 2.
Rockets 10 13 8 16 47
Wmabg 5 8 14 7 34
Jason Reynolds, 13; Austin Miller, 8; Chris Settles, 2; Jarrod Burdette, 3; Devin Taylor, 3; James Isaac, 3; Jesse Harris, 4; Chris Childress, 3; Gray Kemp, 4.



Junior Andrew Hammond had 19 points and four rebounds in the Rockets' win Tuesday night.



Stephen Boring puts up a shot in Tuesday night's win over Southern. The Rockets have won nine games this season.

Hammond's shot at buzzer beats Whitley County

It was a tie ball game with Whitley County last Thursday night when, with less than 3 seconds on the clock, Jessie Hayes got the ball to senior Rachelle Hammond. Hammond immediately squared up to the basket and let fly with a three point shot. The ball sailed through the basket and the Lady Rockets had gotten their 11th win of the season 63-60.

Whitley had a chance to take the last shot but Hayes played pressure defense on Whitley's half handler, keeping her from penetrating for five seconds and drawing the call from the referee to get the ball back for her team.

Whitley, who had lost only three half games, played tough against the Rockets, holding the lead until the second quarter when two straight goals by sophomore Ashley Mink gave the Rockets an 18-17 lead. The Rockets went on to build a 32-22 half-time lead.

But, Whitley wouldn't go away, outscoring the Rockets 24-18 in the third quarter and tying the score at 55 all with three minutes left in the game.

The score was tied at 60 all when Whitley came up with the rebound and 17 ticks left on the clock. That was when Hayes got the 5 second call, took the inbound pass, put down her dribble and then got the ball to Hammond for her last second shot that won the game for the Rockets.

Hammond led the Rocket scoring with 16. Mink got 12, 11 of them coming in the first half when the Rockets were making their comeback; Jessie Ricketts had 11; Hayes scored 9; Amber Denney and Amber Falin each got 7 and Amy Barnett scored 2 points.

At Cochin Saturday, the Lady Rockets added number 12 to their win column, defeating the Lady Hounds 56-51.

The contest was close throughout with the Rockets holding a 32-24 half time lead behind 11 points by Ricketts, 8 from Denney and 6 from Falin.

The Rockets extended their lead to ten 46-36 in the third quarter, mainly with three three point baskets from senior Ashley Lawson, and a three and a two point goal by Ricketts.

The longest lead of the game for the Rockets came in the fourth quarter when they were up 52-40 and the Hounds made one last effort, outscoring the Rockets 11 to 4 in the closing minutes of the quarter.

Ricketts turned in a great performance with 18 points; Denney got 12 points and 5 rebounds; Lawson had 9; Mink and Falin scored 6 points each and matched that output in rebounds with 6 each; Barnett got 3 and Bryanna Russell scored 2 points.

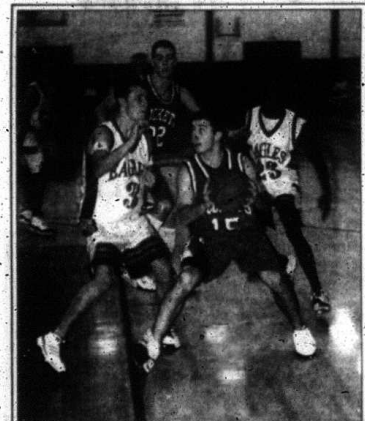
At Madison Southern Monday night, the Rockets came back from a disastrous first half and a deficit score 24-23 to post their 13th win of the season 64-56.

The first three quarters mainly belonged to the Eagles but, in the fourth, the Rockets sucked it up and outscored the Eagles 28 to 17.

After 10 first half turnovers, the Rockets cut that in half in the second half. Ricketts contributed 7 steals in the game and Hammond got 25 points, 11 in the fourth quarter, and 11 rebounds to give the Rockets the win.

Besides Hammond's 25, Falin had

(Cont. to A9)



Point guard Aaron Cash scored nine points and had several assists on Tuesday night in the Rockets win over Southern. The Rockets play at home on Saturday night against Lincoln County.

JV League - Jan. 13th

Jr. Pro scores

Team	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Total
Rockcastle	15	20	25	15	75
Williamsburg	4	8	12	32	56
Totals	19	28	37	47	131

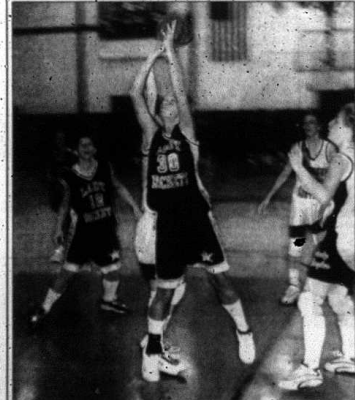
Team	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Total
Rockcastle	10	13	8	16	47
Wmabg	5	8	14	7	34
Totals	15	21	22	23	81

Training League - Jan. 13th

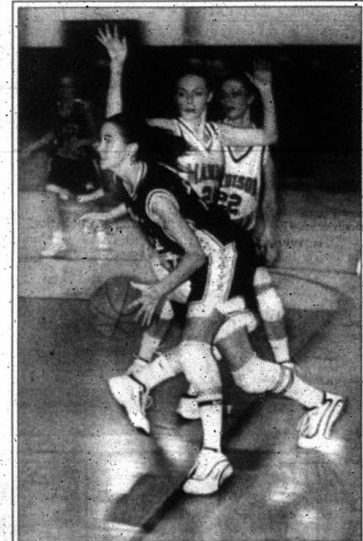
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Ashley Mink goes for two points Monday night against Madison Southern. The Lady Rockets beat the Lady Eagles 64-56 for their 13th win of the season.



Rachelle Hammond poured in 25 points for the Lady Rockets Monday night as they defeated Madison Southern 64-56.



Jessie Hayes puts up a shot in the Lady Rockets' win over Madison Southern Monday night. Trailing the play is senior Ashley Lawson.