RCHS baseball team is 49th district champs

The Rockcastle County Rockets baseball team won the 49th district championship last Friday by defeating the Clay County Tigers 3-0.

Senior Greg Harper went the distance to pick up his ninth win of the season against two losses.

It was the Rockets second straight district championship and it finally came at Oneida Baptist Institute, after the Rockets were rained out on three different occasions.

The Rockets are in the process of trying to defend their 13th region championship from a year ago.

The Rockets defeated Lynn Camp on Tuesday in the first round of the region by a score of 7-3.

The region is being played at Whitley County.

Senior Christopher Parsons drove in three runs and was the winning pitcher, going five innings.

Harper picked up the save, pitching two innings.

Brothers Shea Taylor and Devin Taylor each had a run batted in as did shortstop Derrick Bussell.

All total, the Rockets had eight hits against Lynn Camp, who finished runner-up in their district to Corbin, a team the Rockets could face in the finals of the region.

Corbin defeated Clay on Tuesday.

In the district championship game against Clay County, the Rockets had only four hits.

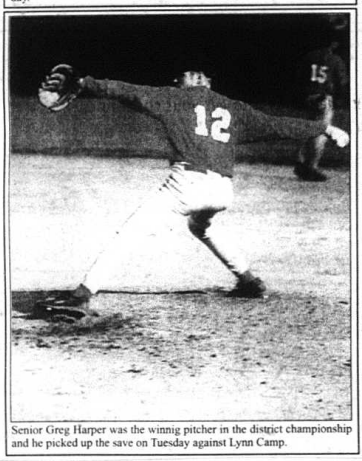
Again, the Taylor brothers, senior Shea and freshman Devin, had a hit a piece, Parsons had one and centerfielder Billy Hackworth picked up the other hit.

Hackworth scored two of the Rockets' three runs and had two stolen bases.

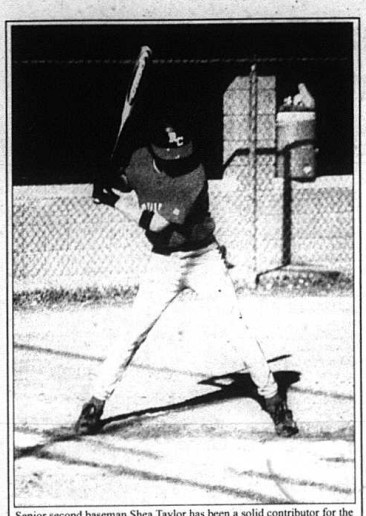
The Rockets played Harlan on Wednesday in the second round of the region.

Sophomore Aaron Anderkin was scheduled to pitch against the Green Dragons.

Freshman Devin Taylor and the rest of the Rockets played in the second round of the region on Wednesday. The finals were scheduled for Thursday.



Senior Greg Harper was the winnig pitcher in the district championship and he picked up the save on Tuesday against Lynn Camp.



Senior second baseman Shea Taylor has been a solid contributor for the Rockets during his high school career. The Rockets are currently in the second round of the regional tournament which is being played at Whitley County High School.

"Girls Win Region"

(Cont. from A8)

the finals on Saturday. Sheena ran a superb race and finished first overall, capturing her first regional championship in the event with a time of 27.55 seconds. Johnna had her best finish ever in the event. She placed sixth overall with an awesome effort of 29.27 seconds.

The 400-meter dash proved to be just as exciting. Cheyenne Carmack and teammate Heather Hammond dominated their heats on Thursday and qualified for the finals on Saturday. Cheyenne opted to skip the 400-meter finals and conserve her energy for the 800-meter run. Heather continued her dominance of the event in the finals and cruised her way to an easy victory, winning her first regional title in the event by over four seconds. She finished with a new RCHS record time of 58.86 seconds, the fastest time in Class 2A this season.

Cheyenne's strategy of conserving energy for the 800 worked to perfection. She stayed within the pack of runners for the first 300 meters before asserting herself as the clear leader. She pulled away from the group in the last 100 and finished as regional champion in the event, winning with an awesome time of 2:22.7 seconds. Teammate Kayla Hayes also ran a spectacular race and finished fifth overall with a great time of 2:36.29.

Seventh grader Jessica Asher established herself as the region's top distance runner in both the 1600 and 3200-meter races. Jessica and seventh grade teammate Danielle Arnold led the 1600 from start to finish and both girls shattered the previous mile record that had been established earlier this season. Jessica finished as regional champion in the event with a new RCHS record time of 5:40.98. Danielle battled Jessica to a photo finish and placed second with a personal best effort of 5:41.16, also qualifying her for state in the event. In the 3200-meter run, Jessica totally dominated the field of competitors capturing her second regional championship of the day. She finished with an awesome time of 12:48.8 and defeated her nearest opponent by nearly thirty-two seconds. Seventh grade teammate Elizabeth Bussell ran a tremendous race and finished third overall with an unbelievable effort and time of 13:30.3, a personal best in the event.

In the high jump competition, Heather Hammond solidified her position as the top-ranked jumper in Class 2A. She and teammate Mindy Bullock faced a challenging group of competitors. Mindy jumped very well and finished fourth overall with an exceptional effort of 4' 8". Heather made it to the final two, and won the regional title with a tie-breaking leap of 5' 2". This tied her own RCHS record in the event and also equaled her state best mark established earlier this year.

Heather and teammate Rachelle Hammond performed very well in the long jump competition. Rachelle successfully defended her regional title in the event with a great jump of 16' 3.5". Heather also qualified for state with a second place finish and an excellent effort of 15' 11.5".

In triple jump, Rachelle also sought to defend her title having won the event the previous year. Leaping into a very strong wind, Rachelle managed several awesome jumps. She finished once again as regional champion in the event leaping an incredible 33' 1.5". Eighth grade teammate Chere' Embs had her best performance ever at region. She finished fourth overall with a personal regional best effort of 31' 0.5".

Junior Clarissa Hubbard had an exceptional regional meet in both shot put and discus. In the shot put competition, Clarissa dealt with a back pain, but still managed to fend off her competition. She finished as regional champion in the event with a great effort of 30' 1.5". Teammate Ashley Lawson also threw very well and finished sixth overall with a great effort of 25' 0.75". Both girls also performed well in the discus competition. Clarissa threw her best ever in regional competition, finishing as regional runner-up with an awesome throw of 109' 1", seventeen feet more than her nearest competitor. Ashley also threw exceptionally well, finishing eighth with an effort of 74'.

The 400-meter relay team of Tara Abney, Mindy Bullock, Chere' Embs, and Johnna Abney qualified for the state championships with an awesome team effort. The girls finished second overall in the event with a great time of 54.63 seconds.

The 800-meter relay team of Rachelle Hammond, Johnna Abney, Chere' Embs, and Sheena Swinney ran an exciting race and easily finished first, winning their first regional title in the event with an awesome time of 1:51.45. The girls finished the regular season ranked second in the event and have a great shot at a state title.

The girls' 1600-meter relay team, ranked first in the state, looked to complete the first step towards a possible state championship in the event. The team of Cheyenne, Heather, Rachelle, and Sheena ran an awesome race and finished as regional champions in the event with a new RCHS record time of 4:12.58.

The 3200-meter relay team of Cheyenne Carmack, Jessica Asher, Danielle Arnold, and Kayla Hayes dominated the event and finished with a school record time of 10:21.79. While capturing the school's first regional title in the event, the team finished over eight seconds ahead of their nearest competitor.

To this point, the RCHS girls have completed their greatest and most successful track and field season ever. The team will compete in the Class 2A State Track and Field Championships at the University of Kentucky this Friday and Saturday.

Lose to Cumberland in regionals

Lady Rockets are runners-up in District

The Rockcastle Lady Rockets softball team maintained their dominance over Clay County by beating them three times this season, the last time to advance to the finals of the district tournament.

The first two games were relatively easy wins for the Rockets but the Lady Tigers made the going rougher in the district tournament game, holding an 8-6 lead in the top of the 6th before the Rockets came through with three runs in the bottom of the sixth and shut Clay out in the top of the seventh for the win.

With Amber Falin on the mound for the Rockets, Clay led off the game with three runs on three hits in the first inning. However, the Rockets got two of them back in the bottom of the first. Jessie Hayes led off with a hit to left and stole second. One out later, with Hayes at third, Jessica Thacker was safe on an error and advanced to second. A hit by Rachelle Riddle drove in Hayes and Thacker later scored on a wild pitch.

Clay went quietly in the second inning but the Rockets tied the score in the second when, with two out, Hayes and Falin both drew walks and Thacker singled to drive in Hayes.

There was no scoring in the third inning and Clay didn't manage any offense in the fourth. But Hayes again walked and was driven in by Thacker with a single to put the Rockets up 4-3.

The Tigers came back in the top of the 5th to put four runs on two hits on the board and take a 7-4 lead. In their half of the 5th, the Rockets managed two runs on one hit off of a walk by Josie Benge and a hit and RBI by Allison Anderkin who was driven in by Amanda Rogers to make it 7-6.

The Tigers added a run in the 6th inning to go up 8-6. However, the Rockets wouldn't quit. Amber Falin led off the inning with a walk and stole second. One out later, Rachelle Riddle got a single, driving in Falin. Rachel Childress followed with a single and Josie Benge was safe on a fielder's choice. With two out, Anderkin got a hit to left center, driving in two runs to put the Rockets up 9 to 8.

Falin set the Tigers down in order in the top of the seventh and the Rockets had the win.

The Rockets didn't fare as well against Jackson Co. in the championship game, losing 18-2.

The Rockets faced Cumberland in the first game of the regionals at Middlesboro Monday afternoon with Jessica Thacker pitching for the Rockets.

Cumberland drew first blood in the bottom of the first with two runs on no hits and one Rocket error.

The Rockets came back to score one run in the second. Rachelle Riddle walked to lead off the inning but was later thrown out stealing home on a wild pitch. Cassie Hamilton was hit by a pitch and later scored on a fielder's choice on Amanda Rogers.

Cumberland had a field day in the second with five runs on one hit to go ahead 7-1. Most of the scoring came from hit batters, four of them, who made no attempt to evade the pitch. The umpire ruled that all the batter had to do was "flinch" to avoid the pitch.

However, the Rockets came back to score two runs in the top of the third. Hayes led off with a walk and went to second and third on wild pitches. Falin also drew a walk and stole second, with Hayes scoring on the throw to second. Falin later took third and scored on wild pitches to make it 7-3.

The Rocket defense held in the bottom of the third, setting the Lady Skins down in order.

In the fourth inning, the Rockets added a run when Hayes hit a double, scoring Krystal Parsons who was on base after catcher interference was called to make it 7-4.

The Lady Skins went quietly in the bottom of the fourth and then the Rockets came on strong in the top of the fifth, scoring five runs on one hit.

Thacker, Riddle and Hamilton all walked to load the bases and Thacker later scored on a wild pitch. The Rockets then loaded the bases again on a walk to Childress and, with two outs, Parsons walked to bring in the second run of the inning. Hayes walked to bring in a run and Falin singled to center, driving in two runs to put the Rockets up 9-7.

Cumberland went back ahead in the bottom of the fifth, scoring four runs on 5 hits.

The Rockets didn't managed any offense in the top of the sixth and Cumberland, with the first two batters out in the bottom of the sixth, put together an eight run inning to win 19-9.

"Blood Drive"

(Cont. from front)

person waits until a need arises, it may be too late. It takes 24 to 48 hours for Central Kentucky Blood Center to test each unit of blood and deliver it to Rockcastle County Hospital.

The Rockcastle County Extension Homemakers urges you to give blood now-before an emergency occurs. Nearly 250 donors are needed daily to supply blood for patients in the 69 hospitals and clinics served by CKBC. Giving blood is a unique way to show you care for others. Persons at least 17 years old, who are in good health and weigh a minimum of 100 pounds are able to donate blood. Your blood is essential in saving lives. Please give on Thursday, June 14th. For more information contact Loretta Robinson at (606)679-7413.

Hugh Cameron, Cody Shane, Teddy Jeffery caught 193 pounds of catfish at Tim's Paylake in London.

Little League Update...

By Diamond Dave

Minor League

Saturday, May 26th
Blue Jays 17
Angels 16
2nd Game
D'backs 7
Reds 5
Sunday, May 27th
Blue Jays 17
Indians 12
2nd Game
Reds 14
Angels 3
Monday, May 28th
Indians 16
Reds 10
Homeruns: John Moon, Indians. Kristina Caroscello, Indians.
2nd Game
Angels 15
D'backs 14

Major League

Tuesday, May 22nd
Reds 8
White Sox 7
Homerun: Jacob Harding, White Sox.
2nd Game
Indians 4
D'backs 1
Friday, May 25th
Indians 6
Reds 3
2nd Game
White Sox 8
D'backs 2
Saturday, May 26th
White Sox 10
Indians 5 (7 innings)
2nd Game
D'backs 11
Reds 10
Homeruns: Devin Hasty, Reds, Grand Slam. Chris Decker, D'backs.

Standings

Minor League

Blue Jays 8-2
Indians 8-2
Reds 4-8
D'backs 3-7
Angels 3-7

Major League

Indians 11-2
White Sox 8-5
Reds 5-8
D'backs 2-11

Homeruns

Minor League

Tony Potter, Blue Jays, 2 (1 Grand Slam)
Jamie Todd, Indians, 2
Dustin Reynolds, Blue Jays, 1
Tanner Childress, D'backs, 1

Travis Carpenter, Angels, 1
Timmy Proffitt, Angels, 1
John Moon, Indians, 1
Kristina Caroscello, Indians, 1

Major League

Dakota Smith, Indians, 1
Donovan Pigg, Indians, 1
Jacob Harding, White Sox, 1
Devin Hasty, Reds, 1 (Grand Slam)
Chris Decker, D'backs, 1

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95 Geo Prism	4 cyl., 5 spd., air, branded title	SAVE
95 Dodge Neon Highline	4 cyl., 5 spd., 2 door	SAVE
93 Plymouth Voyager	V6, air.	SAVE
93 Dodge Dakota Sport	V8, auto, air	SAVE
93 Plymouth Acclaim	V6, air	SAVE
93 Ford Probe GT	V6, 5 spd., sunroof, branded title	SAVE
91 Dodge Dynasty	V6, auto, air, CD changer	SAVE
90 Chevy Lumina Van	V6, air.	SAVE
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