

Project Graduation committee raises \$35,000 spends most money locally



Chaz Cable in the sunglasses won the Male Beauty Contest at Project Graduation on Sunday night. The contest was certainly something to see.

The parents and graduates of the Rockcastle County High School class of 2001 have raised more money for Project Graduation than any class before them.

Project Graduation began at RCHS in 1987 and is an all-night graduation party for graduates and offers a variety of games, food, entertainment and most of all money and prizes for those in attendance.

Of the 170 potential graduates, 150 attended.

Project Graduation is a nationwide event that has been very successful in promoting the safety of graduates on their big night.

This year, the Project Graduation committee at RCHS, which raised more than \$35,000 spent the money they raised locally.

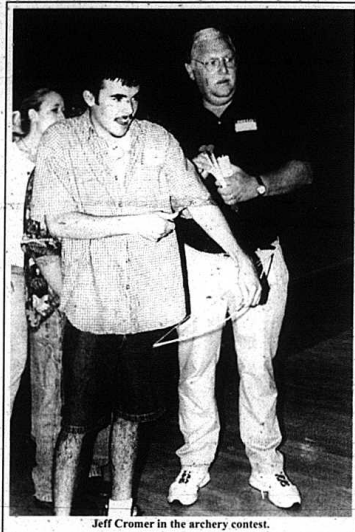
In the past, much of the money spent has gone out of town, especially to Wal-Mart in Berea, but that is not the case this year.

Project Graduation committee member Rebekah Hammond said the committee had worked out several good deals with local business people

because they (the committee) knows the importance of keeping money in the county—especially when the lion's share of that money was raised from county residents.

This year's prizes included: gold rope chain and bracelet, mini bronze cordless phone, 11 car CD stereos with detachable face, two flat computer scanners, five DVD players, metal detector, three radar/laser detectors, seven pairs of Oakley sunglasses, NAPA toolset with lifetime warranty, two camping sets (6x6 tent, Coleman stove, shovel, boots), five boomboxes (radio/cassette/CD player), two boomboxes (radio/cassette), two home stereo systems, two 32" color television with remote, three 20" color televisions with remote, five 25" TVs with VCR, cordless phone with answering machine, DeWalt cordless drill, two Eureka vacuum cleaner, RCA stereo system, 11 VCRs with remote, two George Foreman rotisserie grills, 10 voice activated recorders, two 5" black/white TV/AM/FM portables, Web TV, 10

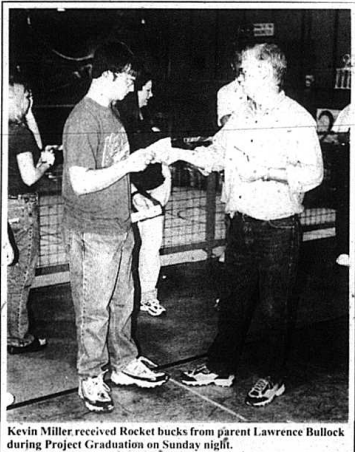
microwaves, three Rayban sunglasses, Vogue sunglasses (girls), boxchain gold, necklace 2001 charm, ankle rope bracelet, 18" herringbone necklace, seven dorm refrigerators, two NightVision binoculars, Playstation 2 everything included, nine portable CD players, video camera, digital camera, metal detector, set of 14 channel 2-way walkie talkies, two 2.5" active LCD televisions, cordless telephone, MIDI keyboard, two 900 MHz cordless phones, Compac pocket PC, six cordless phone with answering machine, five 20" TV/VCRs with remote, RCA stereo system, VCR, two gold wire necklaces, two tool sets with lifetime warranty, two desk top scanners, two tool sets, two small tool chests, George Foreman grill, two Fossil watches (men's), crossbow and case, Home Collection 8x10 area rug, Collector Ceramic Eagle picture, 19" color TV, Craftsman tool set, digital camera, cordless phone with dual keypad/answering machine, radio/cassette CD player and portable electronic cooler.



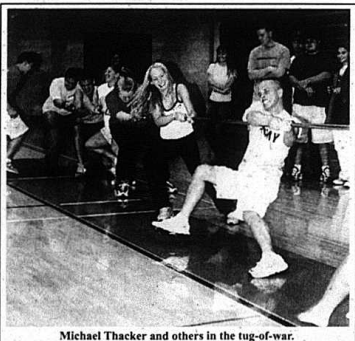
Jeff Cromer in the archery contest.



Colt Swartz competed in the tri-cycle contest.



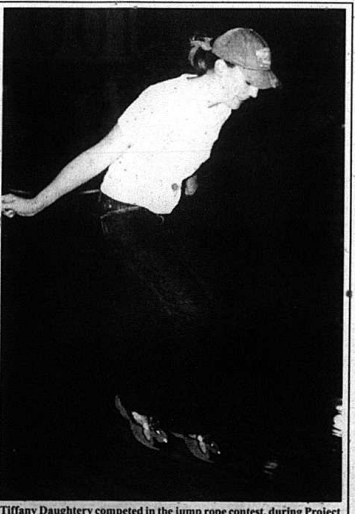
Kevin Miller received Rocket bucks from parent Lawrence Bullock during Project Graduation on Sunday night.



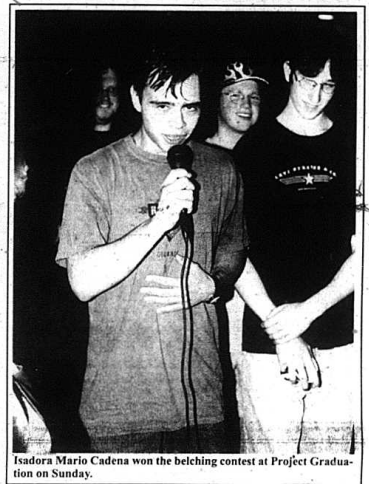
Michael Thacker and others in the tug-of-war.



Deputy Sheriff Bonnie Roark was part of the security team at Project Graduation.



Tiffany Daughtery competed in the jump rope contest, during Project Graduation on Sunday night. About 150 graduates attended the all night party.



Isadora Mario Cadena won the belching contest at Project Graduation on Sunday.

Good Graduation, among other things



Richard Anderkin
Editor
Mount Vernon Signal

This past week several things have taken place in Rockcastle County which have caught my attention.

Graduation ceremonies at the Rockcastle County High School have often been compared to a three ring circus because of the actions of many of those in attendance, which showed a total disrespect for the graduates and their accomplishments.

In times past, graduates and family have become so frustrated by some of the actions of the crowd and the talking that it ruined their entire focus on what should have been a memorial moment in life.

But on Sunday, even with a packed house, the crowd for the most part was extremely well behaved.

You could hear and it seemed that most in attendance paid attention to what was taking place on stage.

The 170 graduates were honored in an appropriate fashion.

Then on Sunday night the annual all-night Project Graduation party was held with all but about 20 graduates in attendance.

The party is a drug and alcohol free party, in which students are treated to great food, numerous prizes, games and cash.

This year's group of parents raised more than \$35,000 for the event, more than any group before them and they put on one show for the graduates.

It was my first time to cover the party and it was obvious why it has been such a success throughout the years.

Those who donate to the event each year should know that their money is going for a very worthwhile cause.

There were prizes such as 32" television sets to DVD players and a Web TV. Each student in attendance also left the party with \$20 cash in hand and had their belly full.

The Rockcastle County High School has experienced an excellent

school year, first qualifying for rewards for their test scores and then accomplishing other numerous feats they should be proud of.

The RCHS Band and Flag Corp, the JROTC, the cheerleading squad, both the girls and boys basketball teams and, of course, the football team, girls track team and basketball team, which all reached the state tournament.

On a totally different subject, it was nice to see a Circuit Judge make a rational decision on the closing of what had been a county road.

That is not to say that Circuit Judges don't usually make rational decisions, but last week Ventry ruled against the county in the Toddie Payne Road issue.

The court had refused to close the portion of the road that runs through Mike and Lori Gates' property, although the road was not passable by car and no one lives on the road except the Gates, who own all of the property - it was just pure stubbornness on the part of the court to take the action they did.

The Judge also ordered the road left open for the family members of the Allen Cemetery, which is near the Gates complex. The Gates have always said they would stop no family members from visiting the gravesites.

Now the court is going to appeal part of the ruling - it is good thing they don't have to pay their own legal fees.

To Late to Classify...

Moving Sale: Antiques, clothes, furniture. Home of Nelson and Ruth Hamilton on Dug Hill Road near Ottawa Baptist Church. 9 to 5 on Friday and Saturday. Rain or shine.

Yard Sale: Ramsey Trailer Park behind FoodWorld. Sat. June 9th. For Sale: 1989 Bass Boogie Pontoon. 18 ft. long. 1989 Fifth wheel camper. Call Loretta Leger at 606-256-4568.

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