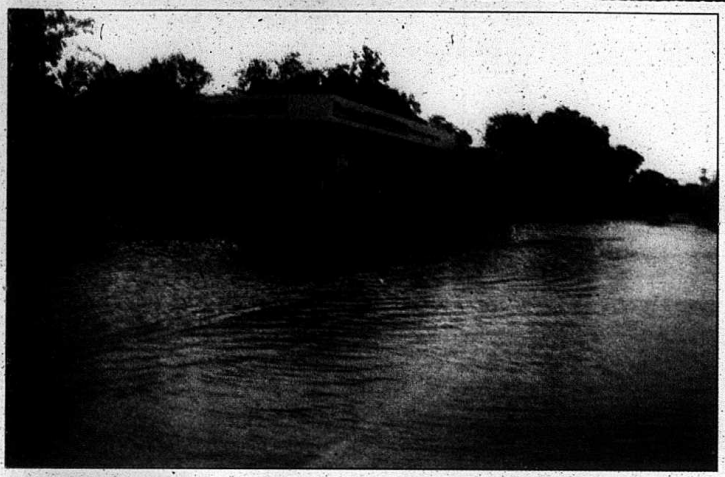
UK - KING LIBRARY
LEXINGTON KY 40506-0001

Rockcastle Wild About Reading B-5

Mount Vernon Signal

Serving Rockcastle County Since 1887

Mount Vernon, Kentucky 40456 - Volume 114 - Number 44 - Ph. (606) 256-2244 - .50 a copy - Thursday, August 9, 2001



Flash flooding caused a lot of damage in the Brodhead area on Friday morning. Rose's One Stop and Adams Feed and Supply were heavily damaged by the flooding. It was estimated that five inches of rain fell in a one hour period.

Roses, Adams Feed damaged

Brodhead area hit hard by flooding

By: Richard Anderkin

The Brodhead area of Rockcastle County was hit hard by flooding last Friday morning when an estimated five inches of rain fell in about an hour.

Rose's One Stop Grocery and Restaurant on Hwy. 150 was closed four days because of the flooding.

Mrs. Bonnie Rose, who owns and operates the store with her husband Luther, said that at one point two feet of water stood in their grocery and restaurant.

The store re-opened on Tuesday, after four days of cleaning up after the flood.

Mrs. Rose said that their restaurant will re-open on Thursday (today).

The flooding at Rose's caught the attention of Lexington television stations and CNN and the Weather Channel also carried stories about the flooding, which featured the flood damage at Roses.

Mrs. Rose would not put a dollar figure on the damage, but said Wednesday that at this point, all of the equipment, including the gas pumps were operating.

However, the Roses lost a lot of inventory in the flood and had no flood insurance.

A building next door to the grocery and owned by the Roses was also damaged by the flooding and clean up on that building had began on Wednesday.

Newland Construction Company was called in to move the mud generated by the flood from Rose's parking lot back into Dix River.

Rockcastle weatherman Bud Cox said that only three inches of rain was recorded at the weather station Friday morning and that there were only a few reports of flooding in the Mt. Vernon area.

Mrs. Rose said that her family would like to thank the many volunteers who helped them clean up after the flood.

"We really appreciate everything everyone has done for us," said Mrs. Rose.

Adams Feed and Supply, which is located at the junction of Hwy. 70 and Hwy. 150 was also heavily damaged by the flooding.

Janet Adams, who owns the feed mill with her husband Kenny said that the mill was not back in full operation until late Tuesday.

The Adams lost a load of corn, damage was done to the grinder and motors at the feed mill and the truck scales which consist of cross ties was completely washed away.

Some of the cross ties washed against a guardrail in front of the feed mill and some of the other tires were found on Bobby Bishiop Sr.'s farm, several hundred yards from the mill.

"We are still estimating what this is going to cost us - but it is going to be several thousands of dollars," Mrs. Adams said.

A tobacco crop being raised by Melvin Harrison along Hwy. 150 was also completely flattened by the flooding.

Rockcastle County Emergency Management Director Bobby Bishop, Jr., said that he estimated that water was as high as two and a half feet above Hwy. 150 at one point.

Bishop said that the rain started falling about 5:15 a.m. and by 7:00

(Cont. to A11)

Local men involved in double fatality

A four-vehicle accident on U.S. 150 east of Stanford Friday night resulted in the death of two Stanford men.

Kentucky State Police said Gerald Burchfield, 44, of Rowland pulled out of a driveway onto U.S 150 near its intersection with KY 1770 and drove west in the eastbound lane in his 1979 Chevrolet pickup truck.

Rockcastle County Middle School teacher Gerald Alexander, 48, of Mt. Vernon was traveling east in a 1982 Chevrolet pickup, pulling a trailer loaded with a farm tractor. Alexander attempted to avoid the Burchfield vehicle but couldn't and the two pickups hit head on, Trooper Bill Collins reported.

The impact caused the tractor to break free from the trailer and it flew out onto the highway, overturned and came to rest in the middle of the road.

A car driven by Jessica Barnett, 19, of Stanford happened along and while unable to stop in time, managed to avoid hitting the wrecked trucks. She was unable to avoid the farm tractor sitting in the middle of the road and hit it head on.

Burchfield was treated at the scene and taken to Fort Logan Hospital in Stanford, where he died from injuries sustained in the wreck. His passenger, Johnny Shane "Hot Rod" Griffin, 23, of Stanford was taken by helicopter to the University of Kentucky Medical Center where he died early Sunday.

Alexander and his passenger, Ira Napier, 49, of Mt. Vernon, was not injured. Napier is Alexander's brother-in-law and works as a maintenance man at Mt. Vernon Elemen-

(Cont. to A11)

Patton here

Kentucky Governor Paul Patton will visit Rockcastle County next Wednesday.

Patton will be on the third floor of the Rockcastle County Courthouse at the new Technology Center from 1:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.

According to Patton's office he will discuss a variety of issues during his stop.

The public is invited to attend.

Rescue workers and Rockcastle EMT's load the body of Ernest Smith, 39, of Livingston into an ambulance on Tuesday morning after he was injured in a logging accident near Burr. Smith was treated at Rockcastle Hospital and transferred to the University of Kentucky Medical Center with multiple injuries.

Ryan and Jacob Bullock, sons of Josh and Tonya Bullock of Mt. Vernon, were enjoying the rides at the Little World's Fair in Brodhead on Tuesday night. The annual fair will run through Saturday.

Eubank man pleads guilty to B&L Grocery robbery last March

A Eubank man who was accused of robbing B & L Grocery at gunpoint in March has entered a guilty plea.

Commonwealth Attorney Eddy Montgomery announced Monday that Heath D. Toney, 32, of Clear Fork Branch Road, Eubank entered a plea of guilty to the offenses of Criminal Attempt to Commit Robbery, First Degree and Robbery, First Degree.

The defendant's unusual attempt to disguise his identity by covering his entire face except for small slits for his eyes and mouth with duct tape earned him the nickname "The Duct Tape Bandit," according to Montgomery.

According to Montgomery and Assistant David Dalton who prosecuted the case, on March 16th, Toney went to McDonald's Restaurant on Hwy. 27 in Somerset wrapped in duct tape approached employees outside of the back door of the McDonal's, he banished a gun and told them at he was going to rob the store. He then instructed the employees to open the back door, but ran when the door was actually opened.

A short time later that same day, Rockcastle County 911 received a call of a robbery at B&L Grocery located at the intersection of Ky. 70 and Ky. 618 approximately nine miles west of Mt. Vernon.

The defendant, again with his face covered in duct tape entered the store while armed with a handgun and demanded money. The clerk gave him the money and he fled.

The store owner, Bobby Kirby chased the defendant and was able to detain him until police arrived and took him into custody.

Montgomery has recommended a sentence of eleven years for Toney.

Jury recommends 15 year sentence

After a two day trial in Rockcastle Circuit Court a Sciene Hill man has been found guilty of breaking into a Rockcastle County storage unit, and the jury recommended an unheard sentence of 15 years.

Rockcastle and Pulaski County Commonwealth Attorney Eddy Montgomery said that Glenn Miller, 38, was found guilty of burglary and being a persistent felony offender,

(Cont. to A11)