



Rider Tom wins at EKV - Pg. A7

Mount Vernon Signal

Serving Rockcastle County Since 1887

Indictments returned by Rockcastle Grand Jury against six

Six Rockcastle Counties were indicted by a Rockcastle County Grand Jury on charges ranging from receiving stolen property to trafficking in a controlled substance.

Phillip Mullins, 23, of Brodhead was indicted for receiving stolen property, on or about March 21, 2003, over \$300 allegedly belonging to Vicki Perkins.

Anthony Frederick, 41, Rt. 5, Mt. Vernon, was indicted for trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree. The indictment charges that on or about August 22, 2002, Frederick knowingly and unlawfully trafficked in a controlled substance by possessing Oxycotin and Tylox, with the intent to distribute.

Lee Bradley Hammond of Rt. 2, Livingston, 49, was indicted on three charges - trafficking in a controlled substance with intent to distribute, operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, second offense and driving on a suspended or revoked license.

All the offenses allegedly occurred on or about July 16, 2003 in Rockcastle County.

Jeremy Holt, 27, of Mt. Vernon was indicted for two offenses - robbery, first degree and terrorist threatening.

On or about November 10, 2001, Holt allegedly used physical force and caused physical injury with a deadly weapon upon James Price while in the course of committing a theft at Burr Shell. Also on that date, Holt allegedly threatened to kill Jason McCowan.

Flagrant non-support was the charge of the indictment against David Denny, 31, of Rt. 5, Mt. Vernon. Denny is charged with failing to provide for minor children in the amount of \$12,987.30 from January 30, 1997 through April 7, 2003.

Jack McCormick, 27, of Williams St. in Mt. Vernon was indicted for unlawful possession of a methamphetamine precursor, first offense and receiving stolen property over \$300, belonging to Earl Walls.

The offenses allegedly occurred on or about December 4, 2002.

New City Commissioner for Livingston

Ralph Allen Newcomb was recently appointed a Commissioner for the City of Livingston.

Mr. Newcomb was appointed to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Jason Medley who has moved his residence to Brodhead.

National Day of Prayer Thursday, May 1

The Rockcastle Ministerial Association will be observing the National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 1, 2003. They would like to invite everyone to meet at the courthouse at noon for a time of prayer and spiritual encouragement.

County Judge Executive Buzz Carlotts will be the speaker.

Good Friday service at RCHS

The Rockcastle Ministerial Association is sponsoring a Good Friday Service on Friday, April 18 at 7 p.m. at the Rockcastle High School auditorium.

Mike Bryant, pastor of Faith Harvest Fellowship, will be the speaker and the Faith Harvest Fellowship Band will lead the worship service.

Salute begins

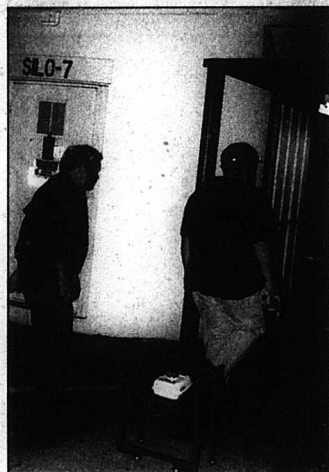
This week the Signal is beginning a salute to the local men and women currently serving in the armed services.

Anyone wishing to have a serviceman/woman recognized in the coming weeks of the newspaper can simply drop off a picture and some information at our Main Street Mt. Vernon location or mail the picture and information to Mount Vernon Signal, P.O. Box 185, Mt. Vernon.

This week's photos are on page A-9.



Mt. Vernon firefighter Bryan Hansel, right, talks with firefighters Steve Griffin, left, and Kevin Gibson, center, outside of Mt. Vernon Plastics Tuesday night. No one was injured in a fire at the plant. The plant was back in operation Wednesday afternoon.



Shown at right is Doug Brock, Jr., a manager at Mt. Vernon Plastics as he enters the factory Tuesday night to help assess the damage to the plant, caused by a fire. The fire happened around 8:30 p.m.

No one injured in fire at Plastics

No one was injured in a fire at Mt. Vernon Plastics Tuesday night. Plastics is located in Rockcastle Industrial Park number one, on Hwy. 150 in Mt. Vernon.

According to Mt. Vernon firefighter Bryan Hansel, a hydraulic hose on one of the machines at the plant, apparently came loose and a heating unit caused an explosion, around 8:30 p.m.

Hansel said that there was fire on the floor and in the ceiling, but that the sprinkler system in the plant put out the fire on the floor before firefighters arrived on the scene.

Hansel said that firefighters had to extinguish the blaze in the ceiling and that the fire itself caused little damage, although the plant did sustain smoke and water damage.

Doug Macmerdo, operations manager at the plant said that he was very pleased with the reaction of his employees.

"Our managers did an excellent job getting the employees out of the plant and getting the power off," he said.

"We also appreciate the quick response by the fire department, they did a great job," he added.

Macmerdo said that the machine, that caught on fire would be repaired and that the plant was back in partial operation by 3 p.m. Wednesday.

The operations manager said that the plant was back to 75 percent production by 7 p.m. Wednesday. Plastics has two production lines and 130 employees. They make deli style plastic containers and lids and containers for restaurants.

Charges against wife dropped Thompson pleads guilty in drug case

Larry Gene Thompson, Sr., the leader of an alleged cocaine drug ring that centered in Rockcastle, Garrard and Lincoln counties and reached from Texas to Kentucky, pleaded guilty to three drug-related counts and two forfeiture counts last week in U.S. District Court.

Thompson, Sr., a former Mt. Vernon police officer, however, would not admit that his wife, Greta McClure Thompson, who was also charged in the case, was involved in distributing more than 500 grams of cocaine, one of the charges to which he pleaded guilty.

Greta Thompson, 47, and another defendant, Kathy Owens of Somerset, appeared in federal court on Monday.

All charges against Thompson were dismissed, although she agreed to give up any interest she had in her and her husband's property.

Owens pled guilty to possession of cocaine for personal use and she will be sentenced at a later date.

Thompson, Sr., 49, of Brodhead also pleaded guilty to possession and distributing more than five kilograms of cocaine, using a telephone to facilitate the commission of a drug felony offense and conspiracy to launder money.

He will be required to forfeit property that was used to commit and to facilitate the drug transactions as well as his interest in a total of \$2 million that the United States estimates the defendants received from drug trafficking.

As part of the forfeiture requirements, horses, mules and farm equipment, belonging to Thompson, Sr. and Joshua McClure of McKinney, also a defendant in the case, were sold recently in Madison County, resulting in a profit of more than \$200,000.

Also, in February, a check from Madison Livestock Sales reported 67 cows and calves and four horses that belonged to Thompson, Sr. and Greta Thompson were sold, resulting in more than \$26,378 put into the United States' registry account.

As part of a plea agreement, the United States will recommend Thompson, Sr. be sentenced to 10 years in jail, according to Assistant U.S. Attorney Ron L. Walker, Jr.

"We will recommend that at sentencing based upon if he continues to cooperate," Walker said.

Thompson, Sr. will not be able to appeal his sentence and his rights to vote, hold public office, own a firearm and serve on a jury will be taken away, Judy Karl Forester said Friday.

Sentencing is set for 9 a.m., July 3rd.

Jeffrey K. Wethington, Sr., another defendant in the case is scheduled for a trial by jury. The trial for Wethington, Sr. is scheduled for 9 a.m. June 2.

Thompson, Sr., Wethington, Sr., Larry Gene Thompson, Jr. and Salvador De Jesus Reyes-Munoz of Brodhead, both of whom have pleaded guilty, and Ralph T. Brock of Lancaster are all currently in custody.

Brock was released on bond in December but was remanded to custody of the United States Marshal on March 26 after a urine test revealed the use of controlled substances, according to Walker.

Travis Wethington of Liberty and Robert "Bobby" Durham of Stanford recently requested to be rearranged to enter plea agreements with the U.S.

Roberto Hernandez of Texas is scheduled to enter a guilty plea Friday.

Band does well at Disney

The Rockcastle County High School Band gave their premier performance at Walt Disney World's Epcot Center in Orlando, Florida last week. The group was given the chance to "Perform for the World" on the Epcot Future World stage as part of Walt Disney's Magic Music Days program.

Partnered with the Music Educator's National Conference, Disney provides performance opportunities.

Four plead guilty and two sentenced in Circuit Court

Eddy F. Montgomery, Commonwealth's Attorney for Rockcastle, Lincoln and Pulaski, announced last week that four people entered pleas of guilty and two people had their probation revoked for violating the terms.

According to Montgomery, Michael Saylor, 22, and Stevie Lamb, 26, both of Mt. Vernon had their probation revoked. Saylor was sentenced to a period of two years' imprisonment. Saylor was initially sentenced to a period of two years' probation on July 29, 2002. Saylor admitted he had violated the terms of his probation. Lamb was sentenced to a period of three years' imprisonment. Lamb was initially sentenced to a period of three years' probation on December 14, 2001.

Danny Buttle, 34, of Mt. Vernon entered a plea of guilty to the offense of two counts of Manufacturing

Methamphetamine, 4 counts of Receiving Stolen Property over \$300, Assault, fourth degree, Custodial Interference and Unlawful Imprisonment. Montgomery's office has recommended a sentence of ten years' imprisonment.

A sentence of ten years' imprisonment has been recommended for Rocky Mink, 20, of Mt. Vernon who entered a plea of guilty to the offense of three counts of Arson, third degree. Terry Riley, 32, of Mt. Vernon, entered a plea of guilty to the offense of DUI, 1st, Fleeing and Evading Police, first degree and Criminal Mischief, third degree. Montgomery's office has recommended a sentence of two years' imprisonment.

Doug Lewis, 52, of Mt. Vernon, entered a plea of guilty to the offense of DUI, 4th. Montgomery's office has recommended a sentence of one year imprisonment.

Bob and Eddie Fields presented Ken Chafin Award for Excellence

Bob and Eddie Fields, Directors of the RCHS Colorguard, presented the Ken Chafin Award for Excellence in Ministry at a banquet held April 8th, during the Georgetown College Pastors Conference.

Dr. Ken Chafin was a scholar, a preacher, a professor and later in life, a poet. The award, given annually for Courage and Creativity in Ministry,

was presented to the Fields by Dr. Dwight Moody, Dean of the Chapel. "Our discipleship from the age of conversion was rooted and grounded in God's Word as fleshed out by dedicated, attractive and hospitable mentors," the Fields said in a printed statement. "Our education at Georgetown College, Georgetown, Kentucky, was taught by professors



Members of the RCHS Colorguard are shown above, at the American All-Star Music Festival in Orlando. Back row, from left: Mourine Ramsey, Kassara Smith, Amanda Blankenship, Nikki Mullins, Ginny Campbell and Allison Hedrick. Front row, Allison Carter, Colorguard Captain Casey Ramsey, Field Commander Johnathon Baldwin, Colorguard Captain Charli Felner and Samantha Anglin.