

Rockets set to defend regional titles in 2003

As the 2003 season opens it may be easy for Rocket fans to focus more on what they lost in the 2002 season rather than what the Rockets have in their arsenal this upcoming season.

After losing a running back that recieved 3A player of the year honors a year ago, a quarterback that threw for more yards and touchdowns than anyone in the school's history, and two three-year starters off of the line, it's easy for Rocket fans to be somewhat skeptical of the year to come.

However, Rocket head coach Tom Larkey feels pretty good about his returning starters and the youngsters that are stepping up to feel some big shoes, shoes that led Rocket fans to the 'Ville two consecutive years.

Three starters return off of a 2002 offense loaded with

veterans. With the departure of these veterans, Coach Tom Larkey says that he will rely a lot on his line and returning starters Jason Leger and Nick Thomas to open some big holes for the Rocket offense.

Leger, who is being recruited by a number of big time Division I-A schools has already received a scholarship offer from the University of Kentucky and new head coach Rich Brooks. Leger is the undisputable leader of this Rocket team as he will enter his fourth year of varsity action.

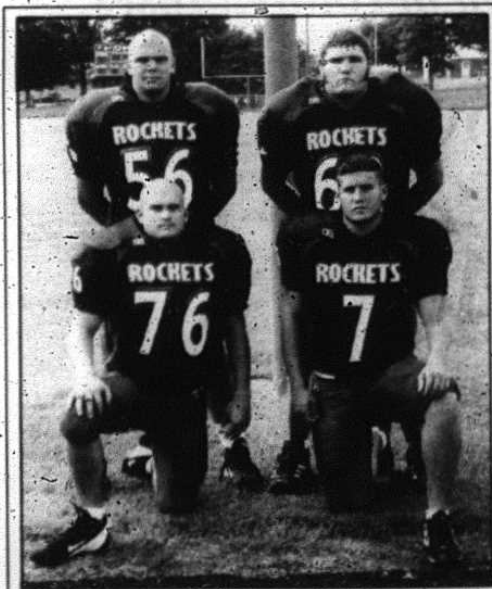
Nick Thomas will switch positions in the upcoming year as he will move from tackle to guard so that he and Leger will play on the same side of the offensive line.

Taking over the reigns for Aaron Anderkin at quarter-

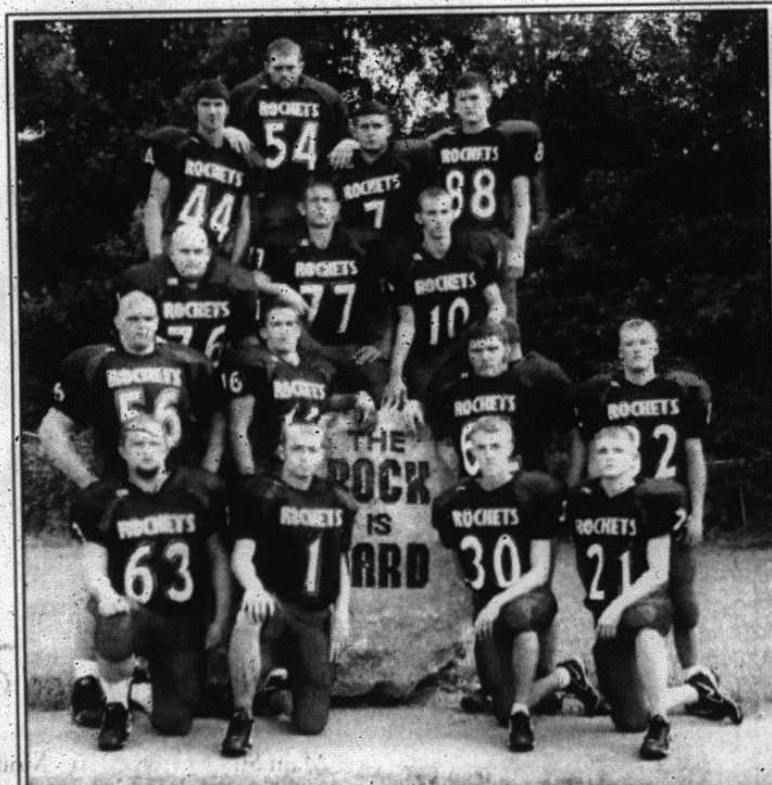
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The Rockcastle County High School Rocket football coaching staff is shown above, front row, from left: assistant Tony Saylor, head coach Tom Larkey and assistant Chris Larkey. Second row, from left: J.D. Bussell, Scott Parkey, Dackery Larkey and defensive coordinator Adam Coleman. Back row, Josh Martin and Adam Childress. Tom Larkey is in his 19th year as head coach and the ROCK and he, along with Saylor, who has been with him since taking over the program have a record of 167 and 49. All of Larkey's assistant coaches, other than Saylor, played for him.



The Captains of 2003 for the Rockcastle County Rocket football team is shown above. On the front row, from left, Blake Lovell and Devon Bussell. Back row, from left, Jason Leger and Nick Thomas.



The senior class of 2003 will try and win a fourth straight regional championship this season. They are pictured above, front from left: Brandon Campbell, Shane Lynch, Jameson Cable and Brandon Reams. Second row, from left: Jason Leger, Cody Alexander, Nick Thomas, and Billy Bales. Third row, from left: Blake Lovell, James Isaacs and Caleb Blair. Back row, from left: Shay Mullins, Brad Wesley, Devon Bussell and Josh Hayes.