Mount Vernon Signal

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Volleyball Wins PC Tourney
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Livingston Homecoming this week end

This year's Livingston Homecoming will honor the churches in the county and particularly the oldest church. Church ministers will serve as Grand Marshal's for the parade.

The week end begins with a gospel singing Friday night, beginning at 7 o'clock.

On Saturday, events kick off with a pancake breakfast, followed by the parade at 11 a.m. (line up at 10 a.m. at White Star). At 12:30 p.m. will be the recognition program for the local churches, ministers and the oldest church in the county followed by a puppet show put on by Northside Baptist Church and a WWF wrestlers exhibition. Also at 2 p.m. there will be a horseshoe pitching contest across from Livingston Market.

The Homecoming queen contest will be held at 3 p.m. and the pretty baby contest will follow at 4 p.m.

A grade school basketball game will be held at 5:30 and the Old Timers Basketball Game will be at 7 p.m. with both games being held in the Livingston Community Center -- old school gym. Bluegrass music, beginning at 8 p.m., will be the final event for Saturday.

Sunday's noon devotional will be led by Bro. Gary Parker and, at 1 p.m., an awards ceremony will be held to honor Martha Sue Eversole as Citizen of the Year.

An auction will be held at 3 p.m. and the Rock Band Cross Cut will play until 10 p.m. when fireworks will be held and then Cross Cut will resume playing.

Local man charged for sell of Xanax

A Mt. Vernon man was arrested last Wednesday and charged with four counts involving illegal drugs.

Gerald D. "Gene" Mink, 45, of Sand Springs was arrested by Barry Adams, a member of the federal government's Drug Task and a Rockcastle County Deputy Sheriff.

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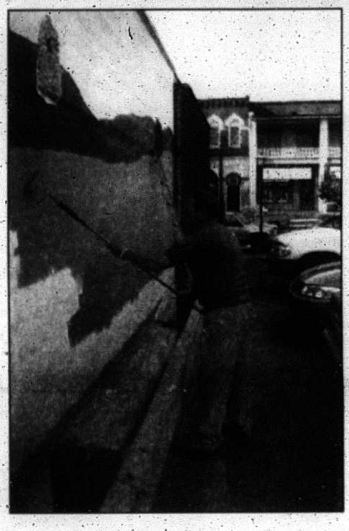

Troy Hansel, of Heritage Crafts in Mt. Vernon, is shown at left working on a mural being painted on the side of Young's Pharmacy. The mural will depict the role our community played as part of the Wilderness Trail. Hansel has spent hours scraping and filling to prepare the wall for the painting and doing the actual painting itself. This Thursday and Friday, members of the RCHS art class will be joining Troy to help complete the painting. Rockcastle Kiwanis Club is donating the paint and supplies to the project and the space was graciously donated by Joe Young and Dr. G.W. Griffith.

Madison man found dead at Burnt Ridge

After thirteen hours, rescue volunteers found a Madison County man dead at Burnt Ridge on Tuesday afternoon.

Charles Smith, 54, of Richmond was found dead around 1 p.m. after about 50 volunteers searched the rough terrain in the Burnt Ridge area of Rockcastle County which is in the northern part of the county.

According to Mt. Vernon firefighter Bryan Hansel, family members notified authorities around midnight on Monday, after Smith did not return to the designated site where he was supposed to be picked up.

Hansel said that Smith was hunting Ginseng, something that he did often and he would normally spend a twelve hour period doing so.

Hansel said Smith was dropped off at 8 a.m. and he was to be picked up at 8 p.m.

According to family members Smith had had five heart attacks in his lifetime.

Rockcastle County Coroner Bill Dowell said because of the heat on Monday and the fact that Smith was apparently trying to walk up a steep hillside, he probably died from another heart attack, but Dowell still ordered an autopsy in the case.

Smith was found by a search dog from the K-9 unit in Georgetown.

Ginseng roots are used in the pharmaceutical field.

Rockets open 2003 campaign with win

By: Chad Hensley

The much anticipated beginning to the 2003 Rockcastle County Rockets football season came together without a hitch Saturday as the 3A preseason #6 Rockets defeated the 2A preseason #12 LaRue County Hawks 21-8 in the Cumberland Falls Pigskin Classic at Corbin High School despite looking very shaky beginning the game.

Led on offense by junior running back Max Saylor, who is coming back from an ankle injury that sidelined him for most of the 2002 season and all of spring practice.

The Rockets controlled the football and the clock for most of the game.

Rockcastle County out gained LaRue County 420 to -27 yards on the ground. The Rockets also won the first down battle as they had 19 with 17 of those coming by way of the rush, to the Hawks five as the result of their passing game.

The Rocket defense, which is led by All-State defensive and offensive lineman Jason Leger, senior defensive and offensive tackle Nick Thomas, and junior linebacker Chris Croucher, was up to the challenge of the coaching staff as they limited the Hawks to seven plays and twenty yards in their first two series of the game. The defense also had four quarterback sacks and twelve tackles for zero or negative yardage.

The Rockets couldn't convert on their first series but they finally got on the scoreboard on their next serious behind a 38 yard field goal from senior Devin Taylor. That field goal was set up by long runs from sophomore quarterback Matthew Burkhart

Support group for Home School students, parents formed

By: Richard Anderkin

Home School is not for everyone but it is for some students, according to a group of Rockcastle County parents and grandparents.

The group, who has dedicated themselves to educating their own children recently formed a home school support group.

The small group meets once a month to encourage each other in their chosen task of teaching their children how to read, write and do arithmatic. The children are also taught science and geography, as well as other subjects.

All members of the group on Friday indicated that a religious atmosphere for their children was the main reason for taking on the responsibility of educating them themselves.

"It is nice to start off the school day with a prayer and end it with a prayer," said Paula Day, who home schools both of her children.

The group referred to four verses in the Bible in Deuteronomy chapter six. The verses, six through nine, read: "'Memorize his laws 'and tell them to your children over and over again. Talk about them all the time, whether you are at home or walking along the road or going to bed at night, or getting up in the morning. Write down copies tie them to your wrists and foreheads to help you obey them. 'Write these laws on the door frames of your homes and on your town gates."

None of those in attendance on Friday had anything bad to say about the Rockcastle County School system and at least one parent involved in the group home schools a child and has another who attends one of the local public schools.

Mrs. Lisa Ross, who home schooled all three of her now grown children said that all three made high enough on the ACT test to get into college, which was one of her concerns, while teaching them herself.

"You have to get help sometimes with subjects that you may not have the most knowledge of and you have to be disciplined enough to make sure your children do their work and put in the required time," Mrs. Ross said.

In Kentucky, home schooled students are required to register with the local school system in the county where they live and they are required to attend school 175 days a year for six hours each day.

Currently there are 112 students who are home schooled in Rockcastle County.

That number has increased over the last five years.

"Home school students are not required to go along with the same school calendar that public schools do," said Rose Brown who is Director of Student Services for the Rockcastle County School System.

"The only requirement of parents who home school their children is to report their attendance to the central office," Mrs. Brown said.

Mrs. Brown says she has encouraged the parents of home school students to organize such a support group and is glad to see that it has

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Shown above children, parents and grandparents who have begun a Home School support group, which met last Friday. Sitting on the steps are Virginia Case, Isaac Day, Ashlee Case and Lindsey Day. Standing from left: Jennifer Case, Kathy Feuring, Paula Day, Kathy Bretz, Justin Bretz and Matthew Feuring.

Vet rep here Tues., Sept. 2

You may be entitled to receive benefits from the Federal Administration that may include compensation for disease or injury received while in service, pension for wartime veterans, survivor benefits or assistance with medical expenses.

Rockcastle County receives over two million dollars per year from veteran benefits. The Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs provides counseling and assistance to veterans and dependents in filing claims for state and federal veterans benefits.

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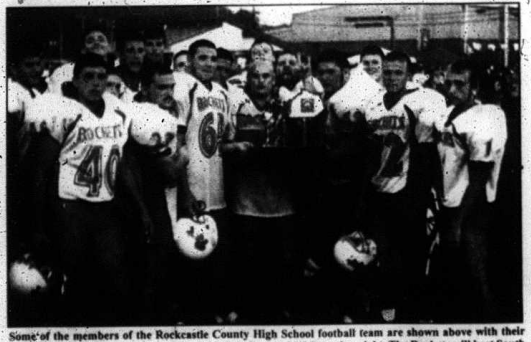

Some of the members of the Rockcastle County High School football team are shown above with their championship trophy, after they defeated Larue County 21-8 Saturday night. The Rockets will host South Laurel on Friday night in their season opener.