

RCHS girls volleyball team wins Pulaski County Invitational

It was a successful trip to Somerset for the RCHS Lady Rockets volleyball team as they came home with the first place trophy from the 15 team Pulaski County Invitational Tournament. Last year, the girls were runners-up in the same tournament.

During their run to the finals, the Rockets won six matches, losing only to Carroll County in the preliminaries. Carroll County was vanquished by Whitley Co. in the first round of the single-elimination tournament.

In the first game Friday night, the Rockets got rolling with 25-21 and 25-12 wins over McCreary Central. In that match, Allison Anderkin had eight service winners and four aces; Jenna Owens got 7 points on serve with two aces and also added a kill; Rachel Childress served up three service winners, one ace and got a kill on defense; Stephanie Price got two points on serve with one ace and tied with Jessica Riddle for most kills in the game at three; Jennie Durham had a service winner and an ace; Courtney Parsons served up two winners with one ace and was credited with a kill; Trisha Beth Lawwell got two points on serve and one ace and Krystal Parsons had a service winner.

The Rockets day began early Saturday with a 9 a.m. match against Adair County.

Adair got first serve but Childress scored, first on their serve for the Rockets with a kill. But, the Rockets had a hard time waking up, having to go to 27-25 to win the first game. The second game was easier, with the Rockets winning 25-16.

Anderkin led in serving with 10 winners, four of them aces and added two kills on defense. K. Parsons served up six winners, including two aces; Owens got three serves with one ace; Childress served two winners with one ace and Price served up an ace. Price led in defensive kills with seven; Childress got three; Riddle two and C. Parsons and Amanda Rogers were credited with one each.

With this win, the Rockets won their pool and gave themselves a No. 1 seed in the tournament. However, they ended preliminary play on a sour note, losing to Carroll Co. 25-14 and 15-12, taking only the middle game of the match.

The Rockets first game of the tournament play was against Clinton County and they were no match with the Rockets' 25-5 and 25-8.

Owens took service honors in the match with 19, including five aces; Anderkin got nine with four aces; K. Parsons was three and one; Childress got two service winners. C. Parsons served up an ace and Megan Anderkin rounded out the service scoring with a winner.

Price and Riddle tied for kills with five each and Anderkin and Childress were credited with one kill each.

Rockets vs. Whitley
Against their next opponent, Whitley Co., it looked as though the Rockets might make an early exit from the tourney as they won only nine points on serve in the first win and giving up seven points on their serves in the 25-19 loss. The second game was the last tie coming at 19 all before K. Parsons served four straight service winners to make it 24-19. The final point of the game came for the Rockets on an out-of-bounds serve by Whitley. In the final game, the Rockets jumped out to a 14-2 lead before letting Whitley come back 14-8 before Price got a kill for the final 15-8.

Childress took service honors in the match with 10 and two aces; Anderkin was nine and three; K. Parsons got eight winners with three aces; Price was four and one and Owens had two winners on serve.

Riddle led in kills with 10 and two blocks. Price had eight kills and a block; Childress got six kills. Anderkin and Owens had three each and C. Parsons accounted for two kills.

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Rockets vs. Wayne Co.

The semi-final game featured the Rockets against a hot Wayne County team but the Rockets prevailed 25-23 and 25-20.

Childress had 10 service points, including three aces; Anderkin was nine and two; K. Parsons got three and one and Price and Jennie Durham each had two service winners, including an ace for Durham.

Riddle again led in kills with seven and a block; Price had five kills; Owens three; Anderkin and Childress got two each with a block for Childress and C. Parsons and Rogers each had a kill.

Championship Match Rockets vs. Russell Co.

The championship match pitted the Rockets against the Russell County Lakers and the Rockets won the match 25-18 and 25-23.

The first game was tied six times, the last time at 15 all before the Rockets took over for the 25-18 win.

The Rockets had played three straight matches, two hotly-contested, and fatigue set in toward the end of their second game of the championship. After leading 21-15, the Rockets allowed Russell County to tie the game at 23 all before the Rockets scored on a Laker's out-of-bounds serve and finished the game on a winning serve by Childress for the 25-23 win.

Childress again took service honors with seven and three aces; Anderkin had six winners; Price 5 and an ace; K. Parsons three and Owens 1.

Riddle led the team in kills with 5 (28 for the seeded tournament); Price and C. Parsons each had three kills (Price got 26 in the tournament) and Childress and Anderkin were credited with two each.

The Rockets next match will be at Clay County on Thursday night. A round-up of the Rockets' regular season matches will appear in next week's Signal.



The varsity RCHS girls volleyball team took home the first place trophy from Pulaski County's fifteen team invitational held last week end. The girls won seven of eight matches and downed Russell County in the championship game. In the photo are, front row: Jessica Riddle, Second row: Allison Anderkin, Jenna Owens, Courtney Parsons, Krystal Parsons and Stephanie Price. Back row: Coach Larry Lee, Amanda Rogers, Megan Anderkin, Rachel Childress, Trisha Beth Lawwell, Sarah Mullins, Jenni Durham and Asst. Coach Bill Varnell.

The Racing Reporter

Deliver me from Nascar's new theology

By Gerald Hodges
The Racing Reporter

Fans, sponsors, and teams have tried for over 50 years to get NASCAR racing accepted throughout the country as a great family sports diversion—not the old "red-neck racing" it used to be known for.

On a recent television program, Mary Scully, editor of Racing Milestones, said, "The old-southern boy type of racing that used to characterize NASCAR racing is gone and I'm glad of it."

Lord, I must have missed a turn in the road, because I'm on a different elevator.

Growing up on grits, biscuits, cornbread, turnip greens, and an occasional pork chop, I thought I was very fortunate to be able to fish in the summertime and roam the woods in the fall and winter in search of small game with a hunting dog.

As I grew older and learned Southern Baptist theology, I discovered I wasn't supposed to do a lot of things that were enjoyable. And I learned this present life was, anything like the blissful one I that would be given me in the future.

There is nothing new about drivers fighting or attempting to wreck a competitor during a race. Dale Earnhardt did it to perfection, and his fans loved it when he took out another driver near the finish line. It's just a competitive spirit connected with our emotions. It's there and it will always be there.

In a recent interview, Tony Stewart, the defending champion, said, "It just isn't worth it to mouth off or express your opinion." Later, Stewart has kept his mouth shut, but he also hasn't done well in races.

Maybe by suppressing his emotions, he's also suppressed some of his other skills and talents.

Instead of using personal driving skills during a race, NASCAR wants teams to place more emphasis on increased technology, fuel mileage, specialized personnel and fast pit stops.

That's all great, but the organization was built on individuality, and the reason all the millions of fans have switched to NASCAR is because of that image.

The rich, famous and yuppie-types have joined the legions of prior

NASCAR fans because they saw something they liked.

How long will new fans continue to switch to something that no longer holds their emotions? And how long will the older fans hang out with NASCAR when Jimmy Spencer can no longer be called, "Mr. Excitement?"

If cars can't bang into each other, and drivers aren't allowed to express their emotions, then why would anyone want to watch?

I once had a sports editor tell me that watching cars go around in a circle was the silliest thing he had ever seen. But he went on to say that, (E)he drivers are what really makes the sport worth watching.

If the drivers are muzzled and refrained from throwing a punch, speaking out or even uttering a (E)cus, woul or two on television, why would anyone want to watch it? Except to maybe find out what the advertisers have to say.

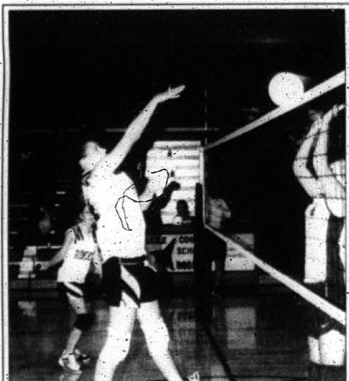
I know the world is changing and by NASCAR. But I've also rejected the religious theology that says the redeemed are just going to sit around in a place made of gold, sing litanies to the snowy white angels play their harps, and attend a constant prayer meeting.

If that is what the real heaven is like, that place down south is better suited for me.

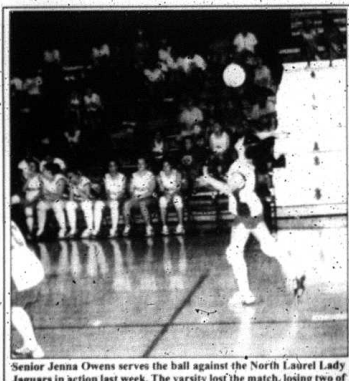
Napier named to Selective Service Board

Charles E. Napier has been nominated to President Bush as a member of Local Board of Rockcastle County for training and service with the Selective Service System.

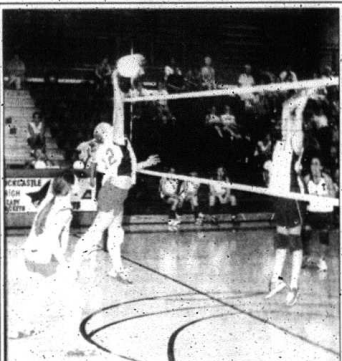
Napier, a long-time employee of the Rockcastle County Board of Education, presently serves as Migrant Advocate.



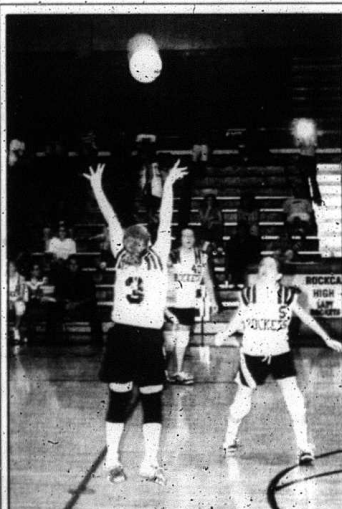
Sophomore Megan Anderkin spikes the ball during the RCHS Jayvee volleyball team's match against North Laurel last week. The girls won the first game 21-14 but then lost the second and third games 22-20 and 15-7.



Senior Jenna Owens serves the ball against the North Laurel Lady Jaguars in action last week. The varsity lost the match, losing two of the three games for their first regular season loss.



Senior Stephanie Price goes for a kill against North Laurel last Tuesday night. The varsity lost the match, taking only the middle game.



Jessica Robinson sets the ball for Ashley Mist during Jayvee action against North Laurel last Thursday night. Also in the photo is Danielle Arnold.



Members of the 2003 RCHS Golf Team are shown in the above photo. They are, front row, from left: Asst. Coach Brent Asher, Jordan Cash, Matthew Silcox and Brent Clontz. Back row: Asst. Coach Ken Hopkins, Aaron Cash, Ronnie Lee McClure and Coach Jessie Mahaffey. The team beat out South Laurel in a sudden death playoff for the win in their home tournament.

L.A.W. program instituted by Sheriff's Dept. and school system

Rockcastle County Sheriff Darrell Doan, Charlie Napier, Special Deputy for drug education and Rosalind Brown, drug education coordinator for Rockcastle County Schools, have recently implemented L.A.W. ("Let's All Work Together"), a program to help education our children in making the right choices concerning drugs and substance abuse.

With the help of community sponsors, drug education materials is being placed in the hands of all schools, including the third, eighth and tenth grades. Sponsors in the program include: Econo Lodge, Community Trust Bank, Integrity Mold & Die LTD, Perry's Auto Body, Dowell and Martin Funeral Home, Citizens Bank, Food World, KFC, Wendy's,

Cingo, Mt. Vernon Plastics, Shoprite/IGA of Broadhead and Town and Country Chevron.

Each school will have special community guests to speak to students on the pros and cons of drugs and substance abuse. Anthony Coffey has plans to offer a community-awareness program through 21st Century at the middle school. This program will be announced by the Mt. Vernon Signal and WRVK and the school newsletter. Please be watching for these community-based programs.

The MADD program will also be brought to RCMS and RCHS students. This will give parents a chance to be a part of this community-wide effort.

FOR SALE
Registered Angus bull, 2 1/2 years old. Joe Clontz, 256-3623 or 256-9364.

Classified Deadline is Noon Tuesday