

Warriors fight hard but lose Rockets pull out 14-0 victory Friday

By: Richard Anderkin

There are some football programs in the state of Kentucky that are respected and even feared. When they take the field the other opponent knows they are in for a fight.

And tradition wins a lot of games and players in a respected program, play harder in most cases and expect to leave the field with a win.

Southwestern Palatka County is certainly one of those teams who respect the ROCK and although they put up a good fight and held the ROCK to just 180 yards of offense on Friday night, they will go to the showers with a 14-0 loss.

On the flip side of the coin, Rocket defensive coordinator Adam Coleman's unit held Southwestern to just 88 yards, all gained on the ground.

In a nutshell, Friday night's contest was a defensive battle.

At half-time the score was tied at 0.

But the Rockets picked up two scores in the second half, one on a rush by Senior Devin Taylor and the other on a recovered blocked punt in the end zone by Junior Josh Bueche.

"I'm extremely proud of our defense, who's shutdown a very good team. Although Southwestern is winless this season they will still be a contender for their district championship," said Rocket head coach Tom Larkey.

"They have played possibly the toughest schedule in the state so far this year and they have made a lot of turnovers," Larkey said.

On Friday night the Warriors fumbled the ball twice and the Rockets blocked a punt, which was good for one of their scores.

An indication of how close the game was throughout, the Rockets had possession of the football 24 minutes and 43 seconds. The Warriors had it 23 minutes and 17 seconds.

The Rockets picked up seven first downs and the Warriors had six.

The Rockets were penalized eight times for 78 yards in the War-

riors had five penalties for 28 yards. The ROCK's average time of possession of the football was two minutes and 28 seconds.

Southwestern's average time of possession was one minute and 56 seconds.

Middle linebacker Chris Croucher turned in his best performance ever as a Rocket, picking up 21 tackles and assists on the night.

"Chris did a great job doing what we asked him to do and our defensive line did their job as well so he could be in the right spot at the right time," Coleman said.

The Rocket's division one college prospect, Jason Eger, also turned in a great performance on defense with 14 tackles and assists and he also recovered a Warrior fumble.

Senior Nick Thomas also had a stellar performance with eight tackles and assists and he recovered the other Warrior fumble.

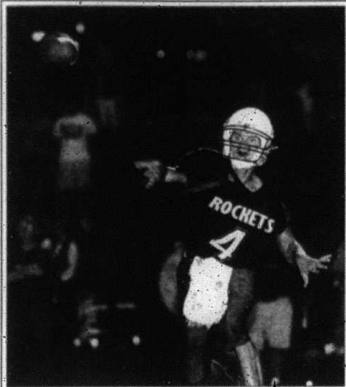
Max Saylor had nine tackles and assists, Blake Jovell picked up three. Brandon Campbell had five, Faye Graham had five, Devon Buesel had five, Ricky Sandusky, 6, Derreck Hurst, 3, Caleb Blair, 7 and Taylor, 2.

Offensively, Rocket's quarterback Matthew Burkhardt was three for ten passing for 31 yards. He threw one interception and he also caught a pass from Taylor for four yards. Taylor had 43 yards on seven carries and he caught two passes for twenty yards. He also rushed for a touchdown and kicked two extra points.

Saylor had 16 yards on 11 carries. Croucher had 19 yards on two carries. Jamie Howard had 29 yards on 29 carries. Brandon Reams had two yards on one carry, and Devon Buesel had six yards on one catch.

The Rockets, who are ranked in the top 25 in the state and in the top ten in Class 3A, host Clay County on Friday night. This will be their first district game of the season and it will also be homecoming at the ROCK.

Game time is 7:30. Homecoming queen and king candidates are pictured on the front page of this week's Signal.



Sophomore quarterback Matthew Burkhardt is shown attempting a pass in Rockcastle's win against Lincoln County. The young quarterback has played well for the 4-1 Rockets who host Clay County Friday night in their first district contest. Friday night is homecoming which will be held immediately following the game.

In Girls' Volleyball Rockets take second in Indians tournament; beat Clay County

It was a long day Saturday for the Lady Rocket volleyball team, beginning at 7:45 a.m. when the bus pulled out for Richmond and ending about midnight when the Rockets finally returned home with a runners-up trophy from the Madison Central Lady Indians Volleyball Tournament.

The Rockets began the tournament with a match with East Clay County which they won, 21-14 and 21-9. However, they dropped their next two matches to Madison Central and eventual tournament winner, Harrison County before defeating Somerset in the preliminary games leading up to the single-elimination tournament. Their scoring in the four games gave them a third seed for the actual tournament.

The first match of the tournament was a rematch with East Clay County which the Rockets took easily, 25-4 and 25-8. The second match gave the

Rockets a chance for revenge against tournament host Madison Central and they came through, beating the Lady Indians 25-19 and 25-15. In the first game of the match, with the score tied 11 all, Amanda Rogers put across five straight serves to put her team ahead 17-11 and the Rockets never trailed afterwards. In the second game, Jeni Durban and Rogers combined for eleven service winners in the 25-15 win.

Those two games put the Rockets into the championship game against Harrison County who had handily defeated them in their first meeting.

The Rockets came out strong behind some good serving by Durham, Rogers and Allison Anderkin to take the first game 25-18. The Rockets got down 7-0 in the second game but Anderkin put her team ahead 8-0 with seven service winners but the Rockets couldn't hold their serve the rest of the game and wound up losing 25-23, putting the match into a tie-break.

(Cont. to A-9)



Gus Scaif, #21, finds room around the end against Lexington Catholic. The freshmen won 30-6.



Dwight Miller, #23, has a big gain for the Rockets freshmen team. The freshmen are 3-0 after defeating Knox Central last Thursday, 40-0.

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The Rockcastle County High School Junior Varsity team is 3-0 on the season. Their latest victim was Garrard County who they defeated 43-0. Shown above is Kenny Bartlett breaking a Golden Lion tackle.

They're the best!!!



The RCMS Marching Band Color Guard received "Best Color Guard" at the Casey Co. Invitational and also at the N. Laurel Marching Invitational. They finished with a distinguished rating at N. Laurel. The next marching competition will be held in Bowling Green this Saturday. Members of the squad are, front row, from left: Allison Carter (co-captain), Cassi Ramsey (Captain), Elizabeth Bobo and Krystal McFerron. Back row: Murphy Ramsey, Nikki Mullins, Hilary Davis, Samantha Anglin, Courtney Rose, Kasara Smith, Lori Miller and Jessica Norton. Not present for photo was Ginny Campbell.

2003 Rockcastle Co. Little League Picnic

Sunday,
September 28th
1:30 p.m.
RCMS Cafeteria

- All players, coaches and parents are invited
- Please bring a covered dish
- Meat and Drinks Provided