

ROCK beats Clay 49-6

By Richard Anderkin
The Rockcastle County Rockets are 4-1 on the season after a 49-6 victory over district foe Clay County on Friday night.

The Rockets got off to a somewhat slow start with the game tied at six all at one point in the first half.

But the Tigers were no match for the ROCK, who are ranked seventh in the state and have an open week this Friday.

The Rockets will face Bell County, who have been ranked as high as third in the state in some polls, on October 10th.

The Bell County contest will be

held in Middlesboro at Bell County High School. The Rockets have a five game winning streak over the Bobcats.

Rocket Head Coach Tom Larkley, admitted his team did not prepare for Clay County as much as they would for other teams, although Clay won three games this season.

"We thought, and we were right, that we could handle Clay County so we have been focusing on Bell County," said the winningest football coach at the ROCK.

"It will be a tough contest next week, especially since we have to go on the road, but I certainly like our chances and I think our kids have

enough pride in themselves to be ready to give it their all," he said.

Friday night's statistics went as follows: Caleb Blair had 42 yards on two carries, he scored one rushing touchdown and one after he intercepted a Tiger pass.

Max Saylor had 83 yards on eleven carries and scored one rushing touchdown.

Chris Croucher had 59 yards on six carries and he scored one rushing touchdown.

Brandon Reams had 21 yards on a touchdown pass reception.

Quarterback Matthew Burkhardt had 19 yards rushing and he was three for five in the air. He rushed for five touchdowns and three for another. He also scored a two point conversion.

Devin Taylor rushed two times for eight yards and kicked three of six extra point attempts. Two of those attempts were blocked, as was a long field goal attempt by the ROCK's placekicker.

Shay Mullins had four rushes for 31 yards and scored a touchdown.

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Defensively the Rockets were led in tackles and assists again by middle linebacker Chris Croucher who had a combined total of 12. He also had four sacks. Blair and Taylor each had an interception, helping defensive coordinator Adam Coleman's unit to hold Clay County to only 93 total yards.

Also making tackles were Taylor with 4, the ROCK's best ever Division One football candidate Jason Leiger 3, Brandon Campbell, had four Blake Lovell, Nick Thomas, 3, Fay Graham, 4, Deyon Russell, 1, Ricky Sandusky, 1, Derreck Hurst, 1, Bustle, 1, Phillip Boring, 1 and Brad Durham, 1.

Game time on October, 10th at Bell County is 7:30 p.m.

Youth Football

Submitted by David Brock
Tuesday, Sept. 23

Vikings 20 - Wildcats 7
For the Vikings: Zach Reams, 2 TDs and a 2 pt. field goal. Travis Carpenter 1 TD.

For the Wildcats: Jacob Russell 1 TD. Joseph Davis, one 1 point conversion.

RC 6th Grade 16 - Mad. Middle 12
Dakota McElroy, 2 TDs and a 2 pt. conversion and John L. Saylor, a 2 pt. conversion.

Benally 20 - S. Laurel 7
For the Benallys: Josh McKinney 3 TDs, the Benallys 2 TDs and Brandon Burkhardt 1 TD and four 2 pt. field goals.

For the Benallys: Ben Lake, a 1 pt. conversion.

7th Grade Scores
Rockcastle 18 - S. Laurel 6

Shawn Gault 3 TDs and Tanner Perkins, 1 TD.

8th Grade
Rockcastle 20 - S. Laurel 12

Zachary Burkhardt 2 TDs and a 2 pt. conversion and Brian Mize 1 TD.

Standings: 7th grade 4-1-1
Eighth grade 4-4-3

Youth Football:
Bengals 4-0, Vikings 3-1

Redskins 1-3, Wildcats 0-4

NOTE:
Little League Night will be held October 17th at the Rockcastle game with Madison Southern.



Caleb Blair attempts to bring down a Clay County Tiger in the Rockets 49-6 homecoming win last Friday night. Also in the photo is 46 Ricky Sandusky.

Lady Rockets lose to North Laurel

The Lady Rockets volleyball team traveled to North Laurel Tuesday night and had a rough trip.

The varsity lost their match 25-32 and 25-17; the Jayvees lost 25-16 and 21-18, and the freshmen team provided the only bright spot of the evening, winning their match 21-14 and 21-11.

North Laurel was up 10-3 before the Rockets got their first point in service with Jenna Owens putting over two aces. Jen Durham also had two service points in this game as did Allison Anderkin, one in aces.

The next game went a little better, with the Rockets up 13-12 before

North Laurel came back to take the lead and the 25-17 win.

Owens took service honors in the second game with 6 and Rachel Childers and Anderkin each contributed an ace.

Defensively in the match, Sarah Mullins had four kills, Jessica Riddle and Stephanie Price, two each and Childers one.

The Jayvees also had a hard time with their service game with the only bright spot, coming when Kayla Bryant brought her team back from a 10-9 deficit with five straight service aces to put the Rockets ahead 14-10. However, North Laurel then served the remainder of the game for the 21-18 win.

Danielle Arnold served four points in the game, one in aces and Allie Mink added a kill defensively.

In the second game, the score was tied at 18 all when North Laurel took the 18th three points for the win.

Bying led in service winners in that game also with three, including two aces. Jessica Robinson got two service points as did Mink, one in aces and Arnold contributed one service point.

The freshman team was down 4-1 when Jill Owens put across seven straight service winners, including five aces and Erica McKinney followed up with nine winners, including three aces to help their team to a 21-15 win.

Meredith Robinson also got two service points in the game, one in aces and a kill.

In the second game, Victoria Clontz took service honors with five, three of them aces. Holly Turner got three, one in aces. Ashley Clark put three aces across, McKinney got two service points and Kayla Bishop and Owens each served an ace.

Robinson, Barnett, Clontz, and Owens were each credited with a kill in the 21-15 win.

Clarification...

In the September 21th issue of this Mt. Vernon Signal we stated that this year's baseball game at RCHS was the only team from RCHS to ever make it to the finals of the state tournament.

We are making a clarification. The format for boys high school baseball has changed since the 2000 team at RCHS also reached the elite eight.

Both teams made it to the elite eight but with the new format the 2003 team won a sectional championship and played at Applebee's Park.

Oct. 10th designated "Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day"

The State Transportation Cabinet has designated October 10, 2003 as "Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day" in Kentucky and has asked county judge executives across the state to help make citizens aware of the dangers of highway driving.

After a 20-year decline in fatalities across the nation, that number rose again in 2002, with 42,815 fatalities.

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The RCHS Lady Rockets volleyball team were runners-up in the Madison Central Lady Indians volleyball tournament held recently. The girls defeated Exill County and Central but lost in the championship game to Harrison County. Members of the team are, front row, from left: Stephanie Price, Jessica Riddle, and Allie Mink. Back row, from left: Jenna Owens, Jen Durham, and Allison Anderkin. Second row: Jenna Owens and Krystal Parsons. Back row: Bill Barnall, assistant coach, Amanda Rogers, Jen Durham, Sarah Mullins, Rachel Childers, Trisha Beth Lawless, Kayla Bryant and Coach Larry Lee. Senior night pictures, held last week, will be printed in the Oct. 9th issue of The Signal.



Chris Croucher stops a Clay County Tiger in the Rockets 49-6 win Friday night. The win was the Rockets first in district action and travel to Bell County a week from Friday for their second district game. Also in the photo are Max Saylor and Charles Lovell.



The Rockcastle Rocket freshmen defense swarms the ball against Southwestern Pulaski. The Rockets won the game 16-6. Pictured are: #23 Dusty Miller, below Miller is Shawn Childress, #50 Donovan Pigg, #17 Izak McQuary, and #78 Joey Miller.

Nelson Breaks All-Time RCHS Record RCHS Girls' Cross-Country Team Places 2nd in Area 8 Championships

The RCHS-cross-country teams recently, competed in the first-ever Area 8 Cross-Country Championships held in G.E. Field in Pulaski County. Several teams were on hand for the competition.

The girls' race was very competitive with several of the top ranked runners in all three classes competing.

RCHS had a great team meet and finished as the Area 8 runner-up behind Pulaski County, the fifth ranked team in Class 3A.

Sophomore Karla Hayes led the way for the girls' team with an awesome third place finish in 21:07.34.

Sophomore Jessi Asher ran very well and finished ninth overall in 22:13.95.

Junior Heather Hammond, running in only her second meet of the year, placed 11th in a season's best 24:52.

Sophomore Elizabeth

Bussell placed 24th overall with a solid effort of 24:58.64. Eighth grader Courtney Bullock finished 28th with a great effort of 25:26.44.

Sophomore Ashley Bullock also ran well and finished 40th in 28:34.11.

The boys' team also had a great competition despite having only four varsity competitors. As with the girls' race, the boys' competition was very tough with many of the top teams and runners in the state.

Senior Andrew Nelson led the way for RCHS with a record-setting performance. Andrew finished first overall with his best race ever. He won the Area 8 title with an awesome time of 17:12.8, breaking his own RCHS all-time record in the event by nearly eight seconds.

Junior Brandon Cole also ran a great race and finished fourth overall with an exceptional time of 17:46.86.

Junior Bill Burdett ran well and placed 11th overall with a time of 19:10.81.

Sophomore Derrick Baker also ran a great race and finished 27th overall with a time of

20:23.11. Several Rockcastle County middle school and elementary runners competed in the middle school competition, which included athletes in grades six and under.

The RCHS girls' team totally dominated the competition and easily placed first overall while sweeping the top four spots in the race.

Third grader Michaela Hunter led the way for Rockcastle winning the Area 8 title with an amazing race. She covered the 2,000-meter course, in 6:57.34.

Fifth grader teammate Sara Hammond was very close behind and finished second overall with a great time of 7:26.4.

Sixth grader Bethany Clontz also ran an exceptional race and finished third overall in 7:42.98.

Fifth grader Kristen Bullock ran very well and finished fourth overall in 7:43.52.

Fifth grader Jasmine Johnson ran one of her best races of the season, finishing in 19th in 9:43.09.

The boys' team also had a great meet despite missing an important team member: Still, the team placed three runners in the top six.

Sixth grader Blake Parsons led the boys' team with a spectacular performance. Blake won the Area 8 championship with an exceptional time of 6:30.97.

Sixth grader teammate Andrew Russell also ran a very fast race and finished third overall with an impressive time of 6:55.34.

Fourth grader Eric Roberts ran exceptionally well and finished sixth overall in 7:20.33.

Sixth grader Devin Davidson placed 31st overall with an impressive effort of 8:44.91.

RCHS also competed in the Franklin County Invitational this past Saturday. Complete results will appear in next week's Signal. RCHS will next compete this Thursday at Mercer County and Saturday at the Henry Clay Invitational in Lexington.



Rockcastle third grader Michaela Hunter won the girls' Area 8 Elementary Championship.



Rockcastle sixth grader Blake Parsons won the boys' Area 8 Elementary Championship.



RCHS senior cross-country runner Andrew Nelson shattered his own school record by nearly eight seconds on his way to the Area 8 Championship title. Nelson completed the 3.1 mile course in 17:12.



Rockcastle's elementary cross-country team recently won the Area 8 Championship title. Team members include (left to right): Kristen Bullock, Jasmine Johnson, Sara Hammond, Bethany Clontz, Michaela Hunter.