

Lady Rockets take 13th Region volleyball title with win over Clay

Title is first ever for sport

The Rockcastle Lady Rockets volleyball team, in only their third year of existence, held away over the Clay County Lady Tigers in the finals of the 13th Regional tournament Tuesday night to capture the school's first ever regional title.

It was a tough match for the Rockets who, after losing the first game, 16-23, and saw a 20-12 lead in the second game evaporate to a 24-24 tie. The Lady Tigers were then called for being in the net, and Jenna Owens came through with a winning serve that the Lady Tigers couldn't keep in bounds on the return. In that game, Amanda Rogers provided a real boost for the team, putting across six straight serves in the final game a 12-3 lead. Rogers also added two more winning serves late in the game.

This brought on the deciding third game and the Rockets were determined, taking the win 15-8 behind four strong serves, by Rachel Childress to put her team up for good. Rogers added three winners and Owens one.

In the match, Rogers led in service winners with 11. Childress got seven, Price got two with one ace and Krystal Parsons and Allison Anderkin each were credited with two service winners and Jeni Durban got one. Defensively, the Rockets were led by Anderkin with four kills. Price got three and a block. Childress got two kills; Jessica Riddle one and Sarah Mullins was credited with one kill and a block.

Earlier in the night, the Rockets had easily dispatched Evans, winners in their district, 25-8 and 25-9. The Rockets were down 4-3 in the first game when Owens dropped up with 17 straight serves, including three aces to give her team a 21-14 edge enroute to the big win.

Anderkin came through in the second game with seven straight serves, six of them aces and Childress followed with three to give the Rockets an early 12-1 lead and the eventual 25-9 win.

In that match, Owens led in serving with 17 and two aces and Mullins led defensively with three kills.

The Rockets advanced to final action on Tuesday night with a big win Monday night over Whitney County.

The Rockets seem to play best from a catch-up position and that exactly what they had to do against the Lady Colonels after losing the first game 21-23. But catch-up they did with wins in the final two games of 25-17 and 15-2.

Children took service honors in that match with 14, including three aces. Anderkin had 13 and three; Parsons was six and two Owens got five winners. Riddle led defensively with 10 kills. Childress had eight; Price and Mullins had three each and Mullins was credited with a block and Anderkin had two kills.

Named to the regional all-tournament team for the Rockets were: Rachel Childress, Jessica Riddle and Jenna Owens and Allison Anderkin was named MVP of the tournament.

The Rockets will play the opening match of the state tournament, scheduled for the Farnham-Dudgdon Civic Center in Frankfort, on Friday night, October 24th at 6 p.m.

They are slated to play the seventh round game which will probably be Sacred Heart Academy out of Louisville.

A Commentary

By Perline M. Anderkin

Sports are important in a young person's life and in the fabric of a school and community.

Rockcastle's sports teams have been on the opening for several years and that factor has just been added to by the performance of their girls volleyball team.

This team has only been in existence for three seasons and, in that time, has had three different coaches.

At times this season, they have played badly while, at other times, they have displayed flashes of their potential.

That potential came to fruition during district and regional play.

Although they still struggled at times, they displayed amazing fortitude and competitiveness to capture the regional title for their school and, the best part, they did it at the expense of a Clay County team — a team they beat five times this year — two in regular season and three times in district and regional play. I'm not being mean, it's simply that the competition between these two schools has always been furious and, only recently, has Rockcastle managed to dominate in several areas.

This team is made up primarily of ten seniors, all together since the inception of the program. They play hard on the court and just as hard in the classroom.

One team member, Sarah Mullins, by all accounts, be their class Valedictorian, and many of the others have over 4.0 GPAs.

What I am trying to say is that I am extremely proud of them. They have worked very hard, overcome adversity and displayed a strong character that is essential in a winner.

They will probably have to play a team that is ranked fourth nationally in the state tournament but they have already achieved a plateau of which they, RCHS and their parents can be proud.

Youth League Football

Wildcats 6 Redskins 0

Wildcats: Jacob Bussell, 1 TD.

Bengals 2 Vikings 0

Bengals: Josh McKinney, 2 TDs, Brandon Burkhardt, 1 TD and two 2-point field goals.

7th Grade

Rockets 14 Corbin 22

Rockets: Dustin Bullock, 1 TD, Shawn Gaddi, 1 TD and two point conversions.

8th Grade

Rockets 16 Corbin 44

Rockets: Brian Mize, 1 TD, Dakota Smith, 1 TD, Zachary Burkhardt, two 2-point conversions.

Standings

Bengals 5-0 Vikings 4-2

Redskins 1-5 Wildcats 1-5

6th grade 13-0

7th grade 6-2 with one tie

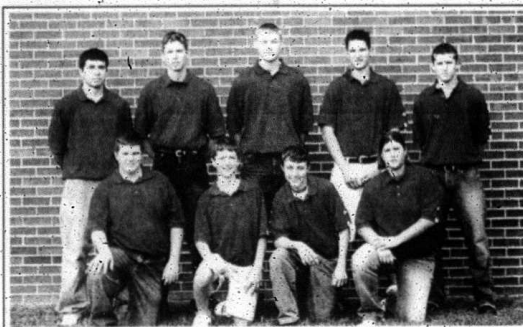
8th grade 5-5

Jyler Holman killed this 118 lb. dose in Owen County Oct. 11th. This was his first deer. Good Job, Jyler.

They're Winners...



The Rockcastle Lady Rockets volleyball team made history during the last week. They won their first district championship and, followed that up with their first regional championship on Tuesday night. They are scheduled to play the first game of the state tournament Friday night, Oct. 24 at 6 p.m. at Farnham-Dudgdon Civic Center in Frankfort. Shown with their regional championship tournament are, front row, from left: Jessica Riddle and Stephanie Price. Second row: Rachel Childress, Jenna Owens and Allie Mink. Back row: Head Coach Larry Lee, Amanda Rogers, Allison Anderkin, Sarah Mullins, Jeni Durban, Trisha Beth Laswell, Krystal Parsons, Kayla Bryant and Asst. Coach Bill Yarnall.



The Rockcastle County High School Golf team finished second in regional play and participated in the state tournament last week. The Rockets did not qualify for the second day of competition, but sophomore Colby Brown did qualify individually. In the regional tournament, Jordan Cash finished first. The team is pictured above, front row, left to right, Brent Clontz, Jordan Cash, Matt Silcox and Allison Durham. Back row, from left: Aaron Cash, Ronny Lee McClure, Blake Roberts, Colby Brown and Nick Williams.

Rockets lose to Bobcats 28-12

Friday night the infamous, Dudley Hilton finally got a huge monkey off his back.

Hilton, the holder of two state championship rings, with two different teams, had not had a Bell County team manage a victory over the ROCK, since he reported to Bell County in 2000.

That is no longer the case. Bell County broke a five game Rocket winning streak on Friday night with a 28-12 victory over the ROCK in a game played at Bell County.

And the game wasn't even as close as the final score would indicate.

The Rockets managed only 83 yards of total offense and one of their scores was on a fumble recovery by senior Devin Taylor.

The obit score was the only completed pass of the game, a 22 yard run from quarterback Matthew Burkhardt to

Shawn Childress.

"I think that is the worst offensive performance any team of mine has had, except for the Highlands game in 2000 when we could barely get the snap off," Head Coach Tom Larkey said.

The Rockets leading rusher was Jamie Howard who had 46 yards on 10 carries.

Jason Leger turned in possibly his best performance of the season with 12 tackles and assists.

Cash had 11 tackles and assists. Chris Croucher had 8, before leaving the game with a slight injury.

Brandon Campbell had 7 tackles and assists. Charles Cunningham, 6 tackles and assists. Faye Graham had 5. Max Saylor, 4. Blake Lovell, 3. Ricky Sandusky, 3. Derrick Hunt also had 3 tackles and an interception, but he fumbled the ball back to Bell County after the interception.

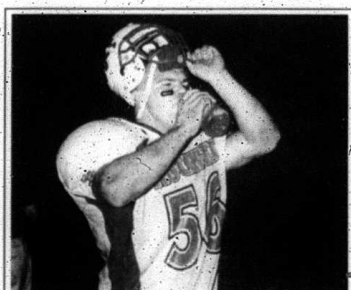
Nick Thomas had two tackles and Devin Bussell one. Bussell also suffered a high ankle sprain and will likely be out three to four weeks.

The Rockets managed only four first downs to Bell County's 12. Both teams had two turnovers.

Bell County had a total of 289 yards of total offense.

Bell County had possession of the football for 31 minutes of the game, while Rockcastle had it for 17 minutes.

The Rockets are now 5-2 on the season and will host Madison Southern on Friday night, which will also be Little League night. Little League players and cheerleaders will be recognized. Game time is 7:30 p.m.



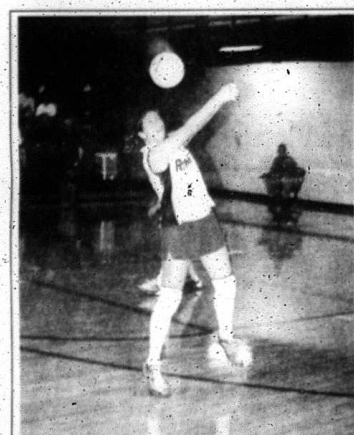
Rocket defensive and offensive lineman Jason Leger gets a quick drink of water in Friday night's game at Bell County. The Rockets lost 28-12. Leger was in on twelve tackles in the contest.



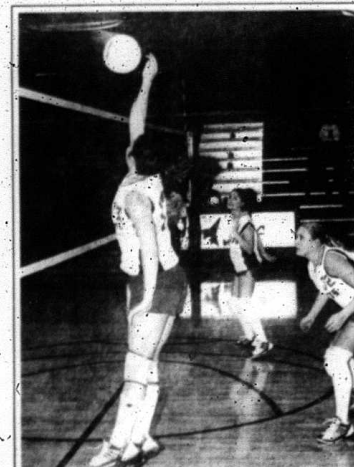
Middle linebacker Chris Croucher is shown making a hit on a Bell County player in Friday night's loss at Bell County. Also in the photo are Rockets Brandon Campbell, Max Saylor and Devin Bussell. Croucher and Bussell would both leave the game later after suffering injuries. Bussell will likely be out three to four weeks. Croucher could return to action on Friday night against Madison Southern.



Lady Rockets named to the Regional All-Tournament team following tournament action Tuesday night, when the Lady Rockets defeated Clay County for the championship, were Jessica Riddle, Jenna Owens, Allison Anderkin (named MVP of the tourney) and Rachel Childress.



Rachel Childress gets ready to bump the ball over in action Tuesday night. Childress was named to both the all-district and all-regional tournament teams.



Sarah Mullins goes high for a spike against Evans in the semi-finals of the 13th Regional Tournament. The Rockets beat Evans 25-8 and 25-9 to advance to the finals against Clay County who they beat for the fifth time this season to claim the championship.