

Lady Rockets are 3-3 with back-to-back wins

The Lady Rockets pulled even in their season record Tuesday night with a win, their second in two nights, over the Lady Lions from Garrard County. On Monday night, the Rockets defeated Estill County.

The Rockets played three games in five days, beginning with the Somerset Briarjumpers last Friday night, their only loss in the three outings.

Against Somerset, freshman Hope Kelley came off the bench to score half of the Rockets first quarter 12 points. She also sank a half court three pointer at the end of the first half.

Junior Alaina Coguer, after going scoreless the first half, came through with a game high 18 points in the second half, going 8 for 8 from the free throw line, sinking two three point baskets and another two pointer.

The Rockets were down 19-12 at the end of the first quarter, 30-23 at the half and had pulled to within three at the end of the third quarter 42-39. However, they fell short in their comeback in the fourth, when Somerset outscored them 21-17, for the final 63-56.

Besides Coguer's 18, Kelley added 7 points in the second half for 16, Amelia Eversole got 10, Kayla Reynolds 6, Morgan Renner 4 and Ashley McKinney 2.

Against Estill, the Lady

Engineers made 13 of their 18 free throw attempts in the first half, against 5 by the Rockets, to help their 23-20 half time lead. The Rockets were still down 44-40 at the end of the third but with a strong third quarter by Coguer and Eversole and some deadeye free throw shooting at the end by Reynolds, the Rockets pulled out the 62-53 win.

Coguer again led the scoring with 20, Reynolds got 12, Eversole, Brianna Hansel and Mary Saylor had 8 each and McKinney and Jayna Albright each scored two.

Against Garrard County, the Lady Rockets were down 13-10 at the first quarter stop and the score was tied 24 all at half-time.

However, the Rockets got their act together in the third, outscoring the Lady Lions 15-4 and coasting to the 49-34 win.

Coguer was high point girl with 15, Eversole got 10, Mary Saylor had 8, Hansel 6, Renner 4 and Reynolds 2.

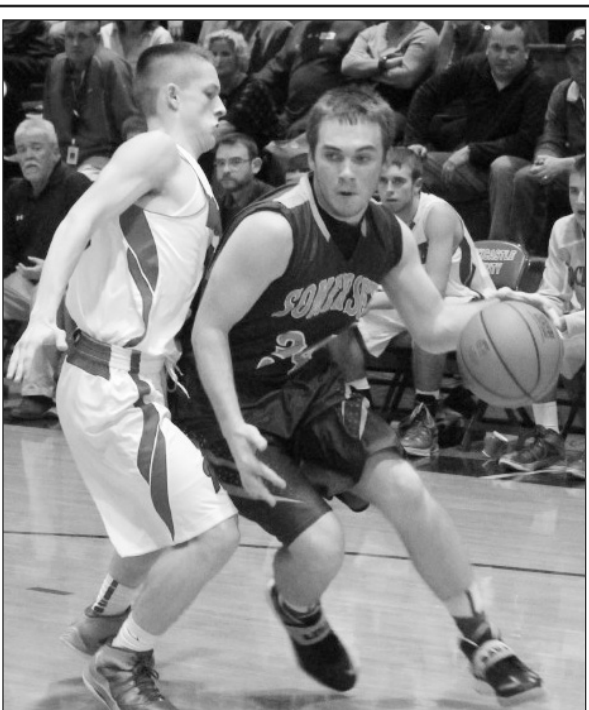
The girls will travel to Adair County Friday night for a doubleheader with the boys team. The girls will play Cumberland County at Glasgow Saturday at 12:30 and then will travel to Bourbon County for their Holiday Tournament where they will play Nicholas Co. on Dec. 27th at 9 a.m.



Junior Alaina Coguer attempts a lay-up during last Friday night's 63-56 loss to Somerset. Coguer led the Lady Rockets in scoring with 18 points. Coguer was also the leading scorer against Estill County with 20 points and Garrard County with 15 points.



Senior Rebekah Ponder applies the defense to a Lady Briar Jumper during last Friday night's 63-56 loss to Somerset. The Lady Rockets join the Rockets in a double header this Friday night when they take on the Adair County Indians. Tip-off for the Lady Rockets game is at 6:30 EST.



Junior Dakota Hasty applies the defense to a Somerset Briar Jumper during last Friday night's 68-61 win. The Rockets also beat the Beechwood Tigers last Saturday 60-50.



Freshman Hope Kelley attempts a jumpshot during last Friday night's Somerset loss. The loss was followed by back-to-back wins, 62-53 over Estill County Monday night and a 49-34 win over Garrard County Tuesday night.

Rockets win two, now 2-5 on season

By Doug Ponder
The Rockcastle County Rockets varsity basketball team is now 2-5 on the season after going 2-2 beginning last Friday.

Last Friday night, the Rockets beat a highly talented Somerset Briar Jumpers team at home 68-61.

The Rockets came out strong, outscoring the Briar Jumpers 21-16 in the first quarter and were up 37-33 at the end of the first half.

After halftime, The Rockets momentum continued as they led 56-47 at the end of the third quarter. The Rockets would put the game away in the fourth quarter with a final score of 68-61.

The Rockets were led in scoring by junior Sam Pensol with 16 points, senior Josh Mason was next with 15, senior Corey McPhetridge had 14, junior Dakota Hasty scored 8, senior Tyler Harper got 6, junior Blake Mullins had 5 and freshman Lucas Gentry scored 4.

The Somerset win was followed by another impressive 60-50 win against the Beechwood Tigers last Saturday.

The Rockets got out to an early 12-11 lead in the first quarter and extended their lead to 29-23 at halftime. In the second half, the Tigers cut the lead to 44-41 at the end of the third quarter but the Rockets rallied in the fourth quarter and won 60-50.

The Rockets were again led by Pensol with 19 points, McPhetridge and Harper had 10 points each, freshman Carson Noble was next with 9, Mason got 8 and Mullins and Hasty both scored 2.

The Rockets returned home after the win over Beechwood to play the Estill County Engineers.

The difference in the game mainly came from the free throw line as Estill County made 16 out of 23 but the Rockets only man-

aged 13 of 29.

The Engineers came out strong with an early lead against the Rockets and never looked back as they led 14-10 at the end of the first quarter and 31-21 at the end of the half.

The Rockets managed to cut into the 10 point half time lead, trailing 45-39 at the end of the third quarter but, in the fourth, the Engineers put up 27 points to the Rockets 20 for the 72-59 win.

The Rockets were led in scoring by McPhetridge with 17 points, Mason and Gentry both scored 10, Pensol and Mullins each had 8, Harper scored 4 and Hasty 2.

The Rockets were on the road again Tuesday night to play the North Laurel Jaguars in London.

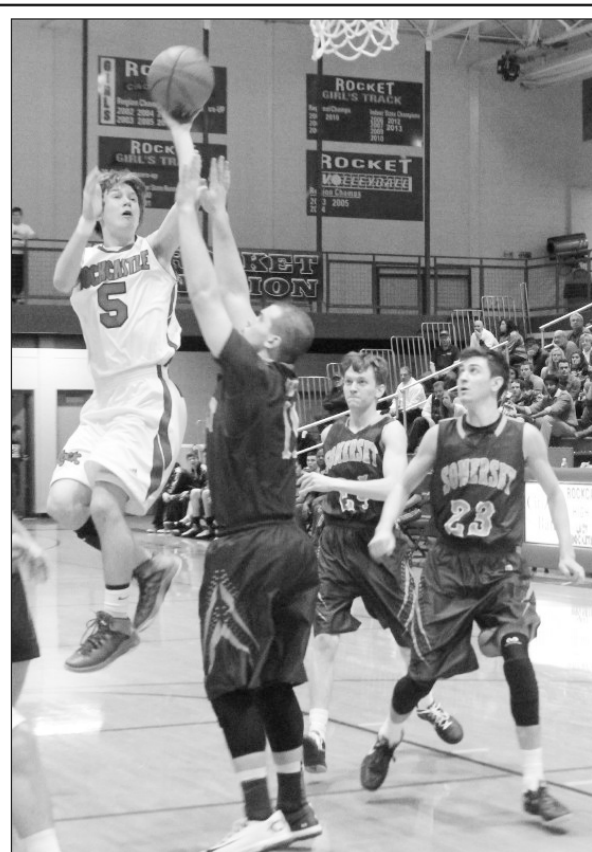
The Jaguars made a thunderous start and held the Rockets scoreless in the first quarter, giving the Jaguars a 20-0 lead. The Jaguars extended their lead to 38-21 at the half. After halftime, the Jaguars put up 28 points and led 66-43 at the end of the third quarter and put the game away in the fourth for a final score of 90-71.

The Rockets were once again led by Pensol who had a career high 29 points, senior Gage Reynolds was next with 10, Hasty had 9, Mason and Gentry both scored 8, Noble got 4, Mullins 3 and Harper 2.

Head Coach Benny Blanton said he was really proud of his team's performance during the Somerset and Beechwood wins.

"Somerset was a much needed district win for our team. Beechwood was another good win against a big team and we were able to make the tempo fast against them to get some easy baskets," Blanton said. "In both games we played well together, played good defense and shot the ball well. Both

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Junior Sam Pensol goes high for a lay-up during last Friday night's district win over Somerset. Pensol led the Rockets in scoring with 16 points. The junior guard also had a career high 29 points during the 90-71 loss at North Laurel Tuesday night.



Freshman Carson Noble looks to make a pass in the paint during last Friday night's Somerset win. The Rockets next game is this Thursday night when they take on the Eminence Warriors at Berea Community High School. Tip-off is at 6:30 p.m.

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