

Lady Rockets lose to Bell beat Clay in first two outings of season

The Lady Rockets, under the direction of new head coach, Clay Dollins, are 500 after their first two games of the 2001 season - the first against Bell Co. and the second against District for Clay Co.

Monday night, it was cold, miserable and the Rockets were up against a top-notch Bell Co. Bobcat pitcher who threw a no-hitter through three innings before being pulled in the bottom of the 4th. Meanwhile, the Bobcats were racking up runs, 17 of them, in their four innings at bat.

In the bottom of the 4th, with two outs, the Rockets loaded the bases on walks by Cassie Hamilton, Amber Falin and Ashley Carter. Junior Rachelle Riddle then came up with the only Rocket hit of the game, to centerfield and Hamilton and Falin crossed the plate for the final 17-2 score.

The Jayvees fared no better, losing 14-2. Their only runs came in the first inning when Bryanna Buswell took a strike which got by the catcher and Buswell was safe at first. She then stole second, went to third on a passed ball and scored on a wild pitch. In the third inning, Brittany Cromer led off the inning with a single to left, stole second and third and scored on a wild pitch.

But, Tuesday night, in a district game against the Clay County Lady Tigers, the Rockets performed well. The Rockets found themselves down 2-0 after the first inning of play but capitalized on a lead off walk by pitcher Jessie Hayes who stole second and later scored on a series of Tiger errors to cut the lead in half, 2-1.

The Tigers got three walks and a hit in the second and managed one run across the plate but the Rockets came back in the bottom of the second with five runs to take the lead 6-3.

Rebekah Lyons walked to begin the inning, Ashley Carter's ball was fielded by the pitcher but Lyons was safe on an errant throw to second. Amber Falin came up with a hit to right driving in Lyons but was tagged trying to go to second. Rachel Childress, Jessie Hayes and Joni Benig's drive walks with Benig got an RBI when Carter scored. With one in the inning, Cassie Hamilton tripled to right, driving in three runs to cap the inning for the Rockets.

Hayes ran into control problems in the top of the third, walking six batters and allowing the Tigers to tie

the score at 6 all. However, the Rockets came back in the bottom of the third when senior Amber Falin hit her first home run of the night to put her team back on top 7-6.

After giving up a lead off single to the Tigers in the 4th, Hayes then got three straight outs, two of them strikeouts, to keep the Tigers at bat for the game and then the Rockets really rolled off Tiger pitching in the bottom of the 4th.

Allison Anderkin and Jessica Thacker both drew walks to lead off the inning and Cassie Hamilton drove them in with a home run, that was actually a triple but Tiger fielding helped out on the extra-base to make it 10-6. Rachelle Riddle then walked and Rebekah Lyons was safe on a fielding error that allowed her and Riddle to wind up on second and third. Brittany Cromer was next and was thrown out at first but got an RBI when Riddle scored. This set up Falin's second home run of the night that was aided by another Tiger error to make it 13-6.

The Tigers got back two of the runs in the 5th inning and the Rockets went quietly in their half to make it 13-8.

In the sixth, the Tigers were scoreless and the Rockets added three runs on a walk by Cromer and Falin's third home run of the night which in this case, was aided by some aggressive base running by Falin who caused the catcher to drop the ball at the plate. Thacker picked up the other RBI for the Rockets, scoring Hayes for the final 17-8.

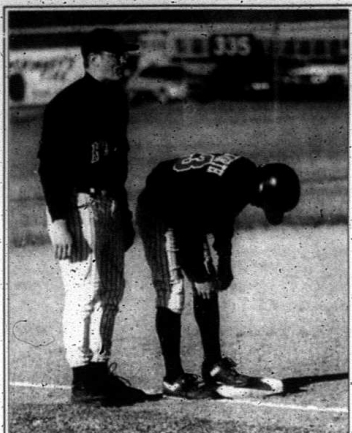
The Jayvees also picked up their first win of the season, beating their Tiger counterparts 6-3.

With Jessica Thacker on the mound, the Tigers scored one run in the first inning on the only walk issued but the Rockets came back in their half of the inning to tie the score on a triple by Dion Howard which scored Amanda Rogers who had walked.

The Tigers scored a run in the second and the Rockets retaliated with three of their own. With one out, Jessie Riddle drew a walk and Kristal Parsons singled by the third baseman. Both later scored on Tiger wild pitching and errors to put the Rockets up 3-2.

It was three all at the end of the third but the Rockets finished off the Tigers in their half of the inning, scoring three runs. Cromer got on base

(Cont. to A-10)



First year head coach J.D. Buswell gives instructions to center fielder Billy Hackworth.

The Racing Reporter

Sadler gets one for Wood Brothers

By Gerald Hodges

The Racing Reporter

Elliott Sadler won the Food City 500 Sunday at Bristol Motor Speedway, scoring his first career victory in his 75th career NASCAR Winston Cup race. It was his second top-10 finish in six races at Bristol. Sadler posted the 97th victory for the Wood Brothers and became the 17th different driver to score a victory for Wood Brothers Racing. This is the first victory for the Wood Brothers since Morgan Shepherd won at Atlanta in the spring of 1993 and their first ever at Bristol.

"It means more than anything in the world," said Sadler. "It's hard to win these Winston Cup races or to even finish in the top-10. Pat Tryson (crew chief) made a good call to stay out. We had a pretty good car. I just want to thank everybody at Motorcraft Quality Parts, Ford, the Air Force for really believing in us - seeing something in us that we didn't see."

Sadler climbed from 18th to ninth in the NASCAR Winston Cup point standings and is 162 points behind points leader Dale Jarrett.

Sadler's victory from 38th is just the fourth time in NASCAR Winston Cup history that a race winner has started 38th or worse. Sadler set a new standard at Bristol of the furthest back a race winner has started at the Tennessee track. The previous record was 26th set by Dale Earnhardt in August 1999.

John Andretti (second) scored his second top-10 finish in six races in 2001 and his second top-10 in 13 races at Bristol. It was his best finish since he finished third at Sears Point in June 1999. He climbed from 25th to 16th in the NASCAR Winston Cup point standings.

Jeremy Mayfield (third) scored his third top-10 finish in 2001 and second straight third-place finish in

as many races. It was his fourth top-10 finish in 13 races at Bristol.

Jeff Gordon (fourth) scored his fourth top-five finish, the more than any other driver, in the six races this season. It was his 11th top-10 finish in the last 13 races at Bristol.

Ward Burton (fifth) posted his first top-10 finish in 2001. It was his fourth top-10 finish in his last five races at Bristol.

1. Elliott Sadler, 2. John Andretti, 3. Jeremy Mayfield, 4. Jeff Gordon, Chevrolet, 5. Ward Burton, 6. Terry Labonte, 7. Rusty Wallace, 8. Bobby Hamilton, 9. Steve Park, 10. Ricky Rudd, 11. Stacy Compton, 12. Sterling Marlin, 13. Bobby Labonte, 14. Matt Kenseth, 15. Kevin Lefage, 16. Dale Jarrett, 17. Bill Elliott, 18. Mike Skinner, 19. Jimmy Speight, 20. Casey Atwood, 21. Ron Hornaday, 22. Michael Waltrip, 23. Ricky Craven, 24. Kevin Harvick, 25. Tony Stewart, 26. Johnny Benson, 27. Brett Bodine, 28. Robert Pressley, 29. Dave Blaney, 30. Jeff Mease, 31. Dale Earnhardt Jr., 32. Todd Bodine, 33. Buckshot Jones, 34. Mark Martin, 35. Ken Schrader, 36. Rick Mast, 37. Mike Wallace, 38. Kenny Wallace, 39. (36) Andy Houston, 40. Jeff Burton 41. Kyle Petty, 42. Kurt Busch, 43. Joe Nemechek

Jarrett tops points leaders

The top-10 points leaders after 6 of 36 events: 1. Jarrett 871.2, 2. Gordon 826, 3. Martin 823, 4. Benson 776, 5. Park 758, 6. R. Wallace 752, 7. Rudd 743, 8. Hamilton 716, 9. Sadler 709, 10. Elliott 701

Kenseth survives crashfest

Only eight cars finished on the lead lap in Saturday's Chase-It 250 at Bristol Motor Speedway. Thirteen cars were wrecked so badly they could not return to the race.

Matt Kenseth narrowly missed several accidents over his final 30 laps to win, holding off NASCAR Grand National series veteran Tim Fedewa by .352 seconds. It was Kenseth's 12th series victory and first

(Cont. to A-10)

Rockets win two, play Thursday against Central

The Rockcastle County Rockets baseball team has opened the 2001 campaign with two wins, one of which included a no hitter, by Aaron Anderkin.

On Monday night, the Rockets traveled to Whitley County where they defeated the Colonels 10-0 in five innings.

Senior Greg Harper allowed only three hits and struck out six batters while giving up only two walks.

Harper, who is considered the best pitcher in the 13th region, faced only 19 batters.

Harper also had the only extra base hit in the game, a double.

First baseman Christopher Parsons, second baseman Shea Taylor, right fielder Aaron Cash, third baseman Brandon Bishop, center fielder Brandon McIntosh and DH Aaron Anderkin all had singles. The Rockets had a total of seven hits, while the defense turned in one double play.

The Rocket JV also defeated Whitley County in a 16-2 contest that lasted only four innings.

The winning pitcher was Austin Miller, who had helped from Tim McIntosh in the final inning.

Miller allowed only one hit and struck out nine. McIntosh struck out the side in the fourth.

Brandon Campbell had a triple and a single, Tim McIntosh, Stephen Boring and Austin Miller each had doubles. Tim McClure and Jeff Todd each had two hits and James Buswell had a hit.

In the home opener on Tuesday night, the Rockets defeated Madison Southern in five innings 10-0, behind a no-hit pitching performance from sophomore Aaron Anderkin.

Anderkin struck out seven batters, walked two and faced only 16 hitters in the victory.

Anderkin got some good help from his defense. Freshman catcher Devin Taylor threw out two Southern base runners and Christopher Parsons and Derrick Buswell turned in a 3-4 double play.

Shortstop Derrick Buswell and Devin Taylor had two hits each and center fielder Billy Hackworth had a double. Parsons and Aaron Cash each had a single. The Rockets again had only seven hits.

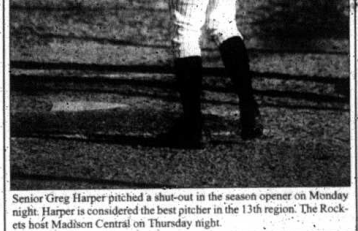
Austin Miller smacked a double in the bottom of the fifth to bring in John Bray, who had singled to break a 5-5 tie in the JV game for the 6-5 victory.

Devin Taylor picked up the win, after taking the mound in relief of Adam Hensley. Besides Miller and Bray's hits in the fifth, Brandon Campbell, James Buswell, Stephen Boring and Miller all added singles.

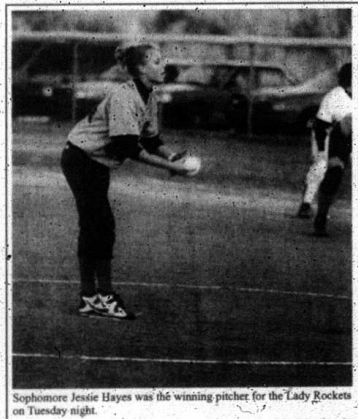
The Rockets will be ranked number one in the 13th region when statewide rankings are released in a few days.

Last year the Rockets lost in the state sectional to Boyd County, after making it to the final eight games in the state.

The 2001 Rocket coaching staff is comprised of first year head coach J.D. Buswell, assistant from last year, Adam Coleman and new assistant coaches Chris Hendrickson and Brian King.



Senior Greg Harper pitched a shut-out in the season opener on Monday night. Harper is considered the best pitcher in the 13th region. The Rockets host Madison Central on Thursday night.



Sophomore Jessie Hayes was the winning pitcher for the Lady Rockets on Tuesday night.

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Softball	
Rockcastle County High School	
Mar. 25	Bell County.....5:30
27	Clay County.....5:00
29	Berea.....4:30
April 2	Jackson County.....5:30
3	Madison Southern.....5:00
5	Casey County.....5:30
6	Berea.....5:00
16	Garrard County.....5:00
17	SW Pulaski.....5:30
19	Somerset.....5:30
20	Lincoln County.....5:30
23	SW Pulaski.....5:30
24	Clay County.....5:30
30	Monticello.....6:00
May 2	Bell County.....6:00
3	Somerset.....5:30
7	Jackson County.....5:30
8	Garrard County.....5:30
10	Oneida.....5:00
11	Model.....5:30
14	Lincoln County.....5:30
15	Madison So.....5:30

Baseball	
Rockcastle County High School	
Mar. 25	Whitley County.....5:00
27	Madison Southern.....5:00
30	Madison Central.....5:00
31	Lincoln County.....5:00
31	Harlan.....12:00
Apr. 2	Jackson County.....5:30
3	Pulaski County.....5:30
8	East County.....5:00
14	McCreary Central.....5:30
14	Crooke Expo.....TBA
16	Garbin.....5:00
16	Owens Baptist Institute.....5:00
19	Pulaski County.....5:00
20	Lanxington Catholic.....7:00
21	Perry County Central.....5:00
23	Madison Southern.....5:00
24	Clay County.....5:30
26	Williamstown.....5:30
27	Boyd County Inv. Team.....TBA
28	Louisville Male @Boyle County.....5:00
30	Corbin.....5:00
May 1	Jackson County.....5:30
3	Williamstown.....5:00
3	Clay County.....5:00
8	Midway.....1:00
8	Lincoln County.....5:00
10	East County.....5:00
11-12	Fayette County Invitational Team.....TBA
14	Casey County.....5:30
15	McCreary Central.....5:30
19	Louisville St. Xavier.....11:00
20	St. Margaret Central.....5:00
20	District Tournament.....TBA
26	Regional Tournament.....TBA
June 4	Sectionals.....TBA
11	Final Four.....TBA
23	East-West All Star Game.....TBA

* Home Games are Bold

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