

Season comes to early end for the Rockets

BY LINDSEY PARSONS

The season of nets swishing and balls bouncing came to a disappointingly early end for the RCHS basketball teams as both the girls and boys lost in the first round of district play.

District playoffs for Rockcastle started Tuesday, February 27 in the Jackson County gym with the Lady Rockets facing Clay County. Senior Amber Falin led the Rockets in scoring with 13 points, and RCHS was up 40-32 at the end of the third quarter. However, Clay County came back in the fourth quarter with a 16-4 run to win the game 48-44.

Assistant coach Ken Hopkins said, "Most teams would have been satisfied with a 21-7 record, but this one wanted more and deserved more."

Senior Rachelle Hammond was disappointed with the season's end result, but proud of the team and their winning record.

Junior Amber Denney agrees. "I'm upset it had to end this way, but we have come a long way this year. Hopefully next year we will be able to go to region."

"I'm glad we ended up winning

some games that nobody thought we would," Falin said.

Coach Chrysti Noble was pleasantly surprised with the season. "After our summer, I didn't have very high expectations for the upcoming season, but as the season started and progressed, our girls would find a way to win," she said.

The boys' basketball team also fought a losing battle in the first round against Jackson County. After the third quarter, the Rockets were leading 53-52. After a 25-6 run, the Generals came back to win 77-59.

"I'm disappointed that we didn't go farther than we did," said senior Josh Rowland.

Sophomore Jason Reynolds led Rocket scoring in the game with 16 points, and senior Jeremy Neeley had five three's in the first quarter for his 15 points.

"It was very disappointing for it to end so early after having such a great season. I really thought we would go a lot farther," Neeley said.

The boys ended with a record of 18-8.

Reynolds found it painful to watch the District championship



Junior Andrew Hammond (#22) and sophomore Aaron Anderkin (#34) during the Rockcastle vs. Jackson Co. district game. Both the boys' and girls' teams lost in the first round of district play.

game because he thought the Rockets should be playing instead of Jackson and Clay.

However, he has a positive attitude about the year in whole.

"Other than our final game, the season went like I wanted it to and I look forward to the next two years."

Coach Clayton Cash said he was proud of the efforts the players put forth. "I just think we came a game or two short."

"I think we had a really good season that surprised a lot of people. We're young and have learned a lot from this season for next year," junior Andrew

Hammond said.

Both teams had a winning season that unfortunately didn't last as long as they hoped.

Senior Thomas Coffey probably expressed the opinion of all of the players when he said, "It was a heartbreaking loss to such a successful season."

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