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Rockcastle County High School is ranked third in state
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Mount Vernon Signal

Serving Rockcastle County Since 1887

Mount Vernon, Kentucky 40456 - Volume 114 - Number 28 Ph. (606) 256-2244 - .50 a copy - Thursday, April 26, 2001

Council elections at RCHS, RCMS

Certified staff members at the Rockcastle County High School will select teacher members of the Site Based Council during elections next Tuesday.

Incumbent members Adam Coleman, Dana Singleton and Connie Riddle, have been joined on the ballot by Angie Hendrickson, Keith Taylor and Travis Brenda.

Parent elections at the high school will be May 14th at 6:30 p.m.

Parent nominations will be accepted until May 7th. Forms can be picked up in the front office at the high school.

The current council, which is comprised of Coleman, Riddle, Singleton and parent members Paul Abney and Cindy Anderkin, are in the process of hiring a new principal at the school.

The new principal should be hired sometime in May.

The new council will not begin serving until July 1st.

The parents and teacher elections for the council at the Rockcastle County Middle School will be held on May 14th.

Nomination forms must be turned in at the middle school by May 7.

Carl Hurley in Renfro Valley

Renfro Valley Entertainment Center welcomes back one of the most popular entertainers during the year when Carl Hurley takes the stage on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Country comedian Carl Hurley, deemed "America's Funniest Professor," will bring his nationally known comedy act to Renfro Valley for three shows in April and will return again in November.

Already recognized as an honorary member of the Renfro Valley Entertainment Barn Dance family, Hurley, will perform at 7:00 p.m. in the New Barn Theater. This will be Hurley's eighth straight year to join his friends in the Valley.

Dale Ann Bradley and Coon Creek will open for Hurley. Hurley always requests Bradley to open his shows. The Society for Preservation of Bluegrass Music Association awarded Bradley the "Traditional Female Vocalist" for 2001.

Tickets are $14 and $16 plus tax and handling. For reservations and information, call 800-765-7464 or 256-2638.

Part of a family of natural born storytellers from the rural community of East Bernstadt, Hurley combines his innate skills as a yarn spinner with the expressiveness of a great comic actor. Hurley spreads an infectious form of fun that is often outra-

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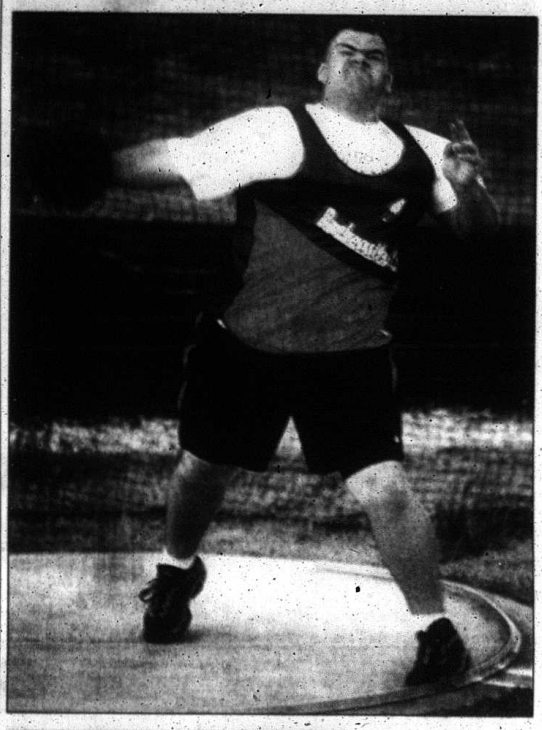
Kiwanis track meet held



The fifth annual Rockcastle County Kiwanis Club track meet was held at the Rockcastle County High School on Tuesday afternoon. Several teams from across the state participated in the annual event. The Rockcastle County High School girls' track team, which is ranked number one in the state in Class 2A won the girls' division. The boys' team finished sixth. Above, Doug French participates in the discus throw. At left: Theresa Chislum takes off in the first leg of the 400 meter relay. The girls' team won every event in the meet, except for one. The team will travel to Harrodsburg on Saturday, where they will compete with forty other teams from the area.

No foul play suspected in shooting death

Rockcastle County Coroner Bill Dowell has ruled the death of a local man last week as a suicide.

Preliminary autopsy results indicated that Marshall Eugene Cameron, 34, of Rt. 1, Mt. Vernon died from a single gunshot wound to the head fired from a .22 pistol.

Kentucky State Police Detective Gary Lane, who is investigating the incident said Tuesday that no foul play is suspected.

Lane said that Cameron's estranged girlfriend, Linda Rogers, witnessed the shooting, which took place in a field near her home on Old Hwy. 461.

Lane said that Cameron and Rogers had been having trouble and that he had been waiting on her to return home, when the two of them began to talk, around 8 p.m. last Monday.

Lane said that after Ms. Rogers asked Cameron to leave he pulled farther away from the house, where the shooting occurred.

Dowell said that after Cameron shot himself, his foot stuck against the accelerator of his truck, which apparently caused the engine to blow up and the truck to catch on fire.

Members of the Mt. Vernon Fire Department, pulled Cameron from the vehicle and extinguished the blaze, although Cameron apparently died instantly from the gunshot wound.

It had been widely known that Cameron was a key witness in several local drug cases and that defendants knew of his involvement in their cases.

At least two of those cases are still pending.

"At this point everything points to suicide," Lane said.

Marshall Cameron

Judge proclaims Rodger Bingham week in county

Special to the Signal
By RCHS student Travis Burton

Many of us are familiar with the hit show on CBS called "Survivor II: The Australian Outback". 16 Americans were left stranded in the harsh Australian outback, forced to work together to survive.

Of course, the word survive means a few different things. In this scenario, survival means not only to gather water, and avoid sun poison, but to also make nice with fellow tribe members so that the contestant would not be voted off at Tribal Council.

To avoid "the vote" many contestants, were sneaky, backstabbing, and didn't care to lie. Although, there was one contestant that avoided these tactics, Rodger Bingham, from our wonderful state of Kentucky.

Because Mr. Rodger Bingham so excellently represented the Commonwealth, The R.C.H.S. Y-Club and FCCLA thought it appropriate to join the state Legislature and Governor Paul Patton in honoring this outstanding Kentuckian.

So with the help of County Judge Executive Buzz Carloftis, the Y-Club and FCCLA declare the week of April 23rd, Rodger Bingham Week.

Rodger Bingham has represented our state amazingly. Through his Christian way of life, he has proven to be an excellent role model to not only people in Kentucky, but all over the nation. His interest and dedication to the cause of education have made him a valuable asset as all Kentuckians are reminded that "Education Pays."

Also this week, the students at R.C.H.S. are participating in the very important CATS testing.

Along with "Rodger Bingham Week", students are encouraged to do their best and "Survive" the CATS test.

Junior Pauline Campbell serves the ball during volleyball class going on this semester at the Rockcastle County High School.

Title IX requires equality

Volleyball will help RCHS comply

By: Richard Anderkin

Things are changing drastically in the way high school athletics are handled in Kentucky schools, that is when it comes to equality for both girls and boys.

Title IX is a federal law that was passed in 1972 and requires equality between boys and girls in sports.

For the most part, Rockcastle County High School is in pretty good shape, although they were in non-compliance of the law because they did not offer a fall sport for female athletes.

Mrs. Loretta Powell, Director of Student Services for Rockcastle County Schools, told the Rockcastle County Board of Education during their regular monthly meeting that the high school would offer volleyball next school year, as a fall sport for female athletes.

To prepare students for the fall sport, a volleyball class was offered at the school this Spring.

Thirty-eight students are currently taking the class, but any female who wants to try out for the team in the fall will be allowed to do so.

Teacher Cathy Short is teaching the Spring volleyball class - but will not be the head coach this fall, because she is not applying.

A head coach and assistant coach for volleyball will be hired in the near future. Both jobs have been posted.

Rockcastle County School Superintendent Larry Hammond said that the board of education had agreed to provide the funding for the start up costs of the program, in an effort to help the high school get into compliance as easily as possible.

The board also discussed a recent audit by the high school athletic association with Mrs. Powell.

The school was in compliance in seven of the ten categories, in which the audit was conducted.

The school was deficient in the area of accommodation of interests and abilities, in the area of coaching and in scheduling for the weight room at the high school.

The deficient score in the accommodation of interests and abilities did not carry an explanation.

In coaching, the audit said that three of the four head coaches in girls'

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Please Note!

The age for Johnny Lee Bullock, which appeared in a front page story last week was listed as 33, when it should have been 53.

Directors, officers and employees of Berea National Bank joined Mt. Vernon Mayor Karen King on Wednesday to conduct an official ground breaking ceremony at the site of the new bank now under construction on Richmond Street in Mt. Vernon. Shown above front row, from left: directors Eddie Purkey, Johnny Walker, Ruth Walker, Nancy Williams, Mayor King, directors James Lambert, Fred Williams, President Keith Riley, John Devere, contractor, Tony Wehrle, architect and Helen Purkey. Back row, from left: Ken Riley, Executive Vice-President, Trisha Parsons, Vice-President, Ken Wells, Senior Vice-President, David Woodall, Branch Manager and Vicki Harris, Vice-President. Not pictured were directors Judith Cummins and Steve Davidson. The branch bank is expected to open some time this summer.