

The ROCKET

Rockcastle County High School

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Council awards CATS money to staff, revises attendance policy

BY CATIE MIDKIFF

\$48,224.19 was divided among the RCHS staff as a bonus by the Site Based Decision Making Council from the \$53,248.68 awarded for CATS testing.

In a special meeting called April 25 the SBDM Council decided to divide the money allotted for the '98-'99 and '99-'00 school years to certified and classified staff.

Each staff member received a portion based on the time they worked during the years awarded. New staff in '99 will receive half the amount as those who were members both years.

\$5,019.49, the rest of the money, will be deposited in an account and the yearly interest drawn will be used for a student scholarship pro-

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Wilson honored for excellence in teaching

BY CASSIE SMITH

Math teacher Jason Wilson was recognized for excellence in teaching at a ceremony held Saturday, May 12 in Campbellsville, Kentucky.

"My first reaction was that I didn't feel like I deserved it," said Mr. Wilson. "It was truly an honor to receive the award."

Mr. Wilson was nominated by a committee that convenes annually to nominate and choose the recipients from our district.

Mr. Ken Mattingly, a science teacher at Rockcastle County Middle School, also received the award.

According to RCHS Principal Ruth Hamilton, the committee looks at classroom instruction, as well as contribution to the school.

In reflection, Mr. Wilson said, "Since this is my last year, receiving the award was doubly special. It will be one of the last and most cherished memories of my teaching experience."

And then there were two

*Interview process
winds down as
school year comes
to a close*

BY STEVEN WARD

By the time this is read, RCHS may know the name of its new principal. The SBDM Council was to meet Wednesday afternoon to discuss the two candidates, and hopefully reach a consensus.

Results of Wednesday's meeting were not available by press time.

RCMS Principal John Hale and Dr. Benjamin Miller of Florida were interviewed Monday, May 21.

Council members met after school Thursday, however a decision was not made at that time.

School Superintendent Larry Hammond has given the council the full responsibility of interviewing and choosing a principal.

"I've placed my full confidence in the [SBDM] Council," said Mr. Hammond. "I think they will make a wise decision."

Kentucky requires all principals



SBDM Council members Paul Abney, Connie Riddle, Dana Singleton, Cindy Anderkin, and Adam Coleman interviewed two applicants for the principal position Monday, May 21.

have Kentucky certification, but members of the council have their own guidelines to follow when choosing a principal.

"Someone who displayed leadership at their old school and can relate to people," said parent member Cindy Anderkin.

Mr. Hale has served the Rockcastle County Schools for

seven years as a principal at Rockcastle County Middle School.

However, according to Mr. Hale, "It was always my goal to work at RCHS."

"My high school days were some of my favorite times. I just want to give students the same experience that I had growing up."

Dr. Miller is a native of

Middlesboro, Kentucky and a graduate of the University of Kentucky with a major in biology. He has been a principal in three states: Kentucky, New Jersey, and Florida.

Dr. Miller visited RCHS twice. "I was tremendously impressed by the students, the faculty, and the facility," said Dr. Miller.

Six teachers prepare to say goodbye June 2

BY SHANA NOE

The ending school year always brings about sad goodbyes, and this year will be no different. Not only will the school feel the loss of the 2001 graduating class, a large hole will be present in the faculty roster.

Six teachers, three from the math department alone, will not be gracing the halls with their presence next year. Mr. Lawrence Bullock, Miss Robyn Johnson, Miss Dawn Quigley, Miss Rhonda Rose, Mr. John Wells and Mr. Jason Wilson will all be saying their last goodbyes June 2.

"If this place was closer to my family and fiancé, I'd want to teach here for the rest of my career," math teacher Miss Quigley said.

Marriage is also one reason behind the departure of Miss Johnson and Miss Rose.

"I'm getting married and moving to Oklahoma," stated Miss Rose, who teaches Chemistry.

Miss Johnson, Family and Consumer Sciences teacher, will be relocating to Florence, Kentucky and is planning on getting married next summer.

Next year will be quite different for the students coming back, with all the unfamiliar faces milling around. The new teachers will definitely have a hard time at first, for they are going to be trying to fill some pretty big shoes.

"I'm disappointed that I won't get to have Mr. Wilson as a teacher next year," said freshman Josh Ott.

Although they're leaving Rockcastle High School, each teacher plans to be involved in something else on down the line. There will be no slacking on their part.

Art teacher Mr. Bullock and math teacher Mr. Wells are both thinking of taking up some kind of business, with Mr. Wells owning a saw mill, and Mr. Bullock having



Ms. Dawn Quigley, who has taught at RCHS four years, is leaving to return to her home in New York.

an opportunity to help in retail. Miss Rose, Miss Quigley and Miss Johnson are all three planning on continuing to teach, while Mr. Wil-

son is going a totally opposite direction by attending seminary

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