Teachers Honored - Page A4

Mount Vernon Signal

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Deadline to file for fall races August 13

By: Richard Anderkin

The May Primary Election may just have passed, but county voters and politicians are gearing up for a fall election, which is likely to be very interesting.

This fall there will be races in each town for Mayor and council members and there will also be races in two of the five school board divisions, as well as two magistrate races and a race for constable.

Kentucky State Representative Danny Ford is facing his only decent competition in years and U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell may have a race on his hands from challenger Lois Combs Weinberg, the daughter of a former Democrat Governor.

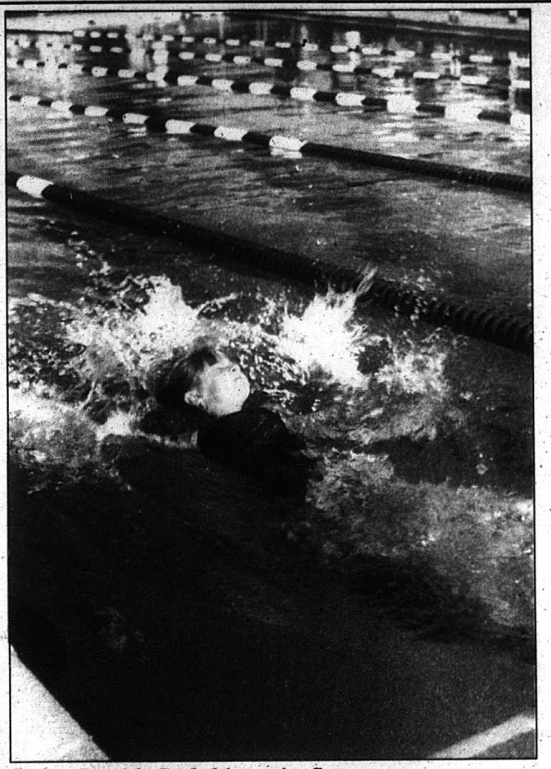
(Cont. to A-6)

Twice a Survivor

In September 1987, at the age of 59, Oma Virginia Mullins was diagnosed with the dreaded C word. That word was cancer. Her life as she knew it ended. Within two weeks, she would undergo surgery to remove her

(Cont. to A-6)

Cancer Survivor Oma Mullins



Cedar Rapids Dolphins win first meet

The Cedar Rapids Dolphins got their season underway Tuesday night with an easy victory over the Somerset Sharks. Above, Lauren Burton competes in the 6 and under backstroke event. The Dolphins' next meet will be next Monday night at Lakewood Country Club in Russell County. The team is coached by Lindsey Gabbard and Tara Burton.

In Mt. Vernon

Boil water advisory issued for part of city

The City of Mt. Vernon has issued a boil water advisory for houses on six city streets, until further notice.

Water Superintendent Dennis McClure said that a sample taken from an outside faucet at one of the homes in the area, tested positive for the E. Coli virus.

The affected streets include Shirley, Ford, Liberty, Floyd, Joyce and Tee Street. All of the streets are in the general area where much flooding has occurred in the past several months.

E. Coli is a bacteria normally found in human gastrointestinal tract and existed as numerous strains.

Rockcastle Health Inspector Clara Patton said that if E. Coli gets into a persons system it causes them to experience vomiting, be nauseated and have diarrhea.

Mrs. Patton said that depending on the person's overall health the sickness caused by the virus could either be mild or very serious.

McClure said that residents should boil drinking water for three minutes and cool before using.

McClure said that the city would continue to sample the water from five homes above the affected home and five homes below the home.

The water superintendent said that the city is required to sample at least three homes in the city at various times and that another sample taken at a home near the hospital did not test positive for E. Coli.

As for the flooding in the area, McClure said the city had been working with developers John Clontz and John Hamm to fix the problem. The city extended tile to the property line and completely cleared out ditch lines, while Clontz and Hamm are having a holding pond built on their property.

McClure said that residents would be notified as soon as the advisory is lifted.

Four plead guilty in U.S. Federal Court

Four Rockcastle Countians have entered guilty pleas in federal court, in connection with illegal drug crimes.

Gregory F. Van Tatenhove, United States Attorney for the Eastern District Kentucky, announced that Wally Junie Kirby, 45, and Juanita Watkins, 31, entered guilty pleas on June 12 to knowingly and intentionally possessing approximately 137 grams of pseudoephedrine, a chemical, knowing or having reasonable cause to believe that it would be used to manufacture a controlled substance.

Billy Jack Rayburn, 24, entered a guilty plea to knowingly and intentionally possessing equipment which may be used to manufacture methamphetamine knowing or having reasonable cause to believe that the equipment would be used to manufacture a controlled substance.

The pleas were entered before Judge Karen K. Caldwell in United States District Court in London.

The investigation preceding the pleas was conducted by the Mt. Vernon Police Department, the Kentucky State Police and the Drug Enforcement Administration. The United States was represented in this case by Assistant United States Attorney Stephen C. Smith.

They are scheduled to be sentenced on October 3 in London.

Phillip Kirby, 26, was sentenced June 10, in United States District Court by United States District Judge Jennifer B. Coffman.

Kirby entered a guilty plea on December 7, to attempting to manufacture approximately 65 grams of methamphetamine, and forfeiture of assets.

Kirby was sentenced to 94 months in prison to be followed by five years supervised release. Kirby also forfeited $1,788.

Well-known former athlete dies suddenly

Earl Noe, 67, of Spiro, died suddenly last Wednesday afternoon.

According to Rockcastle County Coroner Bill Dowell, Noe apparently died after suffering a cerebral hemorrhage, according to a Cat Scan performed at the Rockcastle Hospital.

Noe was a member of the Mt. Vernon Red Devils' 1953 basketball state tournament team, which was the first team to ever make the big dance from Rockcastle County.

They held that distinction until the Brodhead Tigers of 1972 won the 13th Region.

And since then the Lady Rockets made a trip in 1997 and this year the RCHS boys of 2002 made it to Rupp.

Noe, who led the scoring in many games his junior year, scored 39 points against Newport Catholic in the opening round of the tournament, but it wasn't enough as Catholic won in overtime 61-60.

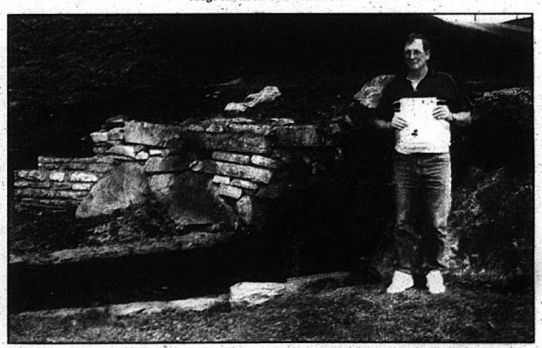
Noe is the only player to ever be named to the State Tournament's All-Tournament team.

"He was probably one of the best players of his time - at 6'2" he played big in the middle and it was also impossible to block his shot because he was so quick with it," said C.K. Cornelius, who along with Charles Tuck Baker and Manuel and Charles Shepard, started alongside Noe. The sixth man was Earl Pittman.

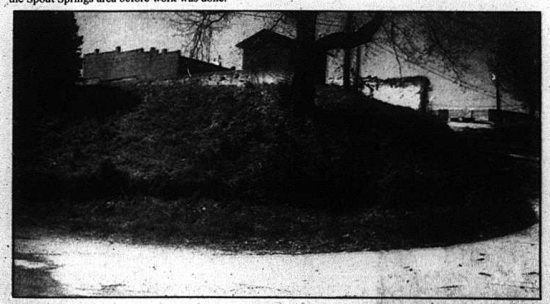
"He was simply a great basketball player," Cornelius said.

For several years Noe held the single game scoring record, before it was broken by King Kelly Coleman.

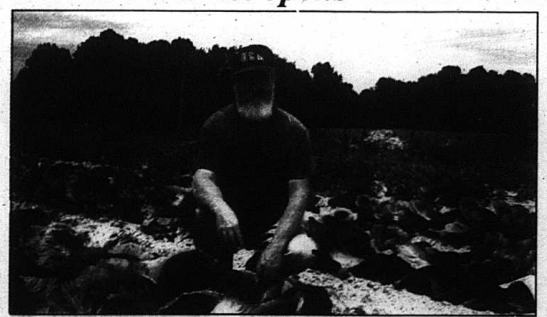
Former Mt. Vernon Red Devil Earl Noe is the only player from Rockcastle County to be named to the Kentucky High School State Basketball Tournament all-tournament team. Noe held the single game scoring record of 39 for several years.



Although Troy Hansel does not live in our county, he does own a business here and he does care about our area and realizes its beauty and its potential. He also sees the neglect in some of our historic areas and a year or so ago he jumped in and started digging and pulling weeds and doing something about it. After being told about Spout Springs, the area that lies under the hill behind Main Street in Mt. Vernon, he joined a group at RTEC that was interested in cleaning up and landscaping this area. Troy worked for hours by himself uncovering the bring the springs back into the sunshine for everyone to enjoy. *The Rockcastle County Economic Development Task Force for Cleanup and Beautification* would like to commend Troy for his contribution in making our community a more attractive place by his efforts on Spout Springs. Troy not only serves the community by his cleanup efforts but also is willing to serve on several committees and task forces that is working to make a difference in our community. Troy, along with his wife, owns and operates Heritage Crafts which is located on Hwy. 461 in Mt. Vernon. The picture below shows the Spout Springs area before work was done.



Farmers Market opens



Rockcastle County vegetable farmers are working hard this season to offer residents fresh home-grown vegetables. The local Farmers Market opened Wednesday, June 19th at the Brodhead Fairgrounds. This Saturday the market will be at the Renfro Valley festival field. Each Wednesday and Saturday farmers will be at the same locations beginning at 9 a.m. and closing when sold out, usually around 2:00 or 3:00 p.m. The market will run through September. Some of the items available this week will include fresh cabbage, green onions, snow peas, and more. Drop by as the season progresses to get fresh home grown produce. In the photo above, Farmers Market participant Lonnie Anglin is shown among his cabbage plants in his garden.