



ROCKETS  
64-66  
Rockets lost to Mason County - Pg. A7

# Mount Vernon Signal

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Mount Vernon, Kentucky 40456 - Volume 116 • Number 47 - Ph. (606) 256-2244 - 50 a copy - Thursday, August 29, 2002

## Seven car pile-up on interstate

A seven vehicle pile-up on Interstate 75 Sunday caused havoc for travelers and eventually caused problems for motorists trying to use U.S. 25.

Officials said that a southbound motorist attempted to cross the median at a crossover near the 69 mile marker when it was hit by another car.

One of those two vehicles ended up in the northbound lane and was hit by a car traveling north.

Before it was over, seven vehicles were involved and two people were injured.

Traffic was backed up for several miles and many motorists began getting on to 25, which caused the traffic jam there as well.

## Ohio man arrested

A 20-year-old Ohio man is behind bars this week, after he was arrested for allegedly setting fire to five vehicles in Mt. Vernon.

According to an arrest warrant Rocky G. Mink, of Loveland, Ohio was arrested by Mt. Vernon police officer S.P. Thacker, around midnight after he received a complaint that Mink was setting fire to vehicles in Mt. Vernon in the area around the First Baptist Church.

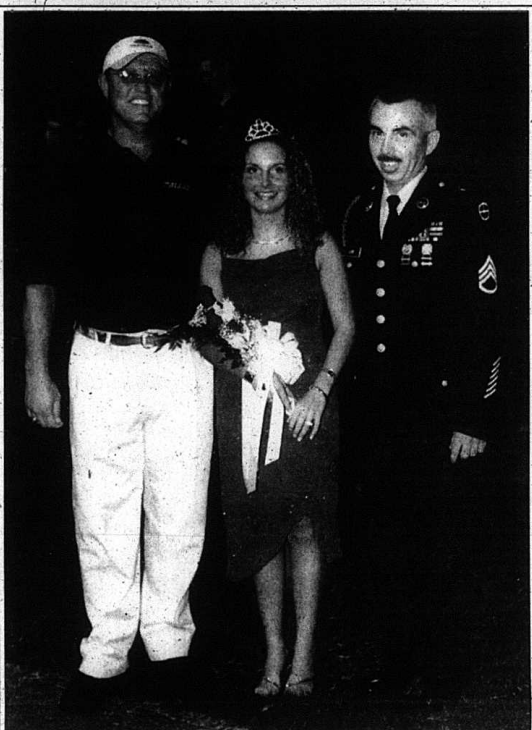
An eyewitness said that Mink drove his vehicle through the Dowell & Martin Funeral Home parking lot as Thacker chased him in his cruiser.

The cruiser and Mink's car collided and Mink was apprehended.

Rockcastle County Attorney Jeff Burdette said that Mink had apparently used lighter fluid to set fires to the seats of the vehicles. He said that Mink did not give a reason for his actions.

Mink is being held in the Rockcastle County Detention Center.

The vehicles burnt were owned by Gary Mink, Jerry Mullins, Jack Rowe, Garner Mink and Robert Hornsby.



Bob Allen, left, crowned Rockcastle County High School senior Bridgette Lear, Queen of the Pigskin Classic on Saturday night. Bridgette's dad, Bill, escorted his daughter. Bill just returned from Germany after seven months of active duty.

## Livingston Homecoming starts Friday

Livingston Homecoming will begin Friday, August 30th at 7 p.m. with a gospel singing.

Saturday morning, a pancake, ba-

con or sausage and drink breakfast will be served from 8:30-10:00 a.m. The Lake Cumberland Cloggers will dance at 9:00 in the gym parking lot.

Rep. Danny Ford will be the Grand Marshal of the parade on Saturday. The parade line up will begin at 10 a.m. at White Star, with the parade beginning at 11 a.m. At 12:30 p.m. the Recognition Program will begin on the Firehouse Platform. All county firemen will be honored.

At 2 p.m. The Pretty Man Contest will begin. For more information contact Sam Stallsworth. The Mason Jars will perform at 3 p.m. and the Pretty Baby Contest will be at 4 p.m. For more information contact Cleo Bryant at 453-4213 or Rita Mize at 453-4605. 55 entry fee.

The Livingston Homecoming Queen will be crowned at 5 p.m. For more information on the homecoming queen festivities call Angie (Cont. to A-8)

## Mt. Vernon sets tax rates

The Mt. Vernon city council voted Tuesday night to set the city's property tax rate at \$1.80 per \$1,000 assessed value.

The new rate is up from \$1.69 a year ago and the lowest rate the city could have set it at, according to state regulations.

Only four of the six council members, Lonetta Daugherty, Jackie Renner, Clarice Kirby and Wayne Bullock were present at the called meeting, along with Mayor Karen King.

The city's vehicle tax rate was also set at \$1.67 per \$1,000 assessed value.

The council also passed a resolution establishing a mission statement for Renaissance Kentucky Project.

The city's Renaissance committee is in the process of trying to obtain state funding to help revitalize the downtown area of Mt. Vernon.

The mission statement that was passed on Tuesday reads as follows: "The Mission of the Mount Vernon Renaissance Kentucky Revitalization and Restoration program is to improve and expand economic opportunities for our community while preserving and protecting unique historical and cultural our downtown area."

During the council's meeting last week several residents from the Lake Linnville area turned out to voice their displeasure about campers, who have been camping around the Lake.

The city has an ordinance that forbids camping and open fires around the lake, except at the campground next to the boat dock.

Several residents said that people were camping, building fires and leaving their trash for residents to pick up.

Roger Smith asked the council for more patrol by police officers and (Cont. to A-8)

## Stanford couple loses unborn child in wreck

A young Stanford couple was severely injured Sunday when their car was bumped from behind by a suspected drunk driver while traveling on U.S. 150, causing it to run up an embankment and flip over.

Leah and Ralph Denham, Jr., were both hospitalized with multiple injuries and the couple lost their unborn child, which was due to be born this month.

The driver of the van that hit the Denham's, Stephen E. James, 50, of Lawrenceburg, suffered minor scrapes and bruises. He refused treatment from the Stanford EMS rescue squad. His vehicle also overturned.

Kentucky State Police Trooper Eric Gibson charged James with driving under the influence of alcohol, speeding and having no insurance. He remained in the Lincoln County Jail Tuesday.

Gibson said that both vehicles involved in the wreck, which happened at 8:12 p.m. Saturday were headed east on U.S. 150 between Stanford and Danville.

James' 1986 Chevrolet Astro Van hit Denham's 2000 Jeep Laredo from behind, causing it to leave the highway and strike an embankment on the side of the road. The Jeep overturned, ejecting both occupants. Neither of the Denhams were wearing a seat belt.

James' van also went out of control, left the roadway and overturned. He was wearing a seat belt.

Leah Denham, 27, was hospitalized at Ephraim McDowell Regional

Medical Center in Danville with burns, bruises, cuts and scrapes.

Ralph Denham, was taken to the University of Kentucky Medical Center in Lexington for treatment of a broken leg, two fractures in his pelvis and internal injuries. His son, Calvin Denham, said he was undergoing surgery Tuesday afternoon but none of his injuries were considered life threatening.

(Editor's Note: This story is from the Interior Journal newspaper and being printed because so many Rockcastle Countians on their way home from Danville passed the accident scene.)

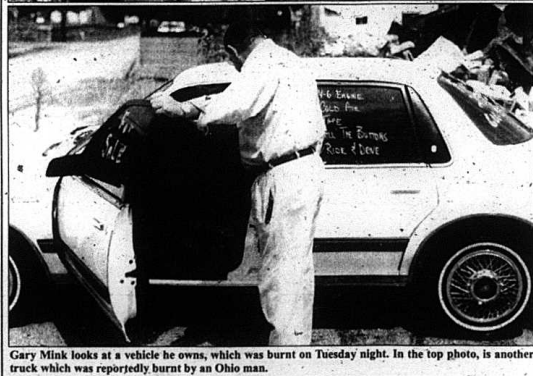
## Governor Patton here Wednesday

Governor Patton will make a visit to the community on Wednesday, September 4, at approximately 11:00 a.m.

The Governor will tour Mt. Vernon's Main Street.

Governor Patton will recognize and promote the City of Mt. Vernon's participation in Renaissance Kentucky and Rockcastle County's strategic planning process.

All citizens are welcome to attend. An ad in this week's second section has the time listed as 1:30, but due to press time the ad could not be changed to 11:00 a.m.



Gary Mink looks at a vehicle he owns, which was burnt on Tuesday night. In the top photo, is another truck which was reportedly burnt by an Ohio man.

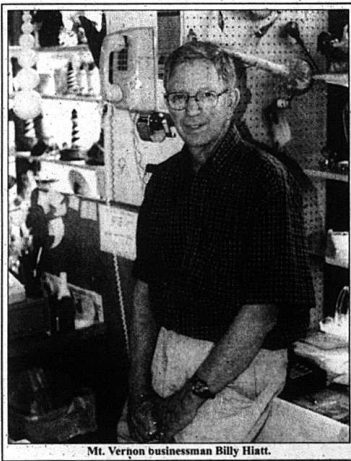
## 73 and still going strong

By: Patricia Phillips Kincer

Billy Hiatt has worked since he was a young man and has no plans to stop now that he is 73 years old.

Hiatt is motivated by working to provide for his family. He worked to send his two children to college and made sure they had a secure future. He grew up in a time in history when his dad taught him to work. He finds it challenging to compete with the big discount stores. He cannot offer the prices and variety of products they do, but he has specialized in such items as Boyd's Bears, Fenton Art Glass, unique baskets, candles, picture frames, toys, quilts and pillow cases for embroidering, embroidery floss and special books. These items, along with the personal help from the clerks, make shopping at Hiatt's 5810 a special outing. They offer free gift-wrapping, help you select the correct color of thread for embroidery or sewing projects and are available to answer questions or help with personal service.

After college, Hiatt taught school for seven years, but teaching did not fulfill his heart's desire. He wanted something else. In 1961, he had the opportunity to purchase the 5810 from his mother-in-law, Mrs. O.V. Hilton. Since he grew up working in his father's store in Wildcat until he (Cont. to A-8)



Mt. Vernon businessman Billy Hiatt.