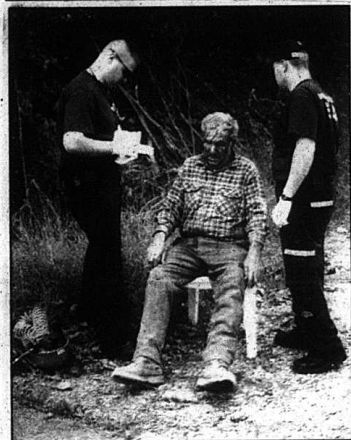


# Mount Vernon Signal

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James Goforth, 75, of Calloway, escaped serious injury Tuesday afternoon after he lost control of the log truck he was driving on the Red Hill Road near Livingston. Goforth told police the brakes failed at the top of Galesley Mountain and he was unable to keep from losing control. Also in the photo are Rockcastle Ambulance EMT's Jamie McClure and Byron Coffman. Goforth was treated at Rockcastle Hospital and released.

## McKinneys set free on bond

Two Rockcastle County men who were arrested last week for numerous crimes involving killing deer and wild turkeys have been released on bond.

Brothers Jonathan McKinney, 21, and Michael McKinney, 27, were released on a combined \$7,500 cash bond. Jonathan's bond was \$5,000 and Michael's was \$2,500.

The McKinney's father, Casper, posted the bond.

The two were arrested after authorities found 49 deer antlers and seven turkey beards on their property, which had apparently been taken illegally.

They are due in court on November 6th.

The McKinney's brother, Gary, is currently on death row, after being convicted of three brutal murders in Pulaski County several years ago, she said.

## Local young people part of Georgetown Mission works

The aftermath of Sept. 11th continues to affect many aspects of the American lifestyle. From decreased attendance at major events to a decline in air travel, the aftershocks of that devastating day are evident nationwide.

Unfortunately, the ministry work of student missionaries has not been immune from the post 9/11 fallout. At Georgetown College, for instance, the number of summer missionaries was down nearly 35 percent.

On the average, Georgetown College sends out 60-70 summer missionaries each summer. This year, the number was down to 45. Sharon Felton, campus minister at Georgetown credits September 11 for the decrease.

"Many parents," she said, "are hesitant and unwilling to send their children overseas at this time." Despite any threats from terrorists or other dangers, Felton insists that missions work is a calling that still sounds loudly.

"Missions are what we've been

called to do. We're called to love the world, to baptize and make disciples. It's a calling to all Christians," Felton said.

Lower numbers didn't represent lessened enthusiasm on behalf of those missionaries who ventured out last summer. Angie Blanton, a 2002 graduate, who spent the entire summer acting as an interim music minister at a church in Johannesburg, South Africa, was even more eager to be in the mission field since the September 11th attacks.

"I feel like now is the most important time to go because, now, people need a positive American image and a positive Christian image," she said.

Contributing to the sense of urgency Blanton feels is the AIDS epidemic sweeping the African continent. She said that many of the people with whom she shared the Gospel may not believe another year, making her mission all the more important.

Blanton spent much of her time

## Community meeting held by development board

The Rockcastle County Development Board (RCDB) sponsored a Community Meeting last Thursday, for the purpose of soliciting further public input regarding the developing Rockcastle County Strategic Plan.

The meeting also provided an opportunity to share results of the six task forces, which have been working since March 30th in their respective areas of development.

Approximately seventy citizens attended the meeting held at Rockcastle County High School Auditorium. The task forces shared their findings and recommendations to be included in the Strategic Plan. John Clontz, Chairman of RCDB welcomed those attending and reviewed the planning process to date. Peter J. Hille, Director of Brushy Fork Institute of Berea College and

contracted consultant to assist RCDB for the project, submitted for inclusion in the Strategic Plan.

RCDB was created to coordinate Rockcastle County's efforts for economic and community development. A primary goal for RCDB is to oversee the design of a long term Strategic Plan for the county that will guide development while preserving local values and quality of life.

RCDB will submit the Strategic Plan to state government during the month of October. Once completed and the plan becomes official it will be shared extensively with all segments of the community. RCDB has also submitted a grant application for Phase II of the planning process; if

(Cont. to A-6)

## Three indicted

Three more Rockcastle County people are facing drug charges in Rockcastle Circuit Court.

Timothy Robbins, 24, Sheila K. Overbay, also known as Sheila Wilson, 29 and Sammy Stewart, 27, all of Mt. Vernon were indicted two weeks ago by the Rockcastle Grand Jury in connection with a drug bust on June 23rd.

The three are accused of trafficking in marijuana over five pounds and trafficking in Tylox and Xanax.

Stewart and Robbins have been arrested and are due in court on Friday.

Overbay has not been arrested. Kentucky State Police Officer Laff Owens is the investigating officer.

## Neighbors looking for criminals

Residents of Chestnut Heights Subdivision, which is located near Brindle Ridge, two miles from Rockcastle Circuit Court.

One resident, Bobby Bishop, said the program was started because of the numerous break-ins in the subdivision in recent months.

Bishop said residents had been running the neighborhood watch for a couple of weeks and that someone is patrolling 24 hours a day.

"Maybe this story will do some good, if they are smart enough to read," he said.

"We are tired of the problems and potential dangers to our families and we intend to do what we can to keep it from happening," he said.

Three of five schools earn reward money

## Roundstone leads way in test scores

By: Richard Anderkin

The Rockcastle County School System got a mixed report card last week when the state released the results of last year's test scores.

The test, which shows how much a school has improved or declined is known as the Commonwealth Accountability Testing System (CATS).

Depending on what grade a student is in, students are tested on several subject matters including reading, math, science, social studies, arts and humanities, practical living and writing.

At the high school level, a school is also scored in connection with their drop out rate and retention rates.

Three of the four county schools improved from their scores a year ago, with the most gains being made at Broadhead School.

Broadhead's scores were up seven points.

"Our staff works really hard on our curriculum and we have great community support," said Principal Caroline Graves.

Broadhead's scores were in the top seven percent in the state. Their best scores were in Science and their lowest were in Math. Broadhead has 400 students.

Students at Roundstone continued to lead the county with the highest scores.

Roundstone has been recognized nationally for their accomplishments and have a student body of about 300.

Roundstone's highest scores were in Science and their lowest were in Arts and Humanities.

Last year's principal David Pensol, who has moved on to the central office, credited his staff, students, as he always did during his eight years at the school.

"It is simply a total effort on

everyone's part - Roundstone is a special school with hard working people and concerned parents," he said.

Roundstone's scores ranked 14th in the state and in the top two percent.

At the largest elementary school in the county, Mt. Vernon students scored 2.2 points higher than a year ago.

Students, who number 690, scored higher last year in every subject area than a year before except writing, which fell only a couple points short.

Mt. Vernon's best scores were in reading and vocational studies.

They were rated in the top 24 percent of the schools in the state.

Rockcastle County Middle School's scores dropped 2.3 percent from a year ago.

Their highest scores were in reading, but student test results in math showed a dramatic 18 point drop.

Besides being down in math, scores were also lower in social studies, arts and humanities, vocational studies and writing. They were up in science.

Becky Isaacs, the school system's new testing coordinator, said that administrators were looking at several

(Cont. to A-6)

## CF Bike-a-thon raises \$8,981

By: Clara Proctor, Chairperson

On a wet September Saturday afternoon, because of 54 participants in the Cystic Fibrosis bike-a-thon and 28 helpers, along with parents and lots of people making donations, I have sent \$8,981.50 to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

(Cont. to A-6)



Rockcastle County High School Juniors Tim McIntosh and Sheena Swinney were crowned football homecoming King and Queen during festivities at halftime of the RCHS-Exhill County game.

Davis of Georgetown and Daniel Harrison of Sadiesville in Bosnia, and others who ventured as far as Venezuela.

Many of the students stayed closer to home. Andy Hale of Mount Vernon worked with the education discipleship/pastor in Crestwood, Kentucky. Others served needs in California, Arkansas, Alaska and across the nation with Passport, Crosspoint, and other ministry oriented organizations.

Hale, a senior at Georgetown, who had previously served as a missionary in Chile, was looking forward to an internship at a large church. "It was nice to be on staff with 10-12 other people and see how the church functions," Hale said. Hale had the opportunity to work in every aspect of the church, from small bible study groups and bible school to outreach programs and men's and women's ministry.

Hale hopes to intern again next semester.

Ashley Gill of Winchester said her

decision to stay close to home was motivated by an opportunity to serve children in her hometown, not fear. The Georgetown senior is working as a children's minister at

Winchester's Central Baptist Church. She noted that this spring she had participated in a college mission trip to Washington, D.C. despite the

(Cont. to A-6)



Angie Blanton



Andy Hale