

# Lady Rockets win Danville tourney; place third in Landair Classic in TN

By: Doug Ponder

The Rockcastle County Lady Rockets had a very successful run during their

Christmas break.

The Lady Rockets went 5-2 in two different holiday tournaments winning the

Danville Lady Admirals Christmas tournament and finishing third in the Landair Classic tournament in Greeneville, Tennessee.

At Danville, the Lady Rockets defeated Bates Creek 80-55 and Bell County 60-57 and then bested Danville 63-57 in the championship game.

In the opening game against Bates Creek, senior guard Michaela Hunter led all scoring with 23 points, senior forward Emily Miller was next with 18, sophomore forward Amelia Eversole got 10, senior guard Alexis Chasteen scored 9 and junior forward Kayla Reynolds had 6. Eighth grade guard Mahala Saylor and eighth grade guard Jayna Albright were both credited with 2 points each.

During the Bell County game, Michaela Hunter again led the Lady Rockets in scoring with 20 points, Emily Miller was next with 11, Alaina Coguer had 9, Amelia Eversole got 8, Sara Adams scored 6 and Alexis Chasteen and Kayla Reynolds got 2 each.

In the championship game against Danville, Michaela Hunter once again led in scoring with 26 points, Alexis Chasteen was next with 16, Amelia

Eversole had 8, Alaina Coguer got 5 and Sara Adams got 4. Emily Miller and Kayla Reynolds were both credited with 2 points each.

After Christmas, the Lady Rockets packed their bags for Greeneville, Tennessee where they won three games and finished third in the 16 team tournament.

In the first game, the Lady Rockets defeated North Greene 48-39. The Rockets trailed until the fourth quarter when they turned up the offense and outscored North Greene 19-11 to win the game.

The Lady Rockets were led in scoring by Alexis Chasteen with 18, Sara Adams was next with 12, Michaela Hunter, who got into early foul trouble, had 8, Alaina Coguer got 7, and Amelia Eversole scored 2.

In game two, the Lady Rockets got a superb performance from Hunter who finished the game with 27 points, 7 assists, 7 steals and 8 rebounds as the Lady Rockets went on to beat Chuckey-Doak 62-52.

Other Rockets scoring were Amelia Eversole with 13, Alexis Chasteen 12, Sara Adams 6, and Kayla Reynolds 4.

During the third game,

Morristown West applied special defense to Michaela Hunter and beat the Lady Rockets 53-46.

Despite the special defense, Hunter once again led the Lady Rocket's offense with 15 points, 10 rebounds and 7 assists.

Other Rockets getting into the scoring column were Kayla Reynolds with 9, Sara Adams and Amelia Eversole with 8 points each and Alexis Chasteen scored 6.

During the Lady Rockets final game of the Landair Classic they defeated Christian Academy of Knoxville

68-62.

Michaela Hunter would come up one assist shy of recording the first triple-double in the history of the Landair Classic as she finished with 22 points, 12 rebounds and 9 assists. At the end of the tournament, Hunter was selected to the all-tournament team.

Other Rockets getting into the scoring column in the final game were Sara Adams with 18 points, 15 coming from five three-point baskets, Alexis Chasteen was next with 16

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Senior guard Sara Adams attempts a three point basket during the Somerset game on Tuesday. Adams has been hot from the three point line shooting five three point baskets during the final game of the Landair Classic against Christian Academy of Knoxville.



The Rockcastle Lady Rockets were the champions of the Danville Lady Ads Christmas Tournament held during Christmas break. They had victories over Bates Creek, Bell County and Danville in the championship game. Members of the team are shown above, front row from left: Mahala Saylor, Alaina Coguer, Abby Chasteen and Kayla Reynolds. Second row from left: Morgan Renner, Jaclyn White, Brianna Hansel, Sara Adams, Emily Miller, Michaela Hunter, Alexis Chasteen, Kali Lay and Ashley McKinney. Back row from left: Amelia Eversole, Hannah Sowder, Rebekah Ponder and Kelsey Mattingly.

## Rockets win three games over holiday break

By: Doug Ponder

The Rockcastle County Rockets have gone 3 for 5 over the past two weeks after playing in the Legacy Nissan Shootout tournament and Edmonton State Bank Holiday Classic tournament.

After losing by only two points to Whitley County 55-53 in the first round of

the Legacy Nissan shootout, the Rockets beat Garrard County 78-49 in the second round. The Rockets would then lose their final game of the tournament to Bell County 47-38.

In the opening game against Whitley County, senior guard Ashton Arvin led in scoring with 14 points, senior guard Sam Pensol was

next with 12, and junior forward Josh Mason had 9. Senior forward Zach Poynter and senior guard Bryson Amyx were credited with 4 points each while senior guard Jon Curtis Wilson and junior guard Gage Reynolds were credited with 2 points each.

During the Garrard County game, Sam Pensol led the Rockets in scoring with 16 points, Josh Mason was next with 15, Dakota Hasty had 11, Ashton Arvin and Corey McPhetridge were both credited with 8, Bryson Amyx had 3 and Blake Mullins scored 2.

In the last game of the Legacy Nissan Shootout against Bell County, Sam Pensol once again led the Rockets with 11, Ashton Arvin was next with 7, Corey McPhetridge had 5, Tyler Harper got 4, Josh Mason and Bryson Amyx were both credited with 3 each, Dakota Hasty had 2 and Gage Reynolds got 1.

The Rockets then headed to Metcalfe County to play in the Edmonton State Bank Holiday Classic tournament where they came away with two wins and two losses.

In the opening round, the Rockets lost a heartbreaker to North Bullitt 51-50. However the Rockets bounced back in the second round of the tournament with a 62-53 win over Todd County Central.

During the third round of the tournament, the Rockets lost another close game, to Butler County 75-72. How-

ever, the Rockets then beat Metcalfe County 72-40 in their final game of the tournament.

In the opening game against North Bullitt, Josh Mason led the Rockets in scoring with 16, Dakota Hasty was next with 13, Sam Pensol had 8, Ashton Arvin 6, Ben Allen 5 and Corey McPhetridge got 2.

During the Todd County Central game, Josh Mason once again led the Rockets with 16, Ben Allen was next with 14, Sam Pensol had 13, Corey McPhetridge scored 12, Ashton Arvin 8 and Blake Mullins had 3.

In the Butler County game, Sam Pensol led the Rockets with a career high 27 points, Josh Mason was next with 13, Ben Allen had 11, Corey McPhetridge got 9, Jon Curtis Wilson and Ashton Arvin were both credited with 5 and Blake Mullins had 3.

During the final game against Metcalfe County, Josh Mason had a career high 19 points, Corey McPhetridge, Ashton Arvin and Gage Reynolds were next with 8 points each, Ben Allen had 7, Jon Curtis Wilson got 6, Bryson Amyx scored 5, Tyler Harper had 4 and Zach Poynter 2.

Head Coach Benny Blanton said that he believed his team played well against some tough opponents during the tournaments, despite losing five games.

"We lost three games by

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Senior guard Emily Miller attempts a lay-up during Tuesday's 58-52 loss to the Somerset Briar Jumpers. The Lady Rockets will join the Rockets in a double header on Friday night when they will both take on the Pulaski County Maroons at home. Tip-off for the Lady Rockets game is at 6 p.m.

## Girls and boys lose return match to Briar Jumpers

After winning their first game of the season against district Somerset at Somerset 67-53, the Rockcastle Lady Rockets faltered Tuesday and lost the return match 58-52. The win for the Lady Briar Jumpers could be attributed to free throws since Somerset was 26 for 31 at the free throw line and the Lady Rockets were 8 for 12.

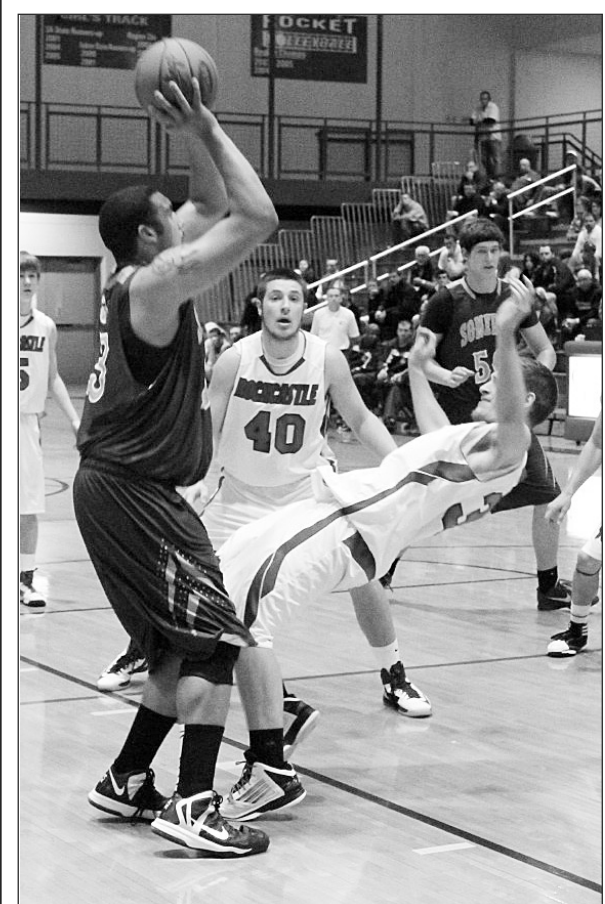
In the first quarter, the Briar Jumpers "jumped" out to a 13-1 lead and it was 13-5 at the end of the period. But, in the second quarter, the Lady Rockets, behind 6 points by Michaela Hunter, tied the score at 17-17 and, at half time the Rockets were up 26-21. However, in the third quarter, some cold shooting and four turnovers by the Rockets put Somerset

up 36-33. The fourth quarter saw the Rockets tie the score at 36 all but the Briar Jumpers, on two free throws, and a basket, went ahead and slowly built their lead, mainly at the free throw line where they were 11/12 in the fourth quarter, to the final 58-52.

Leading the scoring for the Rockets was Hunter with 17; Sara Adams got 14; Alexis Chasteen scored 12 points, 8 in the second half; Alaina Coguer got 3 and Kayla Reynolds, Emily Miller and Amanda Eversole scored 2 points each.

The Rockets, who had lost to Somerset by 12 in their first encounter, got blown out Tuesday, losing

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Senior guard Bryson Amyx takes a charge during Tuesday's home game against the Somerset Briar Jumpers. The Rockets will join the Lady Rockets in a double header on Friday night when they will both take on the Pulaski County Maroons at home. Tip-off for the Rockets game is at 7:30.



Senior center Ben Allen blocks out a Briar Jumper defender during Tuesday's 75-49 loss against Somerset. Allen recently returned to the Rockets lineup after injuring his right patella tendon during warm-ups at Rocket Madness.