

# Rockets lose close game to Barbourville

By: Doug Ponder

The Rockcastle County Rockets are still winless for the season after a close 67-65 loss against the Barbourville Tigers Monday night.

The Tigers jumped out to an early 16-9 lead at the end of the first quarter and led 31-26 at the half. After halftime, the Rockets cut the lead to 49-45 but their comeback fell short in the last seconds of the game.

The Rockets were led in scoring by junior Sam Pensol with 15, senior Josh Mason got 11, junior Dakota Hasty and junior Blake Mullins both had 9, senior Gage Reynolds got 8, senior Corey McPhetridge scored 7, senior Tyler Harper had 4 and freshman Lucas Gentry got 2.

The heartbreaking loss to Barbourville came after another disappointing 77-53 loss to the Lincoln County Patriots last Friday night.

During last Friday night's game, the Patriots jumped out to an early lead and never looked back.

The Patriots led 14-9 at the end of the first quarter and 34-15 at the end of the first half. After halftime, the Patriots pulled away from the Rockets, putting up 26 points in the third quarter for a 60-34 lead.

The Rockets were led by Mason with 16, Gentry was next with 10, Pensol scored 8, Mullins had 6, freshman Carson Noble got 5, Phetridge and sophomore Alex Spragens both had 3 and Hasty scored 2.

Head Coach Benny Blanton said that he was satisfied with the effort of his players in the Barbourville loss but that he was very disappointed with their effort in the Lincoln County loss.

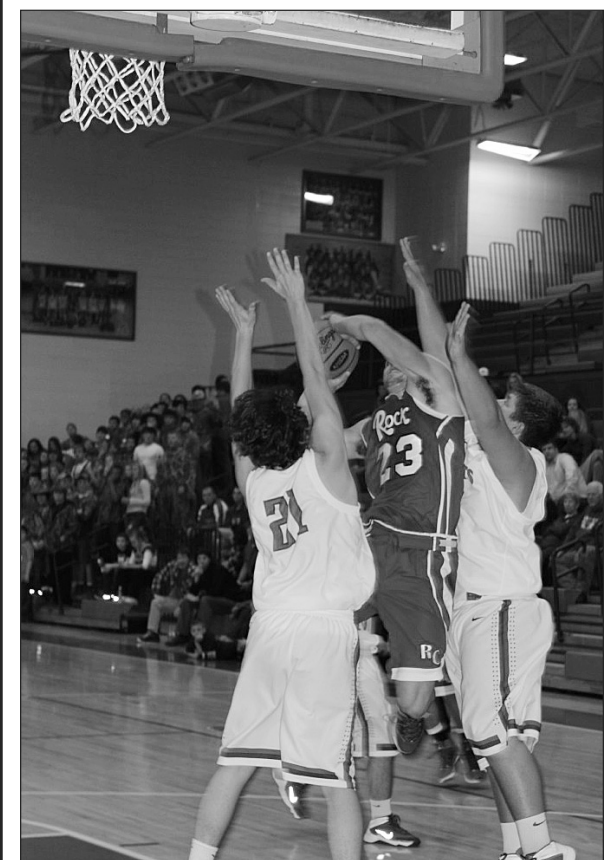
"In the Barbourville game we played really well. We started out bad trailing 9-0 but we actually beat Barbourville the three remaining quarters, we just came up short on the scoreboard," Blanton said. "We didn't get any breaks on the road in a different region but our guys showed a lot of pride and played hard without getting frustrated."

"I can handle losing if I think our guys compete hard and play as well as they can play. But we did not compete against Lincoln County," Blanton said. "I wish I were wealthy enough to give all the Rockcastle fans their money back after the Lincoln County game because no one should have to pay to watch that."

The Rockets will join the Lady Rockets in a double header this Friday night when they take on the Somerset Briar Jumpers at home. Tip off for the Rockets game is at 7:30 p.m.

Blanton said the Briar Jumpers are ranked first in the 47th district and seventh in the 12th region. Although they will play another tough team, he said his squad is glad to be back in Mt. Vernon for their first home game of the season.

"These first three road games have been tough, especially with the good teams we have had to play. The guys are really glad to be able to put on our home uniforms for the first time this season," Blanton said. "But Somerset will be tough for our first home game. They have good guards and we will have to play good defensively to have a chance to win."



Corey McPhetridge looks for shooting room between two Lincoln County defenders during last Friday night's loss. The Rockets will join the Lady Rockets in a double header at home this Friday night when they take on the Somerset Briar Jumpers. Tip-off for the Rockets game is 7:30 p.m.



Senior Josh Mason goes around a Lincoln County defender during last Friday night's 77-53 loss. The Rockets also lost to Barbourville Monday night 67-65. Mason was the leading scorer in the Barbourville game with 16 points.



Junior Sam Pensol attempts a lay-up during last Friday night's 77-53 loss to Lincoln County. The Rockets were led in scoring by Pensol with 15 points.



Freshman Hope Kelley attempts a jumpshot during last Friday night's 61-35 loss to Lincoln County. The Lady Rockets will join the Rockets in a double header at home this Friday night when they will take on the Somerset Briar Jumpers. Tip-off for the Lady Rockets game is 6 p.m.

# Lady Rockets now 1-2 with win against North Laurel Monday

By: Doug Ponder

The Rockcastle County Lady Rockets are now 1-2 on the season after an exciting 53-48 win over the North Laurel Lady Jaguars Monday night.

The turnover margin proved to be a deciding factor in the game as North Laurel had twelve turnovers compared to the Lady Rockets six turnovers. The only blemish for the Lady Rockets game was they only shot fifty percent from the foul line making eight out of sixteen free throws.

The Lady Rockets jumped out to an early 11-7 lead at the end of the first quarter and their enthusiasm carried over into the second quarter as they led 26-14 at halftime.

At the end of the third quarter, the Lady Rockets led 36-26 but the Lady Jags cut the lead to 47-43 with two minutes left in the fourth. The Lady Rockets managed to hang on for the win and a final score of 53-48.

The Lady Rockets were led in scoring by senior Amelia Eversole with 11 points, junior Alaina Coguer was next with 10, senior Brianna Hansel had 8, sophomore Morgan Renner 7, senior Kayla Reynolds and Mahala Saylor both made 6 points each senior Kelsey Mattingly had 4 and Ashley McKinney 1.

The North Laurel win came after a 61-35 loss last Friday night to the Lincoln County Lady Patriots.

During last Friday night's game, the Lady Rockets 19 turnovers on offense and lackluster performance on defense proved to be the deciding factors in the loss.

The Lady Patriots jumped out to an early 17-4 lead at the end of the first quarter and 31-10 at the end of the first half. Their momentum continued into the second half as they led 51-22 at the end of the third quarter. The Lady Patriots would put the game away in the fourth quarter with a final score of 61-35.

The Lady Rockets were led by Renner and Saylor, with 6 points each, Reynolds was next with 5, Eversole and Coguer both got 4 and Hansel, McKinney and freshmen Jayna Albright, Hope Kelley and Emily Payne were all credited with 2 points each.

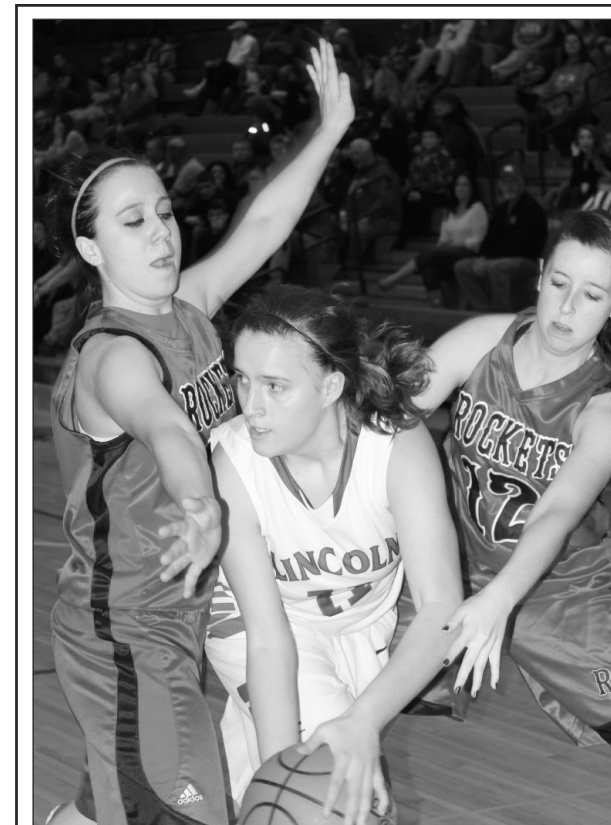
Head Coach Chrysti Noble said she saw tremendous improvement with her team during the North Laurel game.

"During the Lincoln County game we played too uptight. It's not that their defense was great it's just that we shot the ball terrible," Noble said. "In the North Laurel game they played much better. They weren't playing uptight, they got a lot of rebounds and they had very few turnovers. To win we need to play at that same level every game."

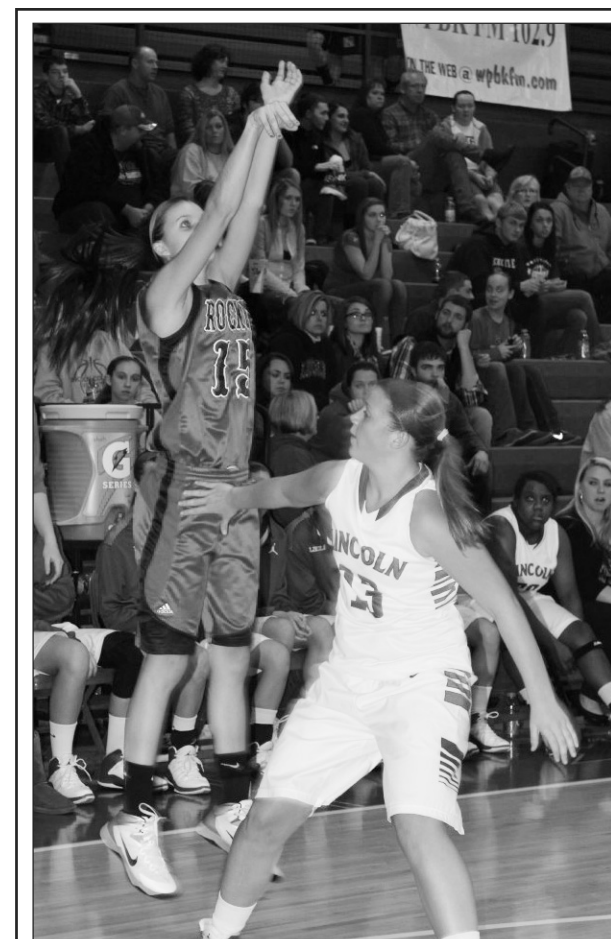
The Lady Rockets will join the Rockets in a double header this Friday night as they take on the Somerset Briar Jumpers at home. Tip off for the Lady Rockets game is at 6 p.m.

Noble said the Lady Briar Jumpers are a talented team who only lost one starter from last season to graduation.

"They have two starters who are very talented and averaged more than 10 points a game last season," Noble said. "We need to be able to score and handle their pressure on offense and we need to work hard on defense forcing turnovers and getting rebounds. If we do these things we can get a win."



Seniors Brianna Hansel and Kelsey Mattingly apply defensive pressure to a Lady Patriot during last Friday night's 61-35 loss to Lincoln County.



Senior Kayla Reynolds puts up a three point shot during last Friday night's 61-35 loss to Lincoln County. The Lady Rockets redeemed themselves on Monday night with a 53-48 win over North Laurel.

## RCMS Rocket Linescores

### 6th Grade

|                                                                                                                                                             |    |    |    |    |    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| RCMS                                                                                                                                                        | 16 | 16 | 9  | 2  | 43 |
| Garrard                                                                                                                                                     | 3  | 5  | 2  | 8  | 18 |
| Trevor Todd, 6; Logan Noel, 6; Josh Thacker, 9; Jake Loudermilk, 2; Seth Shepherd, 7; Bentley Taylor, 1; Dylan Bullen, 8; Logan Bullock, 2; Caleb Burns, 2. |    |    |    |    |    |
| RCMS                                                                                                                                                        | 9  | 11 | 2  | 15 | 37 |
| Lincoln                                                                                                                                                     | 14 | 4  | 5  | 6  | 29 |
| Todd, 8; Noel, 5; Thacker, 3; Loudermilk, 2; Shepherd, 7; Taylor, 8; Dakota Kirby, 4.                                                                       |    |    |    |    |    |
| RCMS                                                                                                                                                        | 13 | 5  | 15 | 10 | 43 |
| Berea                                                                                                                                                       | 3  | 0  | 2  | 0  | 5  |
| Noel, 6; Bullen, 5; Todd, 8; Shepherd, 4; Kirby, 5; Andrew Hurt, 1; Blayne Kelley, 2; Taylor, 2; Loudermilk, 2; Burns, 3; Reece McGuire, 3; Bullock, 2.     |    |    |    |    |    |
| RCMS                                                                                                                                                        | 6  | 18 | 12 | 18 | 54 |
| Estill                                                                                                                                                      | 14 | 8  | 11 | 9  | 42 |
| Noel, 6; Bullen, 8; Todd, 18; Shepherd, 6; Kirby, 2; Taylor, 4; Thacker, 6; Loudermilk, 4.                                                                  |    |    |    |    |    |
| RCMS                                                                                                                                                        | 11 | 17 | 11 | 9  | 48 |
| Madison                                                                                                                                                     | 8  | 10 | 5  | 11 | 34 |
| Noel, 2; Bullen, 5; Todd, 20; Shepherd, 11; Taylor, 7; Thacker, 3.                                                                                          |    |    |    |    |    |
| RCMS                                                                                                                                                        | 3  | 9  | 12 | 8  | 32 |
| Wayne                                                                                                                                                       | 7  | 14 | 7  | 15 | 43 |

Noel, 13; Bullen, 1; Todd, 10; Shepherd, 5; Taylor, 3.

|               |           |          |          |           |           |
|---------------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>RCMS</b>   | <b>16</b> | <b>6</b> | <b>7</b> | <b>4</b>  | <b>33</b> |
| <b>F-Town</b> | <b>0</b>  | <b>2</b> | <b>7</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>19</b> |

Bullen, 4; Todd, 10; Shepherd, 2; Hurt, 2; Taylor, 5; Thacker, 4; Loudermilk, 2; Burns, 2; McGuire, 2.

## 7th Grade

|                |          |           |           |           |           |
|----------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>RCMS</b>    | <b>7</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>40</b> |
| <b>Garrard</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>5</b>  | <b>11</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>27</b> |

Jacob Hansel, 6; Cade Burdette, 9; Caden Shaver, 8; Isaac Stratton, 2; Logan Kidwell, 5; Keaton Renfro, 2; Trevor Todd, 6; Seth Shepherd, 3.

|                |           |          |           |          |           |
|----------------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| <b>RCMS</b>    | <b>9</b>  | <b>9</b> | <b>9</b>  | <b>8</b> | <b>35</b> |
| <b>Lincoln</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>7</b> | <b>14</b> | <b>4</b> | <b>37</b> |

Burdette, 18; JD Hamilton, 6; Shaver, 5; Kidwell, 4; Todd, 2.

|              |           |           |           |           |           |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>RCMS</b>  | <b>11</b> | <b>7</b>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>22</b> | <b>45</b> |
| <b>Wayne</b> | <b>19</b> | <b>14</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>7</b>  | <b>50</b> |

Hansel, 10; Burdette, 7; Hamilton, 12; Shaver, 6; Todd, 10.

|              |           |           |           |          |           |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| <b>RCMS</b>  | <b>16</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>9</b>  | <b>4</b> | <b>45</b> |
| <b>Berea</b> | <b>0</b>  | <b>8</b>  | <b>13</b> | <b>9</b> | <b>30</b> |

Hamilton, 10; Shaver, 4; Stratton, 2; Jordan Casteel, 2; Hansel, 5; Peyton Bowman, 2; Javan Hasty, 6; Burdette, 1; Cam Bullock, 4; Kidwell, 4; Logan Noel, 4; Shepherd, 1.

|             |           |           |           |          |           |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| <b>RCMS</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>7</b> | <b>52</b> |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|

|                                                                                                                                                                 |    |    |    |    |    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Estill                                                                                                                                                          | 3  | 11 | 2  | 6  | 22 |
| Hamilton, 5; Shaver, 10; Stratton, 2; Bowman, 1; Burdette, 8; Bullock, 4; Kidwell, 6; Renfro, 2; Noel, 2; Todd, 12.                                             |    |    |    |    |    |
| RCMS                                                                                                                                                            | 9  | 10 | 14 | 19 | 52 |
| Madison                                                                                                                                                         | 13 | 13 | 10 | 14 | 50 |
| Hamilton, 13; Shaver, 13; Burdette, 4; Hansel, 5; Kidwell, 3; Noel, 4; Todd, 10.                                                                                |    |    |    |    |    |
| RCMS                                                                                                                                                            | 3  | 8  | 14 | 14 | 39 |
| Wayne                                                                                                                                                           | 12 | 5  | 11 | 13 | 41 |
| Hamilton, 8; Shaver, 7; Burdette, 4; Hansel, 5; Kidwell, 5; Noel, 6; Todd, 4.                                                                                   |    |    |    |    |    |
| RCMS                                                                                                                                                            | 10 | 5  | 8  | 3  | 26 |
| F-Town                                                                                                                                                          | 2  | 0  | 4  | 9  | 15 |
| Hamilton, 9; Shaver, 1; Stratton, 3; Burdette, 5; Hansel, 2; Bullock, 2; Kidwell, 2; Todd, 2.                                                                   |    |    |    |    |    |
| 8th Grade                                                                                                                                                       |    |    |    |    |    |
| RCMS                                                                                                                                                            | 12 | 7  | 12 | 8  | 39 |
| Garrard                                                                                                                                                         | 7  | 8  | 4  | 9  | 28 |
| Brent Lovell, 21; Devin Mullins, 4; Grant Bryant, 2; Emanuel Miller, 2; Nick Dillingham, 5; Levi Gentry, 4.                                                     |    |    |    |    |    |
| RCMS                                                                                                                                                            | 8  | 11 | 12 | 16 | 47 |
| Lincoln                                                                                                                                                         | 16 | 8  | 9  | 16 | 49 |
| Lovell, 22; Mullins, 2; Dillingham, 9; Gentry, 6; Anthony Houk, 3; Hunter Rigsby, 5.                                                                            |    |    |    |    |    |
| RCMS                                                                                                                                                            | 16 | 4  | 14 | 15 | 49 |
| Corbin                                                                                                                                                          | 7  | 4  | 7  | 7  | 25 |
| Lovell, 11; Mullins, 2; Dillingham, 6; Gentry, 11; Isaiah Amyx, 2; Houk, 2; Tanner Carrera, 4; Daniel Smith, 2; Blake King, 6; Rigsby, 2; Cameron Cornelius, 1. |    |    |    |    |    |
| RCMS                                                                                                                                                            | 6  | 7  | 9  | 14 | 38 |
| Berea                                                                                                                                                           | 7  | 7  | 10 | 3  | 37 |
| Lovell, 10; Mullins, 8; Rigsby, 7; Dillingham, 7; Cornelius, 2; Gentry, 4.                                                                                      |    |    |    |    |    |
| RCMS                                                                                                                                                            | 4  | 15 | 8  | 14 | 41 |
| Estill                                                                                                                                                          | 12 | 9  | 17 | 14 | 52 |
| Amyx, 4; Gentry, 2; Lovell, 24; Mullins, 2; Rigsby, 7; Dillingham, 2.                                                                                           |    |    |    |    |    |
| RCMS                                                                                                                                                            | 10 | 18 | 15 | 9  | 52 |
| Madison                                                                                                                                                         | 6  | 5  | 19 | 9  | 39 |
| Amyx, 5; Bryant, 5; Gentry, 4; Houk, 2; Lovell, 15; Rigsby, 6; Dillingham, 8; Carrera, 4; Miller, 2; JD Hamilton, 2.                                            |    |    |    |    |    |
| RCMS                                                                                                                                                            | 7  | 5  | 0  | 6  | 18 |
| Wayne                                                                                                                                                           | 22 | 19 | 9  | 4  | 54 |
| Amyx, 1; Lovell, 7; Mullins, 4; Rigsby, 3; Dillingham, 1; Miller, 2.                                                                                            |    |    |    |    |    |
| RCMS                                                                                                                                                            | 16 | 11 | 14 | 12 | 53 |
| F-Town                                                                                                                                                          | 9  | 8  | 7  | 19 | 43 |
| Amyx, 2; Bryant, 4; Lovell, 13; Mullins, 4; Rigsby, 25; Dillingham, 2; Miller, 2.                                                                               |    |    |    |    |    |