



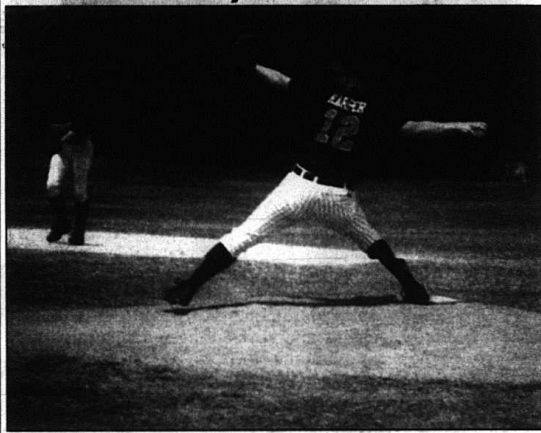
Raider Team competes Pg. A9

Mount Vernon Signal

Serving Rockcastle County Since 1887

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Rockets undefeated in Florida



Junior Greg Harper was the winning pitcher in the Rockets 15-2 win over 3rd ranked Boyd County Monday in Cocos Beach, Florida. The Rockets have also defeated 8th ranked Henderson County 6-3 with Brandon Bishop picking up the win. Andrew Cash got the 16-7 victory over Simon Kenton.



Derrick Bussell slides into home ahead of the throw in Monday's action against Boyd County. The three Florida victories brings the Rockets record to 5-0. Photos by Richard Aiderkin

Rifle Team headed to Nationals

The Rockcastle County High School Rifle Team defeated the top five teams in the state, earning the privilege of representing Kentucky in the National Air Rifle Team Championships (Sporter category) in Atlanta, Georgia the 7th through the 11th of June.

The team scored an all time high

score of 2036 in the preliminary competition held Saturday, March 25th held at Shelby County High School.

Individual scores were: Tami Taylor, with a score of 536/600, placing her as High Individual overall; Shannon Bullock scored a 513/600, second place individual; Johnathan

Noe scored 496/600, fourth place individual and Joe Clark scored 491/600, fifth place individual. Other members of the team, coached by Sergeant Major Keith Taylor, are: Tim Tyler, Chris Kirby, Jeff Smith, Jason Martin, Cole Hammond and Ronald Willey. All members will be

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Members of the RCHS Rifle Team are pictured above, front row from left: Shannon Bullock, Joe Clark, Tami Taylor (Team Captain), Johnathan Noe. Back row, from left: Ronald Willey, Jason Martin, Chris Kirby, Cole Hammond, Jeff Smith and Tim Tyler.

Barbara Lovell pleads guilty in "Toddy" Baker murder case

By: Richard Aiderkin

A Rockcastle County woman has pled guilty to assault first degree in connection with a local murder case. Barbara Lovell, 27, of Mt. Vernon, pled guilty on Tuesday morning in Somerset, in connection with the shooting death of Charles "Toddy" Baker, 31, of Mt. Vernon in 1997. Lovell and her husband, David, were charged with murder last year after Baker's body was found buried in a 14 foot pit off Tark Hill near Negro Creek.

Lovell agreed to a ten year sentence for her part in the shooting death of Baker, which apparently involved her actually shooting Baker.

Although Acting Commonwealth Attorney Eddy F. Montgomery said this week that, "the plea is consistent with the physical evidence in the case

and with the confession that Lovell gave in January 2000, in that Barbara Lovell did not fire the fatal shot."

Mrs. Lovell, who also faces a federal drug trial next week will be sentenced in state court on May 26.

Asst. Commonwealth Attorney David Dalton, the lead prosecutor on the murder case said that if Mrs. Lovell is found guilty of any crime in federal court, that sentence will run concurrently with the ten year state sentence. For example, if Mrs. Lovell gets a ten year sentence in federal court she will serve ten years in prison and not 20. Basically whatever she gets in federal court, will simply run

side by side in state court.

Dalton said the biggest thing to come out of Tuesday's guilty plea is the fact that Lovell's attorneys cannot stop her from telling her story in court and testifying against her band.

Tuesday's guilty plea is just another chapter in a very interesting and somewhat bizarre murder case in Rockcastle County.

A few weeks after David and Barbara Lovell were arrested and charged with Baker's murder, David Lovell attempted to post a \$50,000 cash bond in Rockcastle Circuit Clerk Teresa

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Joe Diffie in the valley Saturday for two shows

Smith gets good audit

Rockcastle County Sheriff Shirley Smith has received a clean audit for the 1997 tax year.

Smith, who is the only person to serve as Rockcastle County Sheriff for three terms, has never had a bad audit from the state in his ten years in office.

The county's collector of taxes has distributed millions of tax dollars to the state and local taxing districts over the years.

Renfro Valley Entertainment will welcome country music star Joe Diffie to the valley on Saturday night for two big shows.

Diffie is the second major country performer to headline at Renfro Valley this year. He will be followed by the likes of June Carter, the Oak Ridge Boys, Loretta Lynn and the Statler Brothers this year.

Tickets are \$18 and \$20. Show times are 7:00 and 9:15 p.m.

Local country music fans will remember Diffie for his big hits, "If The Devil Danced (In Empty Pockets)", "Pick-up Man", "Honky Tonk Attitude"; "If You Want Me To"; and

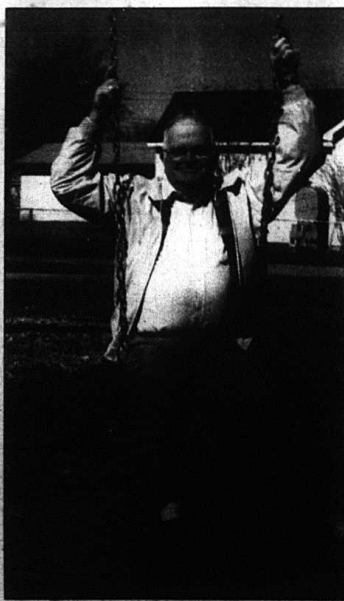
"New Way To Light Up An Old Flame".

On Friday, April 14th, Mike Snider will take the Renfro Valley stage and on Saturday, April 15th, Country Music Legend Charlie Pride will perform.

On April 22nd, one of the top gospel groups in the country, The McKameys, will perform and on April 28 and 29, Kentucky's funniest professor, Carl Hurley, will return to the Renfro Valley stage.

For tickets and information about Renfro Valley's 2000 concert series, call (606) 256-2638 or (800) 765-7464.

Brodhead's old park turns to new



Part of the reason the Mt. Vernon City Council said they needed a city park comparable to Mt. Vernon's \$370,000 debt they have on their city park...

At Brodhead, take away \$363,000 in debt and you have a city park comparable to Mt. Vernon. Brodhead Mayor Walter Cash says community spirit and the hard work of his council and city employees have enabled the city to offer their residents a park that is used day in and day out by residents from all over the county.

Cash said this week that council member Curt Brown approached him about a year ago and told him the city needed to fix up the park and things started happening from there.

The park has a walking track, basketball court, covered picnic shelter, an enormous Jungle Gym, swing sets, barbecue grill, horse shoe pitching area and probably most importantly, lights which enable the park to be used at night.

Mayor Cash said that at times in the past few weeks, as many as 40 people have used the basketball court and numerous others have used the walking track.

One advantage Brodhead had over Mt. Vernon was that they already owned the land and some of

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The newest addition to the newly renovated Brodhead City Park is this Jungle Gym. The City of Brodhead has updated their city park through many private donations of labor and cash. At left is Brodhead Mayor Walter Cash.