

Honors and AP: How do we measure up?

BY MISSY WILBURN

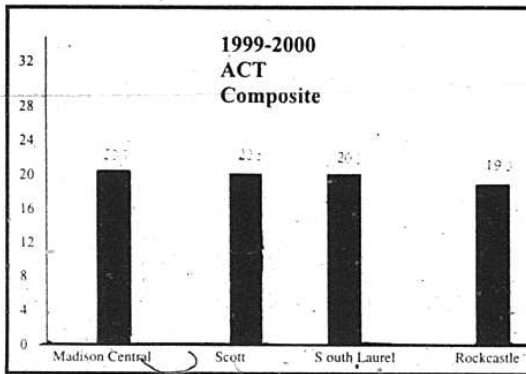
Many Rockcastle County High School students are rising to the challenge of Accelerated and Advanced courses this year. Other schools are preparing to dive into honor programs as well. I decided to check out the competition.

Unlike other schools, Rockcastle County has offered students the opportunity to enroll in college and honors courses. However, with the addition of these courses, AP no longer exists at Rockcastle County High School.

"When AP and Honors English were offered, the majority of students chose honors over AP. The Site-Based Decision Making Council decided to do away with AP shortly after," says Principal Ms. Ruth Allen.

"I feel that I don't have the opportunity many other students do who attend schools with AP programs. They have more selection in college bound courses," said Honors English Student Amanda Chism.

ACT scores for 1999-2000



show Rockcastle County High School's 19.0 average score is one full point behind other area high schools. The national average is 21.0.

RCHS Guidance Counselor Mr. Dale Whitaker comments, "AP and college courses fo in trends! The current trend is leaning towards AP courses. If this continues,

Rockcastle may eliminate college courses and bring AP back."

If AP classes are brought back, the question of cost, weighted G.P.A.s, and course selection will be addressed.

Honors English Teacher Mrs. Jennifer Mattingly says, "Always keep in mind that there are pros and cons with both".

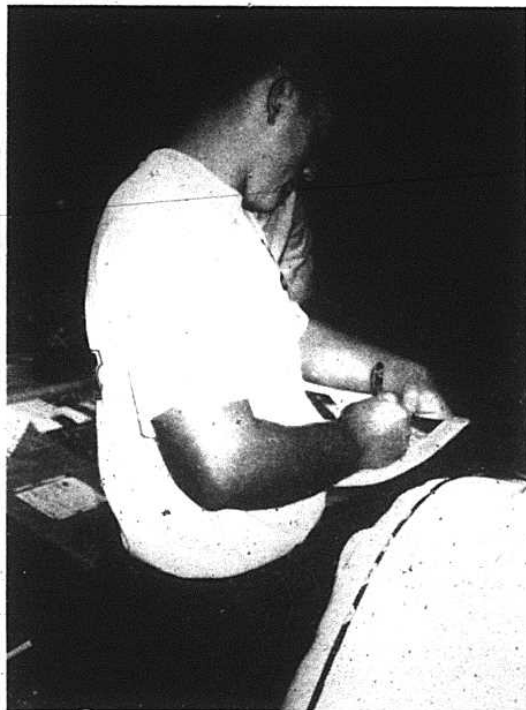


photo by Mindy Bullock
Dackery Larkey was one of several seniors who took part in EKU's college fair. In preparation, he, and others, must take the ACT. The average Rockcastle Count student will score a 19.

Too Cool For School

BY AMY CLARK

Walking down the halls of RCHS, a visitor might see students wearing jackets, long sleeves, and sweaters. This might not seem strange in December, how-

ever it's September and the thermometer outside typically reads almost 80 degrees.

According to some students, the arctic temperatures are creating a distraction in the classroom.

"People can't study if they are shivering," commented senior Kandis Jamison.

Junior Bridgette Vanwinkle agrees. "It's hard to concentrate when you are thinking about being cold."

By taking actual temperatures, I found that they do vary from classroom to classroom, but why?

Mrs. Ruth Allen says "It's how the building is made."

Mr. Coy Taylor, a custodian at RCHS, explains, "The temperature is set by computer and is usually set between 72-76 degrees."

The thermostats in each class

are supposed to control the temperature, but it doesn't seem to work.

In Mr. Ryan Riddle's classroom the temperature was 72 degrees. In Mrs. Brenda Corders room it was 71

degrees. English teacher Susan Norton's room was 77 degrees. All of these rooms are down the same hallway.

"I can change the thermostat, yet at times, it takes longer to feel a difference," said English teacher Wanda Gonzales. In her classroom the temperature was 79 degrees.

"It's very warm in some parts of the school, but in others it's very cold," according to Rhonda McClure. Girls are not the only ones who stay cold.

Junior Paul "Dougie" Hayes said, "I wear long sleeves or a jacket in order to keep my mind off the cold temperatures in school."

Temperatures don't seem to be going up any time soon, so bundle up if you don't want to freeze!

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