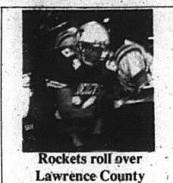


# Mount Vernon Signal

Serving Rockcastle County Since 1887

Mount Vernon, Kentucky 40456 - Volume 114 - Number 5 Ph. (606) 256-2244 - 50 a copy - Thursday, November 9, 2000



Rockets roll over Lawrence County

## Pair robs Mt. Vernon Dairy Mart

Two men in their early 20s walked away with an undetermined amount of cash from the Mt. Vernon Dairy Mart, in a theft on Friday afternoon. According to store clerk, Jessie Croucher, the two men walked into the store around 4:45 p.m. Croucher said that one of the men distracted him in the back of the store and the other one got into the safe behind the counter. Croucher said that he had never seen the two men before. Mt. Vernon Police Chief Bill Mink said that earlier in the day, the Sheriff's office worked an attempted theft at Country Sam's Furniture, but that nothing was taken. Mink said that it was probably the same two men at Country Sam's and at Dairy Mart. No arrests have been made.

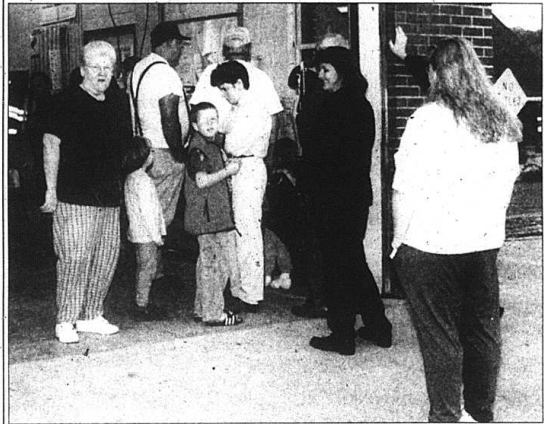
## Owens' work to be on display

The Berea Welcome Center and Historic L&N Train Depot will open the Christmas Season in Berea with "A Country Christmas Showcase" featuring Rockcastle residents, Janice Harding Owens and Ron Owens. Janice Owens, a resident of Rockcastle County, paints with acrylics, in a primitive, self-taught style of "Grandma Moses." Ron makes furniture of rustic bent willow. Artists and family will be on hand during the show. Some prints will be available for sale as well as paintings. Janice has shown at Berea College, the Silo Gallery in New Milford, Connecticut, Central Bank Gallery in Lexington, Sutherland Gallery in Bardonia and Morehead Folk Art Center. Permanent displays are at Morehead University, Promenade Gallery in Berea, Hackley Gallery in Winchester. Last week Janice Owens presented a painting of the Governor's Mansion. Cont. to A-11

## Vanzant and Burdette win

There will be one new face on the Rockcastle County Board of Education come January. Incumbent Sherry Isaacs, 31, lost her bid for re-election to Mike "Beau Champ" Burdette, 46, on Tuesday night. Burdette won 613 to 317. Burdette will represent division five of the school board, which is comprised of Roundstone, Conway and East Mt. Vernon. In the division four school board race, Martin E. Vanzant, 59, was re-elected to the board. He defeated Beverly Sexton, 46, 184 to 143. In division two, school board incumbent Terry Burton, 45, ran unopposed and got 896 votes. The board will now be comprised of Chairman Dr. G.W. Griffith, Sam Stallsworth, Burton, Vanzant and Burdette.

## Election 2000



Because of the fairly heavy voter turn out and the fact that voters at North Mt. Vernon had to use paper ballots, there was a line most of the day Tuesday. Over 5,500 people voted in Rockcastle County.



Libby Smith, left and granddaughter Rachel Hensley, helped election commissioners Juanita Davis, Brenda Lovell and Sheriff Shirley Smith count the paper ballots from the North Mt. Vernon precinct. The county went Bush, Rogers, Robinson and Lambert.

## Councils will stay basically same

The Mt. Vernon City Council will remain virtually the same, after Tuesday night's General Election. Incumbent members Jackie Renner, Joe Mullins, Clarence Kirby, Lonetta Daugherty and Wayne Bullock were all re-elected. Gene Cromer will take the sixth seat on the council, as he was elected in his first attempt at public office. Barbara Bennett announced last week that she was withdrawing from the race because she was moving out of the city limits, but her name still appeared on the ballot. The council will serve a two year term. Mayor Karen King is in the middle of a four year term. At Brodhead, Larry Taylor, Curt Brown, Johnny Wilcop and Everett

Albright will make up the new city council. They will also serve two year terms. The four men had no opposition in the race. Mayor Walter Cash has served two years of a four year term. At Livingston, Charlie Newcomb, county voters say no to annual sessions

## Bush, Rogers win Rockcastle

Voters in Rockcastle County gave an overwhelming majority to Republi-

cans George W. Bush and Harold "Hal" Rogers. Rogers easily retained his U.S. House seat, but as of press time Wednesday, the race for President had not been decided between Bush and Vice President Al Gore. In Rockcastle, Bush got 3,992 votes to Gore's 1,174. Local voters cast 4,217 votes for Rogers and just 717 for his opponent Sydney Bailey. The county also voted against annual sessions of the Kentucky General Assembly and against abolishing the office of Railroad Commissioner. The county voted 1974 to 1205 against annual sessions. They voted 1,792 to 1,361, not to abolish the office of Railroad Commissioner. Statewide the vote was just the opposite. It appeared at press time that the legislature would have annual sessions and the office of Railroad Commissioner will be abolished. In Rockcastle County, 5,509 people turned out to vote. That was 53 percent of the total people registered in the county and it was the most ever to vote in the county, Clerk Norma Houk said.

First time anyone from Rockcastle elected to post

## Lambert elected Circuit Judge by wide margin

Mt. Vernon attorney Debra Lambert, who was appointed Circuit Judge last fall, was elected to that seat on Tuesday night by an overwhelming majority. Judge Lambert, who oversees Family Court in Rockcastle, Pulaski and Lincoln Counties was the first person from Rockcastle to ever be elected Circuit Judge. "I'm stunned and I'm thankful for all of the support that I received in my campaign," Judge Lambert said. "We'll be in the office in the morning at 8 a.m., to continue the work we started last year," she said Tuesday night. Judge Lambert said she was humbled by the victory and said she appreciated the bipartisan support she received in all three counties. Judge Lambert easily defeated attorney Mike Duncan of Somerset, 18,664 to 8,637. Judge Lambert carried all three counties in the 28th Judicial Circuit and she carried all but two precincts in Pulaski County, including Duncan's home precinct of Cane Fork, where she won 304 to 291. In Rockcastle County she won 3,314 to 619. In Lincoln County she won 4,490 to 1,170 and in Pulaski County the vote was 10,860 to 6,841. Judge Lambert is the wife of Supreme Court Chief Justice Joe Lambert. They have two sons, Joseph, a junior at RCHS and John Lambert a fourth grader at MVES. Before Judge Lambert was appointed by Governor Paul Patton last year. The last Rockcastle lawyer to serve as Circuit Judge was Ed Denny, who held the post in 1947. He was appointed to the post

## Robinson beats down challenge

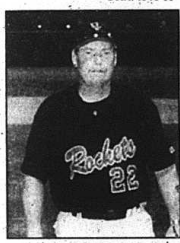
Republican Kentucky Senator Albert Robinson of London, held off a strong challenge from London Democrat Lawrence Kuhl on Tuesday night. Robinson defeated Kuhl, 20,394 to 14,754 to hold his 21st district seat in the Kentucky Senate. Republicans across the state also held on to their 20-18 majority in the Senate Tuesday. Although the 21st district, which is comprised of Laurel, Rockcastle, Knox and Jackson Counties is 3-1 Republican, Kuhl mounted a strong campaign against Robinson. In Rockcastle County, Robinson defeated Kuhl 3,173 to 1,637. In Laurel County Robinson won 9,418 to 7,756, in Knox County he won 4,696 to 4,118 and in Jackson County, Robinson won easily 3,107 to 1,243. Robinson has served in the Senate since 1994 and before that he served as State Representative for 14 years. Robinson is currently chairman of the Senate's powerful State and Local Government committee. Boil water advisory A boil water advisory has been issued by the Rockcastle County Water Association. The advisory is for customers who Cont. to A-11



Family Court Circuit Judge Debra Lambert, left and assistant June Coleman, counted votes at the Rockcastle courthouse on Tuesday night. Lambert easily defeated Mike Duncan.

## RCHS baseball coach Ryan Riddle fired

Last Friday Rockcastle County High School baseball coach Ryan Riddle was fired by Rockcastle County School Superintendent Larry Hammond. Hammond said that Riddle was relieved of his coaching duties only and the firing did not effect his teaching position at RCHS. Hammond's only comment was that the decision to let Riddle go, was a personnel decision and one he thought was best for the school system as a whole. Riddle declined comment on the firing, although it was widely known that the coach had been in odds with some members of the school's administration, including Hammond, over the past few years. Riddle had been the head baseball coach at RCHS for 18 years and had taken teams to the regional tournament twelve different times. Cont. to A-11



Baseball Coach Ryan Riddle



The home of Ms. Zl Graves on Tevis Street in Mt. Vernon was damaged by fire around noon on Thursday. Ms. Graves said she left a skillet with oil in it on the stove, while she talked to neighbors. The oil eventually ignited causing the fire. Her home received mostly smoke and water damage.

Cont. to A-11