

In first round of playoffs

# Rockets lose to Lexington Catholic

By: Doug Ponder

The Rockets finished the 2013 football season with a 2-9 record after a 50-13 loss to the Lexington Catholic Knights in the first round of the state playoffs last Friday night.

The final score was not indicative of the first half as the Rockets stayed in the game and at one time even had the lead. However, after halftime the Rockets lost their momentum and were shutout in the second half.

The Rockets were first to get on the scoreboard when senior quarterback Corey McPhetridge connected with freshman receiver Chayse McClure for a 79 yard touchdown pass. The extra point attempt was no good giving the Rockets the early 6-0 lead.

The Knights answered on their next possession with a 28 yard touchdown run by running back Marcell Logan. The two point conversion was good making it 8-6 at the end of the first quarter.

In the second quarter, McPhetridge connected with McClure once again for a 15 yard touchdown pass. The extra point was good and the Rockets regained the lead 13-8.

The next score in the game occurred after Knights punt returner David Bouvler returned a Rocket punt 50 yards for a touchdown. The extra point attempt was good making the score 15-13 at the half.

After halftime, the Rockets would never see the end zone again as the Knights took over the game and put up an unanswered 35 points for the final score of 50-13.

The Rockets were led on offense by McPhetridge who was 20 out of 39 passing for 249 yards and two touchdowns with one interception.

Junior fullback Chance Ansardi led the Rockets in rushing with 14 yards on six carries. Junior Isaiah Adams had 5 yards on five carries, senior Jared Lake got 5 yards on one carry and senior Brandon Jones had 1 yard on two carries.

McClure led the receiving corps with five catches for 109 yards and two

touchdowns. Last Friday night's game was also the fifth time in the 2013 season that a Rocket receiver had 100 or more receiving yards in a game.

Other Rockets catching passes were senior Tyler Harper with three catches for 67 yards, junior Kyle Denny with two catches for 35 yards, Jones with eight catches for 30 yards and senior John Hughes with two catches for 8 yards.

The Rocket defense was led by Adams with 9 tackles and four sacks. Other Rockets picking up tackles and assists were Lake and freshman Austin Mills with 8 each, Ansardi with five and one sack, senior Koty Bengue with 5, freshman Dalton Rowe with 4, McClure with 3, Hughes and Jones with two each, freshman Lucas Jones with 1 and one sack and senior R.C. Kirby and Denny with one each.

Head Coach Scott Parkey said that the score didn't accurately show how good his team played last Friday against a tough Lexington Catholic team.

"You have to disregard the scores in the fourth quarter. We took some chances going on fourth down and not making it which left them a short field to score from," Parkey said. "Going into the half down 15-13 was great but I really feel we should have scored on our last possession before halftime. We had a couple of things go wrong that hurt and cost us points. But overall I couldn't be more pleased with how our players performed."

Parkey said the defense played an outstanding game and kept the Knights offense disrupted all night and put them in tough situations.

"Coach Josh Martin's plan was to bring a lot of pressure which puts the secondary in man to man coverage," Parkey said. "They locked in on coverage and applied the pressure. It really frustrated them and kept their offense disrupted."

Parkey also said the offense played well as they kept their composure and confidence level high

throughout the entire game.

"McPhetridge showed us once again why he is one of the best quarterbacks in the state and his five receivers kept making plays to move the chains," Parkey said. "The line did a good job giving McPhetridge time to throw passes too. We had a few dropped balls but that is always expected with a passing-oriented team."

Parkey went on to say that the players will take a few weeks off before they begin weight training for the 2014 season.

"We have a lot of small players that need to get bigger, stronger and faster. We also have a lot of big players that need to get quicker, stronger and just plain mean," Parkey said. "I assure everyone that the entire team is hungry and ready to turn the program around. We will open against Madison Southern in August and be looking to start the season off with revenge."

## Rocket Madness scheduled for November 21st

The Rocket and Lady Rocket basketball teams will be hosting their annual Rocket Madness Thursday, November 21st at Rockcastle County High School.

Festivities will feature introductions of the 2013-2014 basketball players, entertainment from the teams, as well as double-header scrimmages.

If you'd like to enjoy a meal before the night begins, \$5.00 will include either a Back Porch barbecue sandwich or hot dog along with chips, cookies, and a drink, and will begin at 5:30 in the RCHS cafeteria.

Entrance into the games will be FREE with a silent auction and raffle inside the gymnasium to raise money for both the girls and boys basketball teams.

The coaches and players are eager to introduce themselves and encourage everyone to come out and support this year's Lady Rocket and Rocket basketball teams!



Junior Rockets Isaiah Adams and Chance Ansardi tackle a Knight during last Friday night's playoff loss. The Rocket defense was led by Adams with 9 tackles and 4 sacks. Ansardi had five tackles with one sack.



Freshman Isaiah Mercer is shown making a tackle on a Lexington Catholic player during last Friday night's playoff loss to Lexington Catholic.



Senior Brandon Jones attempts to catch a pass during last Friday night's 50-13 playoff loss to the Lexington Catholic Knights.



First Baptist and Bible Baptist are now registering for the 2014 Upward Basketball season. We have one last evaluation scheduled for Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> 6-8PM at First Baptist Church Mt. Vernon. Registration is open for children kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grades. For more information please call the church office 606-256-2922.



Upward Cheerleading Clinic  
Registration & Fitting

WHEN: Saturday, November 23rd

TIME: 9:00AM - 12:00PM

WHERE: First Baptist Church  
340 West Main St.  
Mt. Vernon, KY

FOR: Kindergarten - 5th Grade

Upward Cheerleading registration is \$75 which includes full uniform, pom poms and mega phone.

For more information call 606-256-2922

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