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Mayor Baker, Ham, Wilkinson win primary victories



Election Day mishap

Rockcastle County Democratic Chairman Henry Brown of Quail escaped serious injury Tuesday morning after he drove his Oldsmobile 98 into the path of a Cumberland Fence truck from Science Hill on Ky. 70 at Bell's Grocery. Brown received three broken ribs in the accident. According to a family member, Brown was on his way to pick up a cousin and take him to vote at the Brown precinct.

Nine indictments returned Friday

Nine indictments ranging from cultivating marijuana to wanton endangerment were handed down last Friday by the Rockcastle County Grand Jury.

Lewis Rowe, 55, was indicted for growing over 25 plants of marijuana at his residence in Mt. Vernon.

State and city police destroyed the marijuana on April 23. Rowe is presently free on bond.

Donnie Jones of Brodhead was indicted on four counts: wanton endangerment, criminal mischief, assault in the fourth degree and theft by unlawful taking.

The indictments stemmed from a May 4 incident in which Jones reportedly pointed a shotgun at Jennifer Denney's head and threatened to kill her.

According to the indictment, Jones also slashed all four tires on Denney's car, struck her in the

State reports more blackout

The state will place initial blackout surfacing on one mile of County Road 5386, Bowling Ridge Road in Rockcastle County, Gov. Martha Layne Collins has announced.

"Periodic upgrading of our county roads strengthens the transportation network throughout the state," said Collins. "This project will make this section of

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head with a shotgun and stole a pistol that belonged to her.

Jones is free on bond until June 26 when he will be arraigned before Circuit Judge Dan Venters.

James Edward Dees, 42, of Rt. 3, Mt. Vernon was indicted following a May 18 incident in which he shot into the home of Gena Horn on Loman Hill. He is also free on bond.

Ben Ramsey of Mt. Vernon was indicted on a charge of first degree criminal mischief for allegedly discharging a firearm into a pick-up truck owned by George Phillips. According to the indictment, \$1,100 worth of damage was done.

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John Harper GOP candidate

By: Ray McClure

Casey County native Wallace Wilkinson scored a stunning upset victory over former Governor John Y. Brown Jr. in Tuesday's primary election, riding a wave of support for a state lottery.

At presstime, Wilkinson was leading Brown by nearly 60,000 votes. Steve Beshear was in third place, but nearly 114,000 votes behind Wilkinson and about 40,000 behind Brown.

Latest count showed Wilkinson with about 220,000 votes. Brown with 163,000 and Beshear 114,000, all votes unofficial.

In the Republican race for governor, State Rep. John Harper, a two-term legislator from Bullitt County, won over his nearest opponent, former Fayette County Judge Joseph E. Johnson III. Harper had about 37,000 votes and Johnson 24,000.

It was another story for Democrats in Rockcastle County here. Steve Beshear, as expected, had the most votes with 364, followed by Wilkinson with 199, Brown with 154, Grady Stumbo, 59, Julian Carroll with 25 and Anne Moore with 1. Ormswiddle Lampton, Jr. had none.

Election day was a happy day in Rockcastle County for former County Judge/Executive Bob Jasper and Verla Scott. Both spent their time and money campaigning for Wilkinson. Although Wilkinson lost to Beshear in Rockcastle, the two had reason to celebrate.

In the Republican race for governor in Rockcastle, Leonard Bestley led the ticket with 407 votes followed by Harper with 306, Johnson with 250 and Thurman Hamlin with 114.

In the Democratic Lieutenant governor's race, statewide, Breton Jones defeated Dave Armstrong by about 185,000 to 168,000 votes. In Rockcastle, Democrats voted for Paul Patton. Patton had 211 votes, Jones 183 and David Boswell, 150.

In the lieutenant governor's race in the Republican column, Lawrence Webster, former Pikeville attorney, defeated Tommy Klein about 3,500 votes at latest count. In Rockcastle, Webster had 318 votes and Klein, 246.

In other state Democratic races, Fred Cowan defeated Todd Hollenback for attorney general by about 45,000 votes. In the race for superintendent of public instruction, John Brock apparently defeated Roger Noe, by about 9,000 votes, but his majority was small enough that Noe said he would ask

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River claims Laurel teenager

A 17-year-old Laurel County girl drowned Sunday in the Rockcastle River near the Laurel-Pulaski County line.

The body of Brenda Mae Branstetter of East Bernstadt was recovered by a diver for the Somerset-Pulaski County Rescue Squad about 1:30 p.m. Monday, Pulaski County Deputy Coroner Bruce Phelps said.

Miss Branstetter drowned about 5:30 p.m. Sunday near Johnson Place on the Rockcastle River in rural Pulaski County, where she had gone to swim with friends.

The girl apparently slipped into a current and panicked, Phelps said.

Two male companions tried but were unable to rescue her, the deputy coroner said. Her body was recovered within 15 feet of the point where she went under the water, he said.

Miss Branstetter, a junior at Laurel County High School, was the daughter of Curt and Alice Lambert Branstetter.



Mayor Elizabeth Baker



Benny Ham



Wallace Wilkinson

First woman ever elected

Incumbent Mayor Elizabeth Baker became the first woman to be elected mayor of Mt. Vernon in Tuesday's primary election, defeating City Councilman Jackie R. Renner by 85 votes.

It was a remarkable win for the former teacher who campaigned very little.

Mrs. Baker received 243 votes. Councilman Renner got 158.

It was Mrs. Baker's first venture into politics. She was appointed by the city council to serve until the November election after Mayor Roland Mullins moved out of the city.

Mayor Mullins recommended that Mrs. Baker be appointed before he left office.

Since no Democrat is on the November ballot for mayor, Mrs. Baker's primary victory is tant amount to election.

She will serve the two remaining years on Mayor Mullins' term, which ends in 1989 when the seat will be filled for a four year term.

Mrs. Baker carried three of Mt. Vernon's 40 precincts. East Mt. Vernon, 56 to 19; South Mt. Vernon, 39 to 20; and North Mt. Vernon, 82 to 53. She lost West Mt. Vernon by only two votes, 62 to 60. She received six absentee votes. Renner received four.

In another local race, incumbent Commonwealth Attorney Benny Ham was re-elected to a second term by 530 votes, defeating Robert A. Gullum, 4,526 to 4,016.

Although Ham lost Rockcastle County, 751 votes to 496, he carried Pulaski County, 4,030 to Gullum's 3,265 to give him the win.

In Rockcastle, Gullum lost only two precincts, Orlando by 30 to 26 and Brown by 54 to 37 votes.

Who got votes?

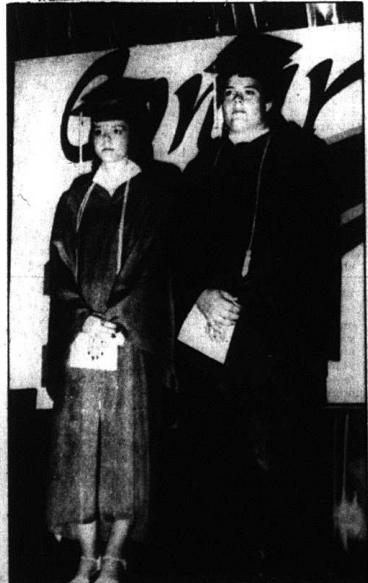
In all the primary races in Rockcastle County, Tuesday, who got the most votes?

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Photo by Richard Anderson

Robin Stroh, with softball, was busy at the dunking machine last Friday at the Roundstone Spring Festival. Robin, a student at Roundstone, is also a patient at the Rockcastle Hospital Respiratory Care Center. Watching Robin was Jama Cornelius a first grader at Roundstone.



Highest Honors

Mike Hamilton was Valedictorian and Trina Cummins Salutatorian of the 1987 graduating class of Rockcastle County High School. Mike and Trina were both honored at graduation ceremonies Tuesday night, 148 graduates received diplomas.