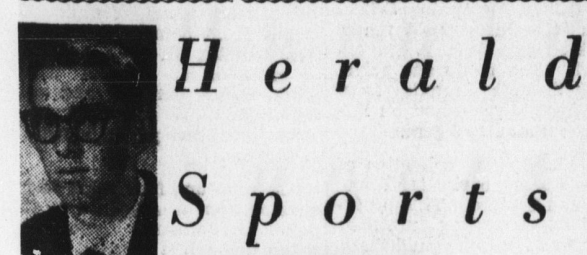


Mountaineers Tip Off Baseball Season Here Friday



BY GARY STEWART

Will Soph Jinx Kill Stottlemyre?

It is hard to figure out how the New York Yankees of the American league pennant last season, unless it is because of rookie pitcher Mel Stottlemyre.

Stottlemyre started the '64 season with the Richmond (Virginia) club. He recorded 10 straight wins, including seven shutouts, before joining the faltering Bronx Bombers in mid-August.

He hurled nine victories against three defeats for the Yankees and posted a low 2.06 earned run average. The righthander made 12 desperately-needed starts and his 9-3 record was a remarkable percentage.

Mel beat the St. Louis Cardinals 8-3 in the second game of the World Series but ran into some bad luck in the next two starts. In the fifth game he yielded only one run in seven innings but was lifted for a pinch hit. The Yankees lost, 5-2, in 10 innings. He came back in the seventh game with only two days rest and was hit for three runs in the fourth inning and was tagged out for the loss.

Stottlemyre joined the Yankee farm system in 1961.

Others In Same Category

Mel Stottlemyre is not the only major leaguer who had a first year sensation.

The Yankees also presented Pete Mikkelsen, a low-pitcher who started strong but began to slip at the end of the season. But he still racked up a 7-4 record in relief. The biggest rookie in the American League last season was Tony Oliva of the Minnesota Twins. He became the first rookie to lead the league in hitting with a .323 batting average. He added 32 homers and was tapped for Rookie-of-the-Year honors.

Wally Bunker of the Baltimore Orioles won 19 games last season and led the Birds to a third-place finish only games behind the league-leading Yankees. He finished first major-league season with a 19-5 record and was one of the reasons that the Orioles led the league for the greater part of the season, but what if the sophomore jinx hit Bunker? The Orioles may be hurting.

The National League

The Cincinnati Reds finished the '64 season in second place but two rookie pitchers, Sam Ellis and Billy McCool, won 16 wins against only eight defeats to help the team. That record could be switched around. Then the season may not finish that high again.

Richie Allen, third-baseman of the Philadelphia Phillies, broke in as a rookie last season and socked 29 home runs and was the fifth-ranking batsman in the NL with a batting average of .318. What would the Phils do to make the most of his many home runs and extra base blows? They did call on their new slugger Dick Stuart but he can't get third base.

The San Francisco Giants struck it rich with rookies last season and ended the season in fourth place only three games back of the Cardinals. Their newly discovered third baseman Jim Hart hit at a .286 pace and knocked 31 home runs. Rookie second-baseman Hal Lanier was one of the glove men in the league and he ended the season hitting .274. Righthander Ron Herbel pitched 161 innings and led a 9-9 won-loss record.

The Milwaukee Braves finished the season in fifth place only five games out. But they came up with outfielder Carty who broke into the big leagues with a .330 average, second highest in the league, and knocked 22 homers.

A second year's performance like that could see the Braves give some stiff competition for the flag but a sophomore jinx could see them fall deeper into the standings. Very few rookies who break into the majors with it performances like these continue to be as great. Many break in gently and gradually progress — year by year — if they make it.

The eye catchers are those like Oliva, Bunker, Stottlemyre, and Allen. Can they be that good? Some few are, most aren't but no one can tell what that sophomore jinx will bring.

Yankees Could Be Hurting

If Stottlemyre continues to be the great pitcher he has been the Yankees will probably have no problem winning the pennant, but if his second season is not successful, the Yankees will have to struggle once again to win.

The Yankees have begun a dynasty, so to speak. Year after year the Bombers manage to win the pennant and have won more pennants, 29, than any other club in the major leagues.

The Yankees have twice put together five straight pennants, from 1949-'53 and from 1960-'64. Had it not been the Cleveland Indians winning in '54 and the Chicago White Sox in '59, the Yankees would have a string of 10 straight pennants going for them.

The big question as far as the Yankees are concerned these days is: Will Ford's arm hold out? Will injuries again nip Mantle?, and will Johnny Keane be able to begin own dynasty and keep the Yankees winning?

No one doubts that Keane is a good manager: a smooth, aware handler of men with two decades of experience in the baseball trade. No one really doubts the wealth and talent on the Yankee roster. With these two combined, the Yankees should have no trouble winning their sixth straight pennant.

IF MANTLE AND FORD SURVIVE — Some people wonder if Ford can pitch after his operation. He has been hit hard in spring exhibition games and is undoubtedly going to have to make a comeback. Many people are wondering if Mantle should go ahead and retire from baseball now.

Hardly a season has gone by that the great slugger isn't been sidelined with leg injuries. He had a great season despite the tire of his legs toward the end of the season, last year and placed second in the Most Valuable Player balloting. But those legs still present the biggest blemish as far as Mantle and the Yankees are concerned. Outfielders Tom Tresh and Roger Maris were under the last season and are due for a comeback in '65. The Yankees have one of the best, if not the best, infielders in the majors with Joe Pepitone at first, Bobby Richardson at second, Tony Kuback at shortstop, and Cleve Boyer at

Catcher Elston Howard, who placed third in MVP balloting in '64, is getting on in years and it is a known

Track Team Opens Season Thursday

Eight Returning Lettermen Head 48-Man Squad

The Kings Mountain high school track team travels to Cherryville today (Thursday) to participate with the remaining seven teams in the Southwest Conference in the first meet of the '65 season for the local team.

Chase, Cherryville, and East Rutherford began their season last Thursday at East Rutherford. Eight returning lettermen head the '65 squad of 48 boys: Buzz Shuford, Jimmy Wright, Pat Ford, Butch Blackburn, Mike Goforth, Tommy Burns, Lyn Cheshire, and Ben Grimes. Seniors Jimmy Cloninger, Pete Putnam, and Steve Grigg will be counted upon heavily by coaches Bill Cashion and Bob Hussey to carry much of the heavy load this season.

"We'll probably have a lot of trouble in our first meet," said head coach Bill Cashion, "but before time for the big meets we think we will have a good team. The weather hasn't permitted us to get in too much practice on the outside and the boys have been mostly getting into shape," he added.

Five meets are scheduled for Kings Mountain before the conference meet at Shelby on April 30. The bi-conference meet will be at Morganton on May 7 and the association meet will be held at North Rowan on May 15.

1965 KMHS TRACK ROSTER

- *Butch Blackburn
- Bobby Bolin
- *Tommy Burns
- Ronald Burton
- Joe Champion
- *Lyn Cheshire
- Pat Cheshire
- Jimmy Cloninger
- Scott Cloninger
- Chip Crisp
- Gary Devenney
- Tommy Dover
- Tommy Duncan
- Brent Goforth
- *Mike Goforth
- Carson Gore
- Ricky Grahl
- Steve Grigg
- *Ben Grimes
- Jimmy Hall
- Larry Hardin
- Bill Herndon
- Mike Hoyle
- Stan Laughter
- Phillip Lawson
- Doug Lettlich
- David Mercier
- Bob Moss
- Gary Myers
- Larry Patrick
- Robert Pifer
- Kenny Plonk
- Darrell Putnam

Jenny Oates Holds 2-Game Mixed Lead

With two more weeks of bowling remaining in the Mixed Duckpin League, the standings still show Jenny Oates in first place by two games over first-half winner City Paint Store.

In action last Thursday Oates took a 3-1 decision from fourth-place Betty Fite. Jenny Oates rolled a 121 line and a 319 set for the winners and Randy Blanton paced the losers with a 106 line and a 299 set.

John Dilling and Lib Gault rolled identical 126 lines and 340 sets to lead second place City Paint Store to a three-game win over Dot Tignor. Clyde Culbertson was high for the losers with a 130 line and a 324 set.

Bob Herndon copped night scoring honors with a 140 line and a 365 set to lead bottom-place Janet Parker to a three-game win over City Ice & Coal. Boyer Murray added a 291 set for the winners and Albert Brackett rolled twogames of 149 and 141 for a 290 set and Allen Myers added da 303 high set score.

City Paint Store copped team set honors with a 1522.

Team	W	L	Pct.
Jenny Oates	32	12	.727
City Paint Store	30	14	.682
City Ice & Coal	21	23	.477
Betty Fite	19	25	.432
Dot Tignor	16	28	.364
Janet Parker	14	30	.318

Creighton Given 2-Year Contract With Checkers

CHARLOTTE — In an unprecedented move, the Charlotte Checkers' board of directors March 16 tendered Fred Creighton a two-year contract as managing coach.

The announcement of Creighton's reappointment was made by club President Al Manch.

"Fred did an outstanding job for us in his first season as player-coach," said Manch. "We are happy to announce his new contract."

Under the new terms, Creighton will serve as non-playing coach except in case of emergency. His duties entail assembling

Continued On Page 5

- Pete Putnam
- Philip Putnam
- Charles Ramsey
- *Buzz Shuford
- Dennis Smith
- Bobby Stroupe
- Charles Webb
- Carl Welsener
- Richard White
- Phillip Whitley
- J. C. Wright
- *Jimmy Wright
- Phillip Wright
- Wayne Wright
- *Griffin Drug

Bottom-Place Teams Record Wins In Men's Bowling Action Monday

Only three weeks remain in the Kings Mountain men's duckpin bowling league and the standings show the first place team atop the standings by five games, and the bottom place teams only seven games out.

In action Monday night the first place Clyde Culbertson team split a four-game match with fourth place Tignor & Russell Garage and Dilling Heating and Griffin Drug recorded three-game wins over Bob Herndon and Plonk Oil, the two teams that are tied for second place.

Albert Brackett rolled a 139 line and a 327 set to lead Tignor & Russell to a comeback and split 2-2 with the league leaders. Harold Barber added a 322 set for the winners and Lee Norville rolled a 124 line and team captain Clyde Culbertson added a 315 set for the leaders.

Combined games of 110, 130, and 107 saw Randy Blanton score a 347 set to lead Griffin Drug to a three game win over Plonk Oil Company. Allen Myers added a 322 set for the winners and Clarence Plonk rolled a 112 line with Richard Bridges scoring a 305 set for the losers.

Furman Wilson copped scoring honors for Dilling Heating with a 111 line and a 325 set to lead the Heaters to a three-game win over Bob Herndon. Dilling added a 301 set for the winners and Richard Culbertson was high for the losers with a 137 line and a 346 set.

Tignor & Russell copped team scoring honors with a 1533.

Team	W	L	Pct.
Clyde Culbertson	35	25	.583
Bob Herndon	30	30	.500
Plonk Oil	30	30	.500
Tignor & Russell	29	31	.483
Dilling Heating	28	32	.467
Griffin Drug	28	32	.467

fact that the Yankees are going to have to find another catcher before long. Even if his efficiency dropped last season, he was still the best catcher in the league.

Three Pitchers To See Action; Mullinax Starts

The baseball game between the Kings Mountain Mountaineers and York, South Carolina, regularly scheduled for Tuesday, March 23, was cancelled because of bad weather. The Mountaineers will begin season play Friday against York at Kings Mountain's City Stadium.

Game time is 4:00. Righthander Bill Mullinax, a senior, will receive the starting call Friday but assistant Coach Bob Hussey reports that three pitchers, Mullinax, Seerley Lowery, and junior Steve Goforth, will definitely see action in the game.

Mullinax is scheduled to pitch the opening three frames with Lowery and Goforth seeing action in two innings each.

Sophomore Roy Medlin will be behind the plate with Hubert McGinnis at first base, Mickey Bell at second, Richard Gold at shortstop, and Pat Murphy at third. In the outfield Ronnie Rhea is scheduled to start at left, Claude "Bubbles" Pearson at center and either Tommy Black or Chip McGinnis at right.

As many as possible will see action in the opening game, which is non-conference.

Capable substitutes include infielders Nelson Connor, Phillip Bunch, Chucky Gladden, and Larry Morgan, with Phillip Russ and Roger Ross likely to see action in the outfield. Sophomore Paul Gaffney is ready for sub duty behind the plate.

All-conference third-baseman Pat Murphy is scheduled to be the leadoff hitter with Bell, Gold, H. McGinnis, Medlin, Rhea, Pearson, C. McGinnis or Black, and Mullinax following in that order.

The Mountaineers travel to East Rutherford Tuesday, March 30 for the opening game of the Southwest Conference schedule.

East Rutherford hosts a number of returning lettermen and will definitely be tough competition for the hometown boys.

The Mountaineers will return home next Friday to play host to Cherryville. Game time for both games will be 4:00.

Mountie Golfers Down Lincolnton 8-1 Monday

Ballard Low Man With Nine-Hole Total Of 37

Coach Don Parker's Kings Mountain high school golf team got off on the right foot Monday afternoon at the Kings Mountain Country Club by defeating Lincolnton 8-1.

Mike Ballard, Kings Mountain's number one man, defeated Lincolnton's York Rudisill 8-up in nine holes of play and gained the day's scoring honors with a one over par 37. Rudisill topped Lincolnton with a nine-hole total of 49.

Kings Mountain's No. 2 man, George Plonk, posted a nine-hole record total of 41 and defeated Carpenter of Lincolnton 4-3. Fred Wright and Jay Powell posted identical 43 rounds to defeat their opponents 5-up and 3-up, and Tommy Dean took a 3-up decision from Lincolnton's Goodson. "Bo" King of Lincolnton defeated Kings Mountain's John Van Dyke 1-up.

The Mountaineers are scheduled to play host to Shelby at the Country Club today (Thursday) at 4:00 and will play host to Cherryville Monday.

MONDAY'S RESULTS
Plonk (KM) defeated Carpenter (L) 6-up; Ballard (KM) defeated Rudisill (L) 8-up; Wright (KM) defeated Hunter (L) 5-up; King (L) defeated Van Dyke (KM) 1-up; Dean (KM) defeated Goodson (L) 3-up.

History shows that Albania has been conquered many times, but for some reason victors never seemed to become familiar with the natives.

Pharmacy Team Has Three-Game Lead

Medical Pharmacy upped its league lead to three games Tuesday night in ladies' bowling action by taking four games from Plonk's Department Store. Belk's Department Store moved into second place in the standings by taking a 4-0 decision from bottom place McGinnis Furniture and Oates - Henderson Shell took sole possession of fourth place with a 4-0 win over Phillips 66.

Ora Mae Bennett led the Medical Pharmacy win with a 118 line and a 334 set. Team captain Janet Parker added a 300 set for the winners and Lib Gault topped Plonk's scoring with a 123 line and a 339 set.

Mary Ruth Barrett and Dot Tignor combined talents to lead Belk's to their four-game win. Barrett copped high line honors with a 116 and Tignor added the team's highest set, 302. Charity Goforth led McGinnis Furniture's scoring with a 110 line and a 305 set.

Jenny Oates rolled a 105 line and a 307 set to lead Oates-Henderson Shell to a 4-0 decision over Phillips 66. Ethel Tignor was high for the losers with a 110 line and a 296 set.

Team	W	L	Pct.
Medical Pharmacy	34	14	.709
Belk's Dept. Store	31	17	.646
Plonk's Dept. Store	28	20	.583
Oates-Henderson	22	26	.458
Phillips 66	18	30	.375
McGinnis Furniture	11	37	.229



MOUNTAINEER MENTOR — Pictured above is Kings Mountain high school baseball Coach Bill Bates. Bates begins his second season as the Mountaineer mentor Friday afternoon when the locals play host to York, S. C. Bates currently holds a 9-7 record in baseball.

The Leach's Petrel, only slightly smaller than a purple martin, makes oceanic crossings.

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8 OZ. REG. \$3.50	NOW \$2.00
12 OZ. REG. \$5.00	NOW \$3.00

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Dry Skin Bath Oil Capsules \$1.00	After Bath Talc \$1.50
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