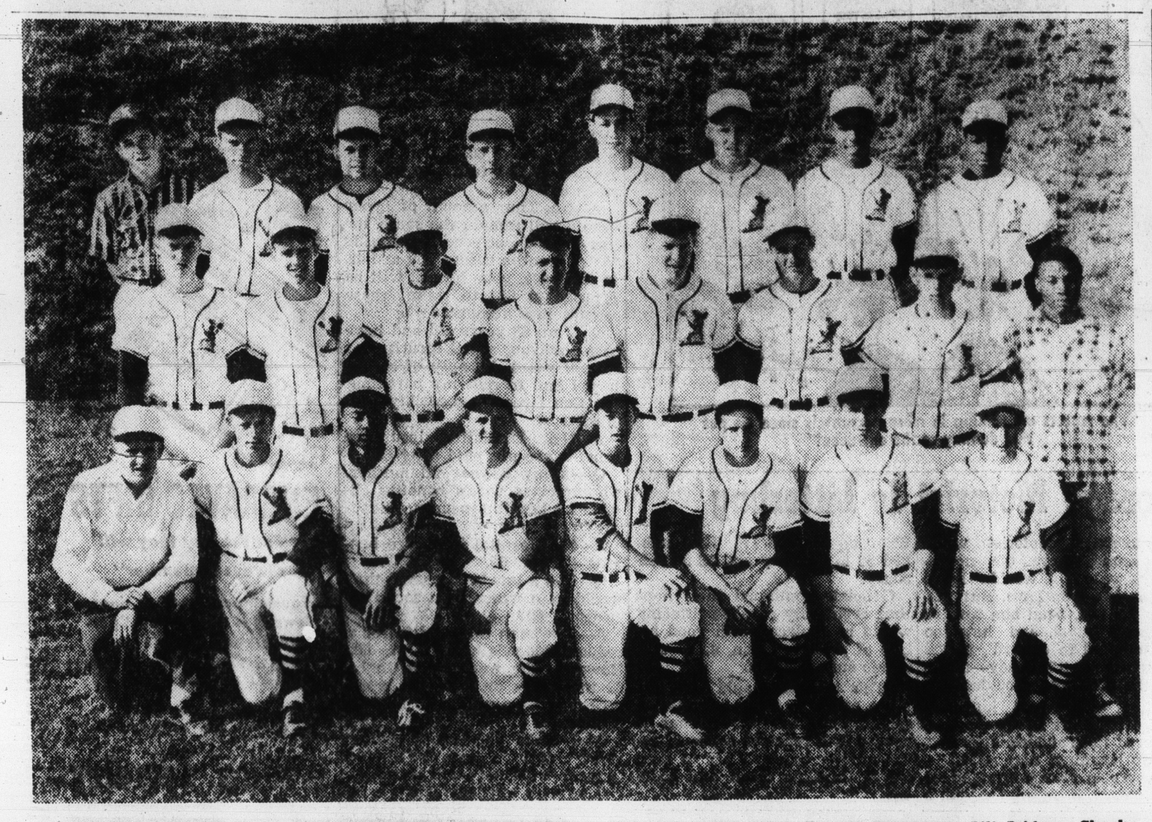
# Mountaineers Host Cherries In Finale Thursday



MOUNTAINEERS — Pictured above is the Kings Mountain high school baseball team which plays host to Cherryville tonight (Thursday) in the 1966 Southwest Conference finale for both teams. Shown above, front row, left to right, are Johnny Allen (mgr.), Gene Putnam, Henry Manning, Nelson Connor, Mike Smith, Larry Morgan, Tommy Goforth and Rocky Goforth. Second row, same order, Darrell Whetstine, Bill Bridges, Charles Carroll, Stanley Laughter, Charles Green, Gaither Bumgardner, Steve Goforth and Philbert Thombs (mgr.). Back row, Mark Goforth (mgr.), Dennis Connor, Wayne Mullinax, Paul Gaffney, Chucky Gladden, Tony Leigh, Richard Shank, and Jerry Mitchem.

## Steve Goforth To Hurl Finale For Mounties

Kings Mountain high school's ace pitcher Steve Goforth will be appearing in the final game of his high school baseball career Thursday night when the Mountaineers host Cherryville in the 1966 finale.

The Mountaineers were scheduled to play Belmont Wednesday afternoon after Tuesday night's game was postponed because of cold weather. Righthander Tommy Goforth (1-4) was scheduled to start for the Mounties against Larry Henson of Belmont.

Steve currently sports an impressive 0.93 earned run average wile holding a 4-4 record. He is 4-3 in conference play and has 59 strikeouts to his credit.

Steve is the only senior on this year's Mountaineer roster.

The Mounties were 4-8 in conference play heading into Wednesday's encounter with Belmont. Kings Mountain had previously beaten the Raiders, 4-3, with Steve pitching a four-hitter and fanning 13 batters.

Leading the Mountaineer hitting column going into Wednesday's game was junior shortstop Nelson Connor with 12 hits in 44 times at bat for a .273 average. He has three doubles, a triple and three runs batted in to his credit.

Connor is the only regular hitting over the .200 mark.

Scheduled to start for the Mounties in their season finale Thursday are: Chucky Gladden (1b), Gene Putnam (2b), Wayne Mullinax (3b, Nelson Connor (ss), Tony Leigh (lf), Bill Bridges (cf), Charles Carroll (rf), Paul Gaffney (c), and Steve Goforth, pitcher.

Cherryville has posted only two wins during the season, its first a 4-3 win over KMHS, and the other an 8-2 win over Lincolnton. Belmont has an 8-4 record and is in fourth place, but only one-half game behind loop leaders Lincolnton, East Rutherford and R-S Central.

## John Van Dyke Is Medalist In WNCHSAA Golf Tourney

## East Comes From Behind To Beat Mounties, 6-5

WINNER — Pictured above is Appalachian sophomore Warren (Bo) Goforth, a former Kings Mountain high school and Post 155 Legion star, who won his second game of the season Saturday, beating Barry Gibson and Lenoir Rhyne, 12-7.

East Rutherford took advantage of five Kings Mountain errors Friday afternoon as the Cavaliers pulled into a three-way tie for first place in the Southwest Conference standings with a 6-5 win over the Mountaineers.

Five of East's runs were unearned. The Cavs erased a 4-1 deficit to win their eighth loop decision.

Senior Steve Goforth went the distance for Coach Bill Bates' Mountaineers and suffered his fourth loss of the year. Goforth gave up six hits, walked five and struck out five.

Gaining the win was East ace Brinson Hill who also went the distance allowing eight hits, walking two and striking out three.

The Mountaineers took a 2-0 lead in the top of the first with Nelson Connor and Chucky Gladden scoring on a double by catcher Paul Gaffney. Connor reached base on a walk and Gladden collected a single to rightfield.

East came right back in the bottom of the first to score one run with Roger Vassey singling, going to second on a sacrifice bunt and scoring on a single by Hill.

Kings Mountain scored two more in the second frame. After Bill Bridges grounded out, Goforth walked, and one out later, scored on a two-bagger by Connor. Connor then scored on another single by Gladden.

The Cavaliers scored two more unearned runs in the second on a KM error and two walks by Goforth.

Two Mountaineer errors and a double by East catcher Doug Haulk led to the game-tying run in the third. East went ahead, 5-4, in the fifth with Jim Rodgers getting a single and coming home on a triple by Hill. The run, however, was unearned because of an error by KM catcer Paul Gaffney.

East scored its only earned run of the game in the sixth inning with two walks and a single providing the punch.

The Mountaineers added a run in the seventh with Bill Bridges singling and scoring two outs later on a triple by Connor.

BOXSCORE

| Kings Mountain | AB | R | H | BI |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Leigh, lf | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Connor, ss | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Gladen, 1b | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Gaffney, c | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| Mullinax, 3b | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Carroll, rf | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Putnam, 2b | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Bridges, cf | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| S. Goforth, p | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| | 28 | 5 | 8 | 5 |
| East | | | | |
| Vassey, 1b | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Melton, lf | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Jolley, ss | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rodgers, cf | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Hill, p | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Haulk, c | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Bailey, 3b | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Butler, rf | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Bradley, 2b | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | 24 | 6 | 6 | 4 |

E—Putnam 2, Bridges, Gaffney, Connor, Bradley, Haulk. SB — Gladden. SAC — Melton. 2B — Connor, Gaffney, Haulk. 3B — Connor, Hill.

| Pitching | IP | H | R | ER | BB | SO |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Hill (w) | 7 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| Goforth (l) | 6 | 6 | 6 | 1 | 5 | 5 |

## Van Dyke Edges East's Harrill For Top Honors

Kings Mountain high school senior John Van Dyke fired a 36-hole total of 147 Monday to gain medalist honors in the 1966 Western North Carolina High School Activities Association Golf Tournament.

The tourney was played at two different golf courses, with 18 holes being played at Boone and the other 18 at Blowing Rock.

Van Dyke toured the par-71 Boone course with a 73 and the 70-par Blowing Rock course with a 74. Van Dyke's closest opponent was Scott Harrill of East Rutherford who finished with a 148.

Kings Mountain's other entry in the association meet was senior Jay Powell who tied for eighth place. Powell just last week placed first in the Southwest Conference Tournament with an even par 74 at Forest City.

A total of 72 golfers from 36 WNCHSAA schools participated in the association tourney. Mooresville of the Northwest Conference won the team championship with a 632 total with Shelby finishing second with a 633 score.

Shelby and R-S Central represented the SWC in the team events. R-S Central, which led at the half-way point, finished in third place.

Both Van Dyke and Powell were instrumental in leading Coach Don Parker's linksmen to a third place finish in the conference this past season with a team record of 7-6-1. They also figured largely in the 11-3 record posted by KMHS last year.

Both boys are two-year lettermen at the sport.

## Herald Sports

By GARY STEWART

## 1966 A Record Year For Local Bowlers

Bowling is becoming more and more popular in Kings Mountain, especially since Mountain Lanes Bowling Center Manager C. H. (Cat) Houser installed automatic pin setters about a year ago.

Duckpin bowling is all that is offered at Mountain Lanes now. It's more fun than ten pins anyway. Duckpin bowling takes real skill.

And there are several bowlers — both men and women — around Kings Mountain that have the skill needed to make good duckpin bowlers.

During this past 1965-66 season, three of the four all-time line and set records at Mountain Lanes were broken. And the one that was not broken this year was missed by only four pins.

The most recent record to fall was the ladies' high set record which was broken last week by Lib Gault.

Lib rolled a 429 set while bowling with the Elsie's Beauty Shop team, breaking her own record of 425 which was set the week before.

Her 425 total broke the old record of 395 set by Jenny Oates who currently holds the ladies' high line record of 166 which was set earlier this season and tied by Jenny two weeks ago, the same night that Lib rolled her 425 set.

## It All Began At The National Tourney

Both Lib and Jenny have been tearing the KM Ladies' League apart since they came back from the National Duckpin Bowling Tournaments in Norfolk, Va., where they combined to take second place in the ladies' doubles competition.

At Norfolk, Lib rolled a 424 set and Jenny rolled a 380 as the two totaled an 804 set which missed first place and $300 by only seven pins.

Both ladies have been bowling in the local league for a long time and have trophies galore. Jenny has been bowling here since the ladies' league was formed 10 years ago and Lib has been bowling here since 1957.

Two members of the Morrison Loan Co. team in the men's league rolled high totals this past season with Boyer Murray setting an all-time high line record of 171. Albert Brackett didn't set a record but missed his all-time set record of 435 by just four pins.

Brackett copped three trophies during the '65-66 season by taking both the first and second half high set awards and the first half high average trophy.

Brackett's first half high set was 431, he had a second half set of 430 and carried a better than 119 average.

Several other local bowlers have been doing good this past season. Just about every bowler in the men's league averaged over 100 and most of the ladies are hitting close to 90.

Winning the championship in the men's league this season was the Plonk Oil Co. team. Members of the championship team were Clarence Plonk (captain), Bill Mullinax, Richard Bridges, Allen Myers and Sam Hamrick.

The ladies' league champion will be determined Tuesday night in a best-of-five game roll-off between first half winner McGinnis Furniture and second half champ Plonk Brothers.

In both leagues, both halves, it was close races all the way. Providing the stiff competition in the men's league were Clyde Culbertson and Morrison Loan in the first half and Culbertson during the second half.

In fact, Culbertson had a two-game lead going into the final night of the season but lost three games to Griffin Drug on the last night while Plonk Oil was picking up four wins off Morrison Loan.

Elsie's Beauty Shop and Kings Mountain Drug presented the tough competition in the ladies' league during the final half of the season. Of course, in both leagues, on any given night, any team could win.

It was that well balanced.

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## Shelby's Self Gets 5-0 Win Over KM Wednesday

Shelby's Mitchell Self fired a five-hitter at Kings Mountain's Mountaineers here Wednesday afternoon to claim a 5-0 shutout in Southwest Conference baseball action.

The big senior righthander struck out nine KM batters en route to the victory. The win squared the 1966 KM-Shelby series at one game each. Kings Mountain had earlier taken a 4-1 win at Shelby.

Tommy Goforth went the distance for Coach Bill Bates' Mountaineers and was tagged with his fourth straight conference loss. Goforth gave up six hits, including doubles by Self and Max Jones.

Shelby struck for one run in the second and fifth innings and added three in the seventh.

The Mountaineers got runners in scoring position in three of the seven innings but couldn't manage a score.

Self opened up the Shelby second with a single to rightfield. Max Jones followed with a single to left. James Van Dyke sacrificed both runners and Phil Peeler walked to load the bases.

Shelby leftfielder Brian Hensley hit a sharp grounder to Connor at shortstop who relayed to home to nab Self, however. KM catcher Paul Gaffney could not get the throw off to first base.

Jones then scored the winning run when Goforth issued a base on balls to Henry Jones.

Shelby added an unearned run in the fifth with Max Jones driving Mike McDaniel home with a double to the road in left-center. McDaniel had reached base on an error by KM's Wayne Mullinax.

The Lions scored three more runs in the final frame as a result of four bases on balls, a double by Self, a single by Hensley and a passed ball.

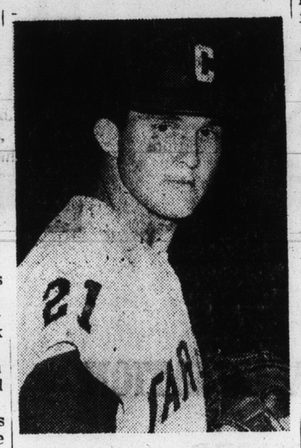
Leading the Shelby hitting parade were Max Jones and Self with two hits each while Tony Leigh and Nelson Connor had two apiece for the Mountaineers.

BOXSCORE

| Kings Mountain | AB | R | H | BI |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Leigh, lf | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| N Connor, ss | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Gladden, 1b | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gaffney, c | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Mullinax, 3b | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Carroll, rf | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Putnam, 2b | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Manning, cf | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| a—D. Connor | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| T. Goforth, p | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 23 | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| Shelby | | | | |
| C. McDaniel, 3b | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Whitworth, c | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| M. McDaniel, ss | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Self, p | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| M. Jones, cf | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Van Dyke, rf | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Peeler, 1b | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Hensley, lf | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| H. Jones, 2b | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | 26 | 5 | 6 | 4 |

a—Grounded outfor Manning in 7th.

E—Mullinax, Goforth, Hensley. DP—M. McDaniel & H. Jones. SAC — Putnam, Van Dyke, Peeler. 2B — Self, M. Jones. PB — Gaffney. HPB — Gaffney (by Self).



STANDOUT — Beattie Leonard (above) has been listed as one of the three mound stars that led Coach Walter Rabb's University of North Carolina Tar Heels to the Atlantic Coast Conference championship this year. Leonard, a former Post 155 Legion standout, will perform in the NCAA District 3 playoffs in Gastonia in June.

## Leonard Praised By Coach Rabb

Southpaw Beattie Leonard of the University of North Carolina drew praise from UNC Coach Walter Rabb this week after Leonard teamed with George McRae and Danny Walker to lead the Tar Heels to the Atlantic Coast Conference championship.

The former Kings Mountain American Legion standout posted a 4-3 mound record this past season but pitched much better ball than his record indicates.

Beattie has two shutouts to his credit, including a one-hitter against Georgia Tech and a four-hitter against Wake Forest. He also fired some other low-hit games but failed to figure in on the decision.

Leonard teamed with McRae for a one-hitter against Virginia last Saturday but McRae picked up the decision. Carolina won the game, 2-1.

Local fans can get a chance to see Leonard perform when the Tar Heels come to Gastonia June 2 to participate in the NCAA Region 3 Playoffs at Sims Legion Park.

## KMHS Second Best In Sportsmanship

Kings Mountain high school placed second in balloting for the Sportsmanship Award at the annual meeting of the Western North Carolina High School Activities Association last Wednesday in Belmont.

Belmont high school won the award with KMHS placing a close second. Good sportsmanship is the main factor involved in the winning of the award, however, playing facilities plays a big part in selection of the winner.

Shelby won the award last year.

## KMHS Girls Place Second At "Play-Day"

Kings Mountain high school placed second in the annual WNCHSAA girls' "play-day" at North Rowan high school in Spencer Saturday.

Statesville won the event. Fourteen schools participated.

Kings Mountain won the fast-pitch softball championships with four straight three-inning victories. Sharon Gold did the pitching for KMHS, striking out 20 batters in the 12 innings.

The softball team consisted of: Debbie Plonk (ss), Susan Lowery (3b), Susan Howell (c), Sharon Gold (p), Cassendra Wilson (2b), Becky Dunn (cf), Jean Phifer (rf), Vernice Bowen and Vickie Turner (lf), and Linda Childers (1b).

KMHS captured one other first place, two third places and a fourth place. Freshman Linda Childers took first place in the high jump, Becky Dunn was third in the sack race, the 440-relay team placed third and Susan Lowery captured fourth place in the shot put.

The relay team was made up of Gold, Howell, Childers and Debra Cole.

As a result of placing second, KMHS will receive a trophy and every member of the softball team will receive a gold softball. Childers will receive a medal for placing first in the high jump and each girl participating in the other events will get ribbons.

Girls' physical education director Glenda O'Shields served as coach.

## Plonk Brothers Wins Ladies' Second Half

Plonk Brothers won only one game in ladies' bowling action Tuesday night but it was enough to cap the title for the second half of play.

Plonk's will meet first half winner McGinnis Furniture next Tuesday in a best-of-five series to determine the league champion.

In other action Tuesday night, Kings Mountain Drug won three games off Elsie's Beauty Shop to pull into a final tie for second place and McGinnis Furniture won four off the Outcasts to finish in fifth place.

Oates - Henderson Shell took three games off Plonk's with team captain Jenny Oates leading the way with a 125 line and a 325 set. High scorer for the losers was Pat Herndon with a 105 line and a 290 set.

Lynda Sparrow rolled a 131 line and a 363 set to lead Kings Mountain Drug to a 3-1 win over Elsie's. Team captain Pat Panther chipped in a 329 set and Lib Gault was high for the losers with a 114 line and a 334 set.

## Goforth, Gibson Meet; (Bo) Wins

Two former Kings Mountain high school and Post 155 American Legion teammates met as college rivals Saturday at Boone, N. C., in a Carolinas Conference baseball game between Lenoir-Rhyne and Appalachian State Teacher's College.

Barry Gibson, a junior southpaw and ace of the LR staff, was doing the pitching for the Bears but found the going pretty rough against the Mountaineers, and the LR hitters found the going pretty rough against the Mountaineers' pitcher, sophomore Warren (Bo) Goforth.

Appalachian won the game, 12-7, with Goforth picking up his second win of the season against three losses. Gibson suffered his fourth loss of the year and evened hi record at 4-4.

Gibson pitched six innings before giving way to a relief pitcher and Goforth was relieved in the eighth.

Both boys are former KMHS and Post 155 standouts. Gibson won the John Moss Most Valuable Player Award in 1963 when he led Coach Fred Withers' KMHS Mountaineers to their only Southwest Conference championship in history. Goforth won the Legion MVP Award in '64, the year that he spun a no-hitter against Bessemer City in the post-season elimination rounds.

Goforth was in his first start since sustaining a shoulder injury which kept him out of action for eight days. He has been described as a hard-luck player but ASTC Coach Bill Church claims that he has done an exceptional job in the games that he has started.

"His record is deceiving because he has faced some of the toughest competition we have met this year," said Church. He added, "he is an outstanding young man and should be a big winner before he graduates."

Appalachian first-baseman Jim Leigh, also from Kings Mountain and a junior, also drew some praise from Coach Church. "Jim is one of our team leaders," states Church. "His batting average (.250) is deceiving because he is often put in hit and run situations, but he is one of our big rbi men. Jim is a quiet and dedicated gentleman an a joy to work with."

Betty Fite rolled a 132 line and a 332 set to lead McGinnis Furniture to a 4-0 win over the Outcasts. Barbara Miller chipped in a 311 set for the winners and Doris Ware had a 105 line and Ethel Tignor added a 282 set for the losers.

FINAL STANDINGS

| Team | W | L | Pct. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Plonk Brothers | 47 | 25 | .653 |
| Elsie's Beauty Shop | 43 | 29 | .597 |
| Kings Mtn. Drug | 43 | 29 | .597 |
| Oates-Henderson | 31 | 41 | .431 |
| McGinnis Furniture | 28 | 44 | .389 |
| Outcasts | 25 | 47 | .347 |

## Golfers "Skunk" Lincs In Finale

The Kings Mountain high school golf team "skunked" Lincolnton 9-0 here Thursday afternoon to end its season with a 7-6-1 record.

It was the third time this season that Coach Don Parker's linksmen posted shutout wins over their opponents. The other two "skunks" were against York and the same Lincolnton team.

Senior Fred Wright fired an even par 36 to gain medalist honors while John Van Dyke also broke 40 for the Mountaineers with a 39 score. Bo King had a 39 for Lincolnton.

Pat Cheshire recorded the most impressive win with a 4-up victory over Goodson. Van Dyke recorded a 3-up win while Jay Powell, Wright and William McSwain were 2-up and Andy Davis won 1-up.

RESULTS

SINGLES

Wright (K) def. King (L) 2-up; McSwain (K) def. Cashion (L) 2-up; Cheshire (K) def. Goodson (L) 4-up; Davis (K) def. Self (L) 1-up; Van Dyke (K) def. Lineberger (L) 3-up; Powell (K) def. Mauney (L) 2-up.

DOUBLES

Wright-McSwain (K) def. King-Cashion (L) 4-up; Cheshire-Davis (K) def. Goodson-Self (L) 4-up; Van Dyke-Powell (K) def. Lineberger-Mauney (L) 2-up.

## Three Teams Tied For Softball Lead

Bur-Mill, Gastonia and the Jaycees are deadlocked for first place in the Slow-Pitch Softball League after one week of action.

The three teams sport identical 2-0 league records. In fourth place is Margrace with a 2-1 mark, Cash Grocery, Grover and the Bees are tied for fifth with 1-1 records, Craftspun Gems are in eighth place with a 1-2 mark and the Craftspun Jets and Mullins have yet to win and have 0-3 records.

Gastonia, Jaycees and Margrace each posted two wins during the past week, however, one of the Jaycees games was protested. The Jaycees defeated the Bees on Monday night but the Bees protested on grounds of an ineligible player.

The Jaycees' other win was over the Jets on Wednesday night in a make-up game.

Gastonia claimed victories this week over Mullins and Margrace while Margrace took wins off the Gems on Friday and the Jets Tuesday.

The Bees erased a 16-4 deficit Thursday night and came from behind to edge Cash Grocery 21-20 for its only win thus far. Cash Grocery jumped into the win column on Monday night with a 9-2 win over Grover.

In action Tuesday night, Margrace defeated the Jets 14-10 and the Gems beat Mullins 17-15.

STANDINGS

| Team | W | L | Pct. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Bur-Mill | 2 | 0 | 1.000 |
| Gastonia | 2 | 0 | 1.000 |
| Jaycees | 2 | 0 | 1.000 |
| Margrace | 2 | 1 | .667 |
| Cash Grocery | 1 | 1 | .500 |
| Grover | 1 | 1 | .500 |
| Bees | 1 | 1 | .500 |
| Gems | 1 | 2 | .333 |
| Mullins | 0 | 3 | .000 |
| Jets | 0 | 0 | .000 |

## Netmen Beat R-S, Lose Two Others

Kings Mountain high school's tennis team won one of three matches during the past week.

The win came at home against R- Central Wednesday afternoon with KMHS winning a 5-4 decision. Coach Ralph Scheussler's netmen lost matches, 9-0, to Hickory Thursday and Shelby Monday.

Clark Mauney, Neal Cooper and Doug Mercier won singles matches against R-S Central while the doubles entries of C. Mauney and David Wilson and Cooper and Mercier also took wins.