

Teeners Playing Tennessee For Regional Title



Herald Sports

By GARY STEWART

Teeners KM's First State Champion

The 1966 Kings Mountain Teener League all-star team is the first athletic team from here to ever win a state championship.

The boys, 13 through 15 years of age, won the title last week in Greenville, N. C., with a dramatic two-run homer by Wayne Mullinax in the bottom of the eighth inning beating Gastonia 6-4 for the crown.

Kings Mountain pitcher Darrell Whetstine was voted the tournament's most valuable player with Mullinax finishing a close second, KM shortstop Gene Putnam led his team in hitting during the three-day tourney, however, no individual statistics are available yet.

Whetstine, who posted an 0.82 earned run average while compiling an 0-1 record for Kings Mountain high school last year as a sophomore won all three of KM's games at the state tourney.

In the first game of the affair Whetstine relieved Rocky Goforth after seven innings and went on to beat host team Greenville 4-3 in eight innings. Whetstine came back the next day and beat Gastonia 7-4, the same game that first baseman Ken Mitchem cracked a long three-run homer to the opposite field.

Gastonia came back to beat Kings Mountain 4-3 Wednesday morning with Goforth getting tagged with the loss despite a four-hit, 10 strikeout performance.

Whetstine came back to claim his third win of the series Wednesday afternoon. Darrell relieved Mullinax with none out and the bases loaded in the fourth. He worked the fourth through the eighth innings giving up only three hits and not walking a batter and also chipped in a single to KM's hitting attack.

The big right-hander is being counted upon heavily to carry much of the pitching load for KMHS and Post 155 Legion team come next season. In high school play last year, Darrell gave up only 15 hits, two earned runs, walked only five and struck out 11.

This year's Teener team sports several stars who will make some of last year's KMHS and Legion starters scratch for a starting position next year.

Mullinax and second baseman Mike Smith were both starters on last year's high school team and Mitchem, Putnam, Joe Cornwell and catcher Clarence Ash are going to show someone they mean business next year.

Connor Good Selection As Legion MVP

I don't know who was on the Legion Committee that selected the Post 155 most valuable player, but they couldn't have made a better selection than Nelson Connor.

Connor became the second shortstop in as many seasons to win the MVP Award last Thursday night at the annual post-season banquet honoring the local players, their parents and local Legion officials.

Connor is not a power hitter but without his timely hitting Post 155 could not have played .500 ball this past season. Nelson led the team in hitting with a .404 batting average, one of the top marks in Area IV for a regular player.

Nelson collected a total of 38 hits in 94 trips to the plate this season, led the team in doubles with five and tied for the lead in triples with one. He finished second in runs scored with 20, had 12 runs batted in and four stolen bases.

The little shortstop hit safely in all but one game of the '66 season and was also very valuable to the team with his fielding.

Previously, only two infielders had been awarded the Post MVP Award. Last year the award went to shortstop Richard Gold and first baseman Jim Leigh won the trophy in 1962. Connor represents the first lefthand batter to win the award since outfielder Mickey Bell took it in 1963.

Qualifying Runs Held For Dixie "400"

Qualifying was in full swing at the Atlanta International Raceway today as NASCAR speedsters time-trialed for starting positions in the rugged Dixie 400 Sunday.

Starting time for the race, which carries a \$63,260 posted purse, is 1 p.m. The starting field, which will include practically all of the nation's top stock car race drivers, will be limited to the 44 fastest cars as determined in the time trials, which will continue through Saturday. The trials, each consisting of four laps around the fast 1 1/2-mile track, began Wednesday.

For drivers not winning starting positions in the time trials, a 20-lap qualifying race will be held Saturday afternoon at 4:30 to fill out the starting field.

Infield gates will open at 6 a.m. on Sunday and the grandstand gates will open at 7 o'clock. Fans are advised to get an early start to avoid a repeat of the unprecedented traffic congestion caused by the record number of fans headed for the Atlanta 500 last March.

The posted purse for Sunday's long grind — 267 laps around the high-banked track — is \$63,260, with \$12,800 going to the winner. Second place will pay \$6,520, third \$3,405 and so on down to at least \$350 for the last-place man.

About 50 race cars are crowding the bustling garage area as mechanics labor without let-up to bring them to their peak speed before race day. Virtually all of NASCAR's ace speedsters will compete in Sunday's 267-lap event.

Among early entries were Curtis Turner, who will drive the Smokey Yunick Chevelle he raced so handsomely at Daytona; Paul Goldsmith, winner of the recent Volunter 500 at Bristol; former Grand National champion Richard Petty; Sam McQuagg, last year's Rookie of the Year, who zoomed to a smashing victory in this year's Firecracker 400 at Daytona; David Pearson, current Grand National point leader; James Hylton, the rookie driver who's amazing the race crowd by pressing Pearson for the 1966 championship; the Allison brothers, Bob, former national champ, and Donnie of Modified racing fame; Bobby Johns, the Miami veteran; the Bakers, father Buck and son Buddy; Friday Hassler of Chattanooga, another hotshot in Modifieds; Lee Roy Yarborough, Jim Paschal and other certified chargers.

Fords predominate among the entries, with 12 so far. Dodges come next with seven, and there are six each of Chevelle, Plymouth, and Chevrolet. Among the Mercury drivers will be Johnny Wynn of Detroit, and Neil Castles of Charlotte will pilot an Olds.

Starter will be Ernie Moore, who has been on the

Darrell Whetstine Fires Two-Hitter At Tennessee For 10-0 Win Tuesday

By GARY STEWART

Darrell Whetstine fired a two-hitter at Greenville, Tenn., Tuesday afternoon to set the stage for the Eastern Regionals championship game Wednesday afternoon at Belmont-Abbey College.

Kings Mountain was defeated 5-4 by Tennessee in Monday's opening game. Rocky Goforth went the distance for the locals and was tagged with the loss although he limited the Tennessee boys to only five hits.

Tuesday's outcome was 10-0. The game was called in the bottom of the sixth inning because of the 10-run rule which states that if, after at least five complete innings, one team goes ahead by as many as 10 runs, the game is automatically called.

Whetstine had a no-hitter going Tuesday until pitcher Ronnie Myers led off the third inning with an infield single. The other hit, a double by catcher Jerry Ricker, came in the fourth inning and put runners on second and third.

Mike Smith, Wayne Mullinax

and Eddie Black led KM's eight-hit attack Tuesday with two hits each. Mullinax registered three runs batted in. Catcher Clarence Ash and Whetstine got the Mounties' other two hits.

Kings Mountain scored the winning run in the first inning with Smith's single driving Joe Cornwell home after Cornwell struck out but went to second on a passed ball and a throwing error by the Tennessee catcher.

Smith scored KM's second run two outs later on a single by Mullinax.

Kings Mountain put the game out of reach by scoring six runs in the fifth inning to make the score 8-0. KM's fifth inning runs came on singles by Smith, Black, Mullinax and Whetstine, two wild pitches, a passed ball and a Tennessee error.

The locals ended the game by adding two runs in the sixth on three bases on balls and singles by Black and Ash.

KM jumped to a 1-0 lead in the first inning Monday with Putnam driving Cornwell home with a single after Cornwell

walked and was sacrificed to second by Glenn Perkins.

Tennessee came back in the second to take a 2-1 lead but singles by Goforth, Cornwell and Smith, along with a base on balls and a wild pitch gave KM a 3-2 lead in the third.

Tennessee went back ahead, 4-3, in the fourth with pitcher Jimmy Gillen cracking a two-run double after Goforth served up walks to Rex Bishop and Bugs Kinser.

The locals tied the score in the fifth with Perkins scoring on a wild pitch after cracking a double and taking third when the Tennessee second baseman booted the throw-in from the outfield.

Tennessee scored the winning run in the fifth with Jimmy Miller's double driving home Phil Smith who reached base on a walk.

Putnam led KM's hitting attack Monday with a 2-for-4 performance while Miller was Tennessee's top gun with a double and two singles in three trips to the plate.

Mike Sisk Invades Columbia With Outstanding Hitting And Pitching

(Editor's Note: The following news feature appeared recently in the Columbia, S. C., Record and describes the recent diamond exploits of Mike Sisk, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Sisk. Mr. Sisk, now assistant manager of South Carolina State Parks, for several years was manager of the nearby Kings Mountain State Park.)

The people of South Carolina have withstood many invasions from the north. Nothing in their heritage, not Sherman's march, not the burning of Atlanta, not even the carpetbagger government after the war could have prepared citizens of Columbia for the "invasion from the north" by young Mike Sisk.

Mike, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Sisk, formerly of Kings Mountain, is a twelve-year-old Dixie Youth baseball player with talent and abilities far beyond his years.

Playing with the Todd-Moore Sporting Goods team in the Edgewood League, the strongest league in Columbia, Mike rewrote every pitching and hitting record available to him.

He batted .802 for the 20-game regular season in which his team was unbeaten. He drove in 84 official RBIs and blasted 12 home runs.

His home run statistics are not so impressive until an additional fact is brought to light. Edgewood League doesn't play their games in a regulation Dixie Youth Park with a 180-foot home run fence, but has to play in a softball park with a 240-foot barrier. Prior to young Sisk's exploits, there had only been three fair balls hit out of the park during games. Sisk hit six during the regular season and would have had several more homers inside-the-park but the opposing teams took to placing their outfielders at the fence and Mike had to settle for some of the longest singles and doubles ever witnessed in youth play.

He was walked intentionally 50 times in 20 games, twice with the bases loaded, but as a pitcher he was even more impressive. He posted a 12-0 pitching record with an E.R.A. of less than 0.30. He struck out 140 batters in 64 innings pitched and threw eight no-hitters in 11 starts including one perfect game.

In his last 48 innings pitched, young Mike allowed no hits and no runs.

The Edgewood League All-Star team, led by Sisk, marched through the seven league City Tournament without a loss and captured the Carl Asbill Trophy, emblematic of the Columbia area youth baseball championship.

Mike pitched and won two games, as limited by the rules and was even more devastating at the plate.

He appeared at bat 18 times in the All-Star competition and stroked three homers, one double, a fly to center and was walked intentionally 13 times.

Mike is described by his coach, Bill Simpson, 1966 All-State baseball player at Erskine College as, "Any coaches' dream come true. He has unlimited ability and coordination, but the most impressive thing about Mike is his attitude. He hustles better than any player I've ever seen around in any sport and gives more than 100% on the field. This past season has been the greatest pleasure any coach could ever experience."

flag-stand for every race held thus far at Atlanta International Raceway.

Norris Friel, chief technical inspector for NASCAR, opened his garage area Monday for the usual eye-balling of the race cars, and practice started Tuesday.

Peewee Football Meeting Today

All boys interested in playing pee wee football are urged to meet at the Deal Street Swimming Pool this afternoon at 4 p. m.

In order to be eligible to play under pee wee rules, a boy must weigh between 65 and 95 pounds. Jim Littlejohn will coach this year's team.



TEENER MVP — Pictured above is Darrell Whetstine, the ace pitcher of the Kings Mountain Teener League all-star team, who last week won the State Teener Tournament most valuable player award after leading KM to the N. C. title.

Whetstine Wins State Tourney MVP Trophy

Darrell Whetstine, who posted four victories against no defeats in district and state Teener League playoffs last week, won the state Teener League Tournament most valuable player award following the three-day tourney in Greenville, N. C.

Whetstine, who was the winning pitcher in the championship game against Gastonia Wednesday afternoon, edged teammate Wayne Mullinax for the honor.

Mullinax, who played third base and pitched for the locals, hit a two-run homer in the bottom of the eighth inning Wednesday to give KM a 6-4 win.

In the title game Wednesday, Whetstine pitched a total of five innings and gave up only three hits and one run. The big right-hander came in when Gastonia loaded the bases off Mullinax in the top of the fourth.

Whetstine was a member of the Kings Mountain high school team this past season. For the Mounties Darrell worked mostly in relief and compiled an 0-1 season record but had the best earned run average on the team, 0.82.

Teener League Boxscores

MONDAY'S GAME

Kings Mountain	AB	R	H	BI
Cornwell, cf	3	2	1	0
Perkins, rf	1	1	1	0
Bell, ph	0	0	0	0
Smith, 2b	4	0	1	1
Putnam, ss	4	0	2	1
Mullinax, 3b	2	0	0	0
Carroll, lf	4	0	0	0
Ash, c	3	0	1	0
Mitchem, 1b	2	0	0	0
Goforth, p	3	1	1	0
	26	4	7	2

Tennessee

Scott, 2b	3	0	0	0
Burns, ss	3	0	0	0
Brenizer, cf	3	0	0	0
Smith, lf	2	1	0	0
Filler, 1b	3	1	3	1
Ricker, c	3	1	0	0
Bishop, rf	2	1	0	0
Myers, p	0	0	0	0
Kinser, 3b	2	1	1	1
Gillen, p	3	0	1	2
	24	5	5	4

E—Kinser, Scott, Putnam, Mullinax, Ash. LOB—KM 6, Tenn. 4. 2B—Perkins, Filler, Gillen. SB—Smith, Kinser. SAC —Perkins.

Pitching: IP H R ER BB SO
Goforth (1) 6 5 5 3 3 5
Gillen (w) 6 7 4 3 5 7
Myers 3 0 0 0 0 1

TUESDAY'S GAME

Kings Mountain	AB	R	H	BI
Cornwell, cf	3	2	0	0
Smith, 2b	2	2	2	1
Black, lf	3	1	2	1
Putnam, ss	3	2	0	0
Mullinax, 3b	2	2	2	3
Howard, rf	2	0	0	0
Ash, c	3	1	1	2
Mitchem, 1b	3	0	0	0
Whetstine, p	2	0	1	1
	23	10	8	8

Tennessee

Scott, 2b	2	0	0	0
Burns, ss	3	0	0	0
Gillen, lf	3	0	0	0
Justice, rf	2	0	0	0
Filler, 1b	3	0	0	0
Brenizer, cf	2	0	0	0
Ricker, c	0	0	0	0
Herron, c	2	1	1	0
Kinser, 3b	2	0	0	0
Myers, p	1	0	1	0
Bishop, p	0	0	0	0
Smith, p	1	0	0	0
	22	0	2	0

E—Ricker 2, Putnam, Mullinax, LOB—KM 7, Tenn. 7. DP—Putnam, Smith & Mitchem. 2B —Ricker. SB — Putnam 2, Mullinax, Cornwell. SAC — Black.

Pitching: IP H R ER BB SO
Whetstine (w) 6 2 0 0 3 1
Myers (l) 3 2 2 0 4 3
Bishop 1 3 5 2 1 1
Smith 1 3 3 2 4 3

METER RECEIPTS

Meter receipts for the week ending Wednesday at noon totaled \$229.70, including \$132.80 from on-street meters, \$23.15 from off-street meters and \$73.75 from fines, according to report of Mrs. Grace C. Wolfe, assistant city clerk.

Regular communication of Fairview Lodge 339 AFSAM will be held Monday night at 7:30 p.m. at Masonic Hall.

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MOST VALUABLE PLAYER — Nelson Connor (left) poses with Post 155 Legion Coach Bob Hussey after he was named the ninth Post 155 most valuable player at the annual post-season banquet Thursday night. Connor's .404 batting average, one of the best in Area IV, earned him the trophy.

Nelson Connor Wins Legion Most Valuable Player Award

Leading Hitter Awarded Trophy At Annual Fete

Shortstop Nelson Connor became the ninth Post 155 most valuable player at the annual Legion baseball banquet Thursday night.

Connor, whose hitting led the juniors to a 15-11 season this year, was presented the trophy by Post 155 Coach Bob Hussey. American Legion players, their parents and other guests attended the fete.

Connor, an all-conference selection for Kings Mountain high school this past season, posted a .404 batting average this year to lead the local Post to a fifth place finish in the 12-team Area IV Legion standings.

The smooth-fielding shortstop collected 38 hits in 94 times at bat, scored 20 runs, had 12 runs batted in, five doubles, one

triple and four stolen bases. Connor earned two letters at Kings Mountain high school this past year, one in baseball and one in basketball. In baseball Connor won the award last year he was the team's leading hitter with a .314 batting average semi-finals of the Area IV play and in basketball he finished off with a .479 batting average, second in scoring.

Jim Leigh, winner of the Coach Hussey and Athletic award in 1962 and who now Officer Carl Wilson reviewed the serves as Post 155 assistant season for guests Thursday night before Wilson adjourned the meeting.

Bobbie Brookes
Pure knitcraft... all smoothness and grace is the classically simple sheath. Jewel neck, waist-hugging fit in a fabric that's show in itself—pure wool double knit. Brightly original colors. Sizes 5-15.

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DECORATING TIPS
By GENE TIMMS
Did you ever think of putting a blackboard on your kitchen wall? It will serve not only as a shopping reminder but as a place to write family phone messages, appointments, recipes and the menu for tonight.

When planning to decorate a room, many people think only of 4 walls, but to do a smart decorating job you must consider 6 "walls" or areas to co-ordinate. Four walls, the floor and the ceiling must all be given equal attention.

By the same token many people don't take into consideration that proper lighting has not one—but two distinct jobs to perform. First, you need one kind of background light for the entire room and secondly another kind of stronger light for specific purposes such as reading, card playing, etc. By realizing both functions of lighting, you'll do a better job.

You can put new life in a drab room with fresh colors on fabrics and accessories or with vividly colored artificial fruits and flowers.

Here's another decorating idea to think about. You may want to mix the old and the new. For greater interest and contrast, try using a fine antique chest in an otherwise modern room, or modern art in a traditional room.

And don't forget—for help in attractively furnishing your home, we are at your service always, and remember, if it makes a difference, we'll save you money, cash or terms, you still get the discounts every day in our store.

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