Adams, Spencer, Cole, Mitchem, Finger Star

Kings Mountain Ends Second Perfect Regular Season

ODDS-'N'-ENDS

By JOE CORNWELL

Herald Sports Editor

Is Maravich Really That Good?

Just how good is Pistol Pete Maravich? The budding superstar has just about dominated the basketball front this year. He has scored 891 points through his first 20 games this season and is heading for the all-time scoring record of 41.7 average held by Frank Selvy of Furman. Selvy's record has stood since 1954. The Pistol's average is 44.5 points per game.

Statistics show that Maravich connected on 31[illegible] of 805 field goal attempts during the first ten games this season, for a 41.5 percent mark.

A lot of people say that Pete shoots so much because he has to carry the load due to not having much help. Not taking anything away from the North Carolinian, but I find this hard to believe. Statistics show that all of the other starters on the team are hitting over fifty percent of their shots.

As a team, not including Maravich, the LSU squad has a field goal percentage of 51 percent. Currently Pete connects on 41.5 percent of his shots from the floor.

LSU through its first 20 games this season averaged 75 shots a game, with Maravich firing an average of 40 a tilt. Pete's critics point to his field goal percentage as the real gauge to his ability. Many others say Pistol Pete doesn't even rate as an all-conference player let alone an All-American.

Some coaches sing the praises of the teen-ager whose point making antics have suddenly caused basketball to rise from the depths in popularity to challenge football at the LSU campus.

One coach said the only fault he saw in the floppy-haired basketball player was that he shoots too much when he doesn'et have a shot. Still another coach said, "He undoubtably has a world of ability and could be a bona fide All-American if he shot about 20 times a game. His scoring average would drop, but his shooting percentage would climb."

Taking many facts into consideration I have decided that Maravich is not the only player in the country who could average over forty points a game. In fact there are about 30 more. The only thing that is holding them back is the fact that they don't shoot as much as the Pistol.

Dean Smith, coach of the national ranked Tar Heels, said he has no doubt that his forward, Larry Miller, could average about 50 points per game if he shot 40 times a game. Smith said that he figured that Larry could score 23 field goals per game.

Gilmore Unanimous

At least one representative from each member school of the Western Carolinas Junior College Conference was named to the All-Conference Basketball Team.

The selections through the light back on the tightly balanced league standings which saw four teams tie for second place and only three games seperating second and seventh place.

Unanimous selections to the all-conference team were Artis Gilmore of Gardner-Webb, Arnold Nicholson of Brevard, Ronnie Yates of Anderson, and Darryl Gibson of Lees-McRae.

Also named to the ten-man squad were: Jerry Martin, Spartanburg; Ray Cook and Dick Fowler, North Greenville; Jim Wilmoth and Steve Kebeck, Gardner-Webb; and Dinker Jones, Wingate.

My Congratulations To KM Cagers

I would like to give my congratulations to the Kings Mountain Mountaineers and Mountainettes for a most outstanding basketball season. The Mountaineers glided through the regular season undefeated, bringing home a conference championship. The Mountainettes finished the regular season with a 15-3 conference mark. The best in a long time for a Kings Mountain girls team.

Wake Forest Breaks Losing Streak With Win Over State

WINSTON-SALEM — "It was a long time coming," is the way Coach Jack McCloskey summed up the Wake Forest victory over N. C. State Saturday as the Deacons snapped an 11-game losing streak with a 72-66 victory.

It was the first win for the Deacs in more than a month and put them in a good frame of mind for the final regular-season test with the pesky St. Joseph's Hawks at the Palestra in Philadelphia Wednesday night.

After the St. Joe battle, the Deacs will have a week to ge ready for their ACC Tournamen opener at Charlotte March 7 Wake Forest and Clemson are tied for seventh place in the final standings and a draw will determine which will battle the No. 2 seeded team and which will have to face North Carolina's top-seeded Tar Heels.

"We won't start thinking about the tournament until after the game Wednesday night," McCloskey remarked.

The Deacon coach, who personally scouted St. Joe in its 63-54 win over Villanova on Feb. 17, said, "We haven't faced a tougher foe all season. They are the five toughest kids I've seen all year. They aren't impressive looking, but they get the job done."

St. Joseph's, playing its second season under Jack McKinney, has a 16-8 record. It won the Gator Bowl Tournament in December with wins over Florida and Washington.

Wednesday's game will be the second of a doubleheader. LaSalle meets Morehead State in the opener with the Wake Forest-St Joseph's tilt slated to begin around 9 o'clock.

The Palestra on the campus of the University of Philadelphia has never been a happy hunting ground for the Deacons. The last Wake Forest win came in 1962 when the Deacs beat Yale in the NCAA first-round playoffs. The only other win in recent times was a 67-59 triumph over Temple in 1957.

St. Joseph's has a big edge in the series with the Deacs. It has won 10 of 13 meetings, including a 79-63 decision here last year.

Soph Dickie Walker continues to lead the Wake Forest scoring with a 17.8 average. Jerry Montgomery, who hit 15 of 16 free throws against State, is second at 13.1 and Norwood Todmann is third at 12.7. Montgomery has made good on 119 of 137 free throws this season.

Recreational Play-Off Results

Action in the Play-Off Tournament in the City's Recreational Basketball league this past week was heavy.

In the first game played Fulton's defeated Episcopal 53-48 in the double elimination tourney Robert Phifer led the winners with 17 points. Game scoring honors went to Mike Baily of Episcopal with 23.

In the second game Fashion Cleaners defeated the Celtics 67-30. Mike Ballard led the Cleaners with 22 points. Doug Rathbone led the Celtics with nine.

Tryon, regular season champ

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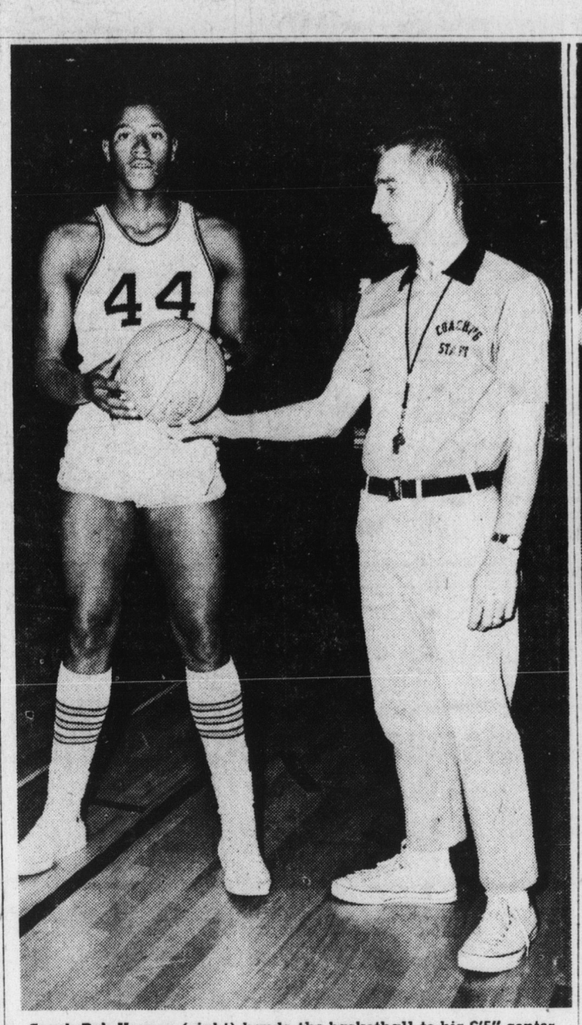

Coach Bob Hussey (right) hands the basketball to his 6'5" center George Adams. Adams has paced the Mountaineers through the season averaging 25.1 points per ballgame. Coach Hussey will be depending on the performances of Adams, when he Mountaineers meet R. S. Central this Friday in the Southwestern Conference Tournament. Game time is at 9:00.

Mountaineers Will Play In Bi-Conference Tourney

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Kings Mountain and Burns contest. Then at 8:30 the winner of the Shelby boys game with Burns, will meet the winner of the Cherryville and Crest game.

No tournament games will be played on Wednesday, but play will resume on Thursday with the finals of the tournament. The teams playing in the finals will be the winners of the Monday and Tuesday night contest, in both the boys and the girls divisions. The championship girls game will begin at 7:00. The boys championship game will be played at 8:30.

If the Kings Mountain Mountaineers should lose the conference tournament, they will still have a seat in the Bi-conference Tournament, which is also going to be played in Kings Mountain. The tourney will begin on March the 12th.

The Mountaineers won their trip to the Bi-conference tournament by winning the Southwestern Conference Championship. On the other hand, if the Mountaineers should win the tournament the team taking second place will advance with them to the Bi-conference Tournament.

The Kings Mountain Mountaineers and Mountainettes look forward to the tournament with great hopes.

The Mountaineers will be counting on the performance of their senior center George Adams. Adams has led the Mountaineers through the Southwestern battle with an untarnished record. Ken Mitchem along with Rick Finger, Otis Cole, and Steve Spencer will be the other four starters for the Mountaineers come tourney time.

Starters for the Mountainettes will probably be: Linda Childers, Sharon Gold, Kathy Atkinson, Debbie Plonk, and Nancy Reynolds.

This is the first time Kings Mountain High School has played host to a basketball tournament. The tourney will be a most exciting one to watch, featuring the top eight teams in both the boys and girls divisions of the Southwestern Conference.

Admission to the tournament will be $1 for students and $1.25 for adults.

Fastest Field Ever At Asheville, Weaverville

The fastest field of cars in the history of the race is shaping up for the third annual running of the Fireball 300 at Asheville-Weaverville Speedway on Sunday, March 3.

Topping the list of drivers already entered in the battle for the $8,074 in prize money is Richard Petty, the Randleman, N. C. ace who is the most successful driver in NASCAR history. Petty will come here directly from Daytona International Speedway where he qualified for the Daytona 500 at 189.055 miles per hour in his No. 43 Plymouth.

Petty will be after his third Fireball 300 victory in a row, he having won the 1966 and 1967 races. The Randleman star will be the target for all rival drivers this season; they hope to prevenet Petty having another year like the one he had in 1967 when he won 27 Grand National races, 10 of them in a row.

Already in the Fireball 300 field with Petty are several of the fastest drivers and cars on the NASCAR circuit. One of these is David Pearson, 1966 Grand National champ who qualified his 1968 Ford at 188.142 mph at Daytona.

Two others are Bobby Isaac and Tiny Lund, both chargers of the highest order. All of these men agree that the Asheville Weaverville Speedway is made to order for fast cars.

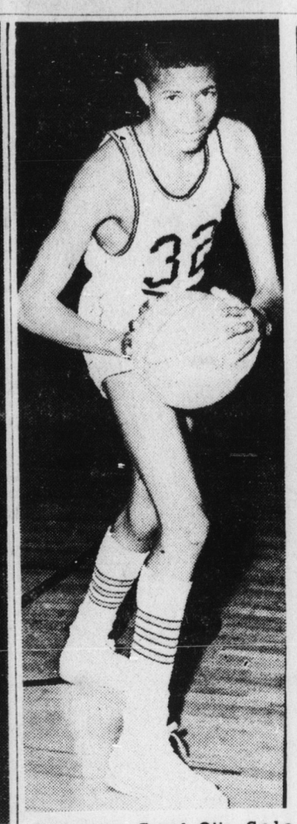
"It is a track where speed counts for everything," Petty said. "There can be no hanging back if a fellow wants to win. He must go flat-out from the start, and keep hanging in there with all the horses."

Fans will get a chance to see what the 1968 cars are capable of in qualifying runs on Saturday, March 2. Most experts agree that Darel Dieringer's qualifying mark of 1967—88.636 mph—will fall, and that the men will go on to smash Petty's race record of 83.360 mph.

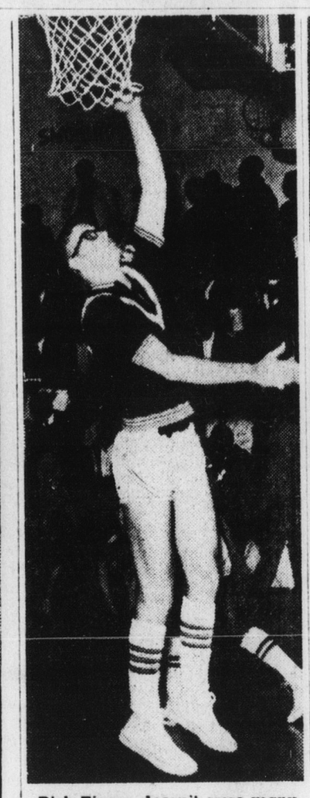
After the time trials are finished, the five fastest cars will run two-lap solo dashes, with the fastest of these getting a substantial bonus.

Southwestern Conference Standings

	Won	Lost
BOYS		
Kings Mtn.	18	0
Shelby	13	5
Cherryville	11	7
Belmont	11	7
Lincolnton	10	8
Crest	9	9
Burns	7	11
R. S. Central	6	12
Chase	4	14
East Rutherford	1	17
GIRLS	Won	Lost
Chase	17	1
Shelby	16	2
Kings Mtn.	15	3
East Rutherford	11	7
R. S. Central	9	9
Burns	8	10
Crest	5	13
Lincolnton	5	13
Belmont	2	16
Cherryville	2	16



Sophomore Guard Otis Cole scored 16 points against East this past week. Cole has played outstanding basketball all season long.



Rick Finger doesn't score many points, but he gains his share of the rebounds. The senior forward has played a large part in the Mountaineers' success this season.

The Quarterback of the team: Senior guard Steve Spencer is the Mountaineer quarterback, he calls the plays from his guard position. Spencer's ball handling ability has played a large part in the Mountaineers' plans this season. Spencer tossed in 20 points against East.

By JOE CORNWELL

Herald Sports Editor

Senior center George Adams scored 37 points as he paced the Kings Mountain Mountaineers over East Rutherfordton 100-53, this past Tuesday. The win was the 20th in a row for the unbeaten Mountaineers, as they rolled up their highest scoring game of their sensational season.

Adams, scoring his 500th point in the contest, probably played his second best game of the year —the best against Shelby. Steve Spencer tossed in 20 points to take second place scoring honors. Sophomore guard Otis Cole also hit in double digits. He dumped in 16 tallies.

In the first quarter the Mountaineers jumped off to a 23-12 lead. Adams scored ten of his 37 in that period of play. Cole, who many think only missed one shot in the first half, pushed six points through the hoop. Ricky McKenny tallied eight in that period for East.

Spencer took over the scoring load in the second, as he stripped the nets for 10 points. Cole added six and Adams four for Kings Mountain, in that fourth of play.

Kings Mountain led at the half, 45-26.

In the third the Mountaineers hit on ten field goals for 20 points. Adams tossed in eight of those 20. Ken Mitchem, Rick Finger, and Cole added four each.

Senior forward Darrell Whetstine and Adams could be considered the Stars of the fourth period of play. With approximately ½ minute remaining in the game Adams scored six points to give him a season total of 502. Then, with just two seconds remaining on the scoreboard clock, Whetstine connected on two foul shots, giving the Mountaineers 100 markers for their night's performance.

In that period of play, Adams totaled 14 big points, as Kings Mountain outscored East 35-13. Spencer added another ten, in that period of play, to give him his night's total of 20.

Rounding out the Mountie game scoring: Mitchem had seven and Finger scored eight. Ricky McKen-

Ken Mitchem's rebounding ability has paid off for the Mountaineers this year. The hard rebounding junior has played a very large part in the Mountaineers' success this year.

K. Plonk, Reynolds Lead Charges

K.M. Girls Blast East, 46-34

The Kings Mountain Mountainettes completed their most successful season in quite a long time, as they defeated the East Rutherfordton Cavaliers 46-34, Tuesday night.

The combined scoring abilities of Kings Mountain's four forwards provided the Mountainettes with their winning margin.

Kathy Plonk led the Mountainettes with 13 points. Nancy Reynolds came in second in the scoring battle with 11. Linda Childers and Sharon Gold added 10 and 9 respectively for the Mountainettes.

However, game scoring honors went to Shannon Shuford of East who had 14.

Kings Mountain jumped off to a 12-10 lead after the first quarter. They increased their lead in the second outscoring the Cavaliers, 11-8.

Kings Mountain took a 23-16 lead into the dressing rooms at the half.

In the third quarter the Mountainettes increased their lead by two more points as they blasted East, 9-7.

They padded, their lead in the fourth outscoring East 14-11.

The win was the 15th against three losses for Kings Mountain. It placed them in third position in the final conference standings.

Mountaineers Ambush Lincolnton Wolves

The Kings Mountain Mountaineers stretched their win streak to 19 in a row with their 79-65 win over the Lincolnton Wolves this past week.

Behind the performances of George Adams and Ken Mitchem, the Mountaineers came from behind early in the first quarter to pick up the win.

Adams tossed in a game leading total of 25 points. Mitchem dumped in 21 tallies.

Kings Mountain fell behind early in the first quarter but they rallied to gain a 20-13 led after that period of play. he Mountaineers were paced by Mitchem who had 8 points.

In the second quarter, the Mountaineers, behind the seven point output of Rick Finger outscored Lincolnton 18-10.

At the half the score stood at Kings Mountain 38 Lincolnton 23

In the third quarter the Wolve came a little closer to the Mountaineers. They scored 16 markers to the Mountaineers 18. Adams led the Mounties in that period of play scoring 11 points.

In the fourth the Mountaineers fell to the hands of the Wolves 26-23. However, the Wolve margin wasn't enough to pick up the win. Paul Lawing led Lincolnton in that period of play scoring eight points.

Bobby Joe Easter led the Wolves with 21 markers. Finger and guard Steve Spencer were the other two Mounties to score in double figures. Finger scored 11 and Spencer added 12.

Bowling Results

MEN'S LEAGUE

Albert Brackett defeated Plonk Oil 3-1, in the Kings Mountain Men's Bowling League this past week. Albert Brackett was high scorer for the winners rolling a total of 396. John Dilling led the losers with a 348 total.

Ranny Blanton lost to Dilling Heating also by a score of 3-1. High man for Ranny Blanton was Fred Camp with a total of 352. Frank Wilson led Dilling Heating with a 345 total.

Stroup's 66 defeated Richard Culbertson, 3-1. Richard Culbertson led his team with a total of 367. Clyde Culbertson led the winners with a 361 total.

MIXED LEAGUE

Ranny Blanton whitewashed Ronnie Culbertson in the first game in the Mixed Bowling league. Ranny Blanton gained scoring honors as he rolled a total of 371. Ronnie Culbertson led his losing team with a 333 total.

Clyde Culbertson tied Bob Herndon at two all this past week. Lib Gault led Clyde Culbertson with a total of 374 points. Bob Herndon led Bob Herndon with a 360.

LADIES LEAGUE

In the Ladies Bowling League this past week, Oates lost to Plonk's Department store, 3-1. Betty Fite led the winners with 299. Charity Tignor led Oates with a 319 total.

American Legion defeated Drew's Tax Service 4-0. Lib Gault led American Legion with a 330 total. Margaret Wilson led Drew's with a 289.

Griffin Drug lost to Tignor Construction 3-0. Ethel Tignor led Tignor Construction with a 323 total. Pat Panther led Griffin with a 306.

Mountainettes Slide Past Lincolnton

The Kings Mountain Mountainettes defeated Lincolnton 42-35, this past Friday. Sharon Gold and Linda Childers paced the winning Mountainettes scoring 17 and 16 points respectively.

After the first period of play the score was Kings Mountain 10 Lincolnton 10. The Lady Mounties rallied in the second, out scoring Lincolnton 13-5.

In the third quarter Lincolnton outscored the Mountainettes 10-8, and in the fourth both teams matched scores at 11 each.

The win was the 14th conference victory for Coach Blaine Froneberger's lassies, who are in third place in the Southwestern Conference.

Sharon Hill led the Lady Wolves with 13 markers.

Box Scores

GIRLS

KINGS MOUNTAIN				(42)
Player	FG	FT	PF	TP
Sharon Gold	8	1	1	17
Linda Childers	7	2	4	16
Kathy Plonk	2	1	3	5
Nancy Reynolds	2		4	4
Vickie Turner	0	0	0	0
Sheila Oliver	0	0	0	0
Jean E. Davis	0	0	0	0
E. Jean Davis	0	0	0	0
Laura Stowe	0	0	0	0
Kathy Atkinson	0	0	3	0
Debbie Plonk	0	0	1	0
Barbara Wilson	0	0	0	0
Ginger Finger	0	0	1	0
Debbie Timms	0	0	0	0
Diane Houser	0	0	0	0
LINCOLNTON				(35)
Player	FG	FT	PF	TP
Bradshaw, D.				
Griggs, Kathy	3	2	3	8
Murphy, Debbie	2	5	1	9
Smith, Paulette	1	3	2	5
Hill, S.	5	3	3	13
Helms, Ann	0	0	2	0
Huffstetler, D.	0	0	1	0
Reinhart, C.				
Hicks, Kathy				
Score by Quarters				
Kings Mtn.	10	13	8	11
Lincolnton	10	5	10	11

Lenoir, Roxboro Play-Off Sites

LENOIR — North Carolina's semi-pro baseball champion will be determined under a new tournament system which includes eastern and western division playoffs, it was disclosed today.

Oka Hester of Greensboro, state semi-pro baseball commissioner, reported that a four-year contract has been signed which calls for division winners to be crowned at a western tournament in Lenoir and an eastern tournament in Roxboro.

The division winners then will meet in a best two-out-of-three finals for the state championship. The championship finals will be staged on alternate years at Lenoir and Roxboro, with Roxboro hosting the 1968 event.

All tournament games have been played in Roxboro for the past 19 years, and the majority of the teams have been from eastern North Carolina.

The new system eliminates traveling problems for western teams and is expected to result in increased participation.