

G-W Downs Ferrum 112-110; Wins Region 10 Crown

LENOIR, N. C.—The game was tied, 100-100, and the overtime began. Ferrum Junior College had just completed a tremendous comeback in the final three and a half minutes of the final game in the Region 10 Tournament to tie the Gardner-Webb Bulldogs at the end of the regulation period. For the next five minutes the Bulldogs would take 12 big steps to victory before they defeated the Panthers 112-110.

With four minutes remaining in the game, Artis Gilmore put the Bulldogs ahead 94-87 on a turnaround jump shot. From there on to the beginning of the overtime it was all Ferrum College.

Jerry Venable connected on a jump shot for the Panthers and

Tom Chaney followed in a rebound to cut the lead to 94-91 with 3:26 left in the game. Gardner-Webb called time out and as the game resumed, Ernie Fleming hit a layup to give the Bulldogs a 96-91 lead. Venable and Gilmore traded baskets and with 1:46 Ferrum called time out with G-W leading 98-93.

Ferrum put the ball in play after the timeout and worked the ball to Gary Youmans in the corner. He fired a long shot that hit the rim, but with a great second effort he broke across the middle, rebounded his own shot and hooked it in to cut the margin to three points once again.

Fleming connected on two important free throws for G-W with

1:01 left in the game for G-W's last points in regulation, and six seconds later Venable hit a free throw to narrow the margin to 100-96.

Ferrum went into a full court press and it paid off as they got the ball and Venable hit a jump shot with 22 seconds left to play to cut the margin to 100-98. After another timeout Arthur Roberts went to the free throw line for a free throw and missed.

The Panthers got the ball and Ron Clevenger, who had entered the game for the first time during the last timeout, fired in an 18-foot jump shot to tie the score with 11 seconds remaining in the game. G-W put the ball in bounds and called timeout with three seconds to go. Their final effort got the ball to Gilmore near the basket, but he wasn't able to get it a good shot before the horn sounded the end of the regulation game.

Perhaps the turning point in the entire game came on the tip-off of the overtime period as Venable, who had played the last 10 minutes of the game with four personal fouls, committed his fifth while scrambling for the ball.

Karl Neilson went to the line and made a pair of free throws and the Bulldogs had a lead they were to hold until Chaney hit a jump with 12 seconds remaining in the overtime that tied the score, 110-110.

During this time the Bulldogs built up a six point lead at 108-102 on baskets by Neilson, Gilmore and Roberts, but Kilby Youmans and Chaney brought the Panthers back from the brink of defeat.

With 12 seconds remaining in the overtime G-W called time out. The plan would be to work the ball into the middle to Gilmore and, with more time to get the good shot, the Bulldogs felt they had an excellent opportunity to score and win the game.

As play resumed the Bulldogs worked the ball to Neilson at the left of the foul line. He tried to get the ball to Gilmore, but the Ferrum defense had the 7-2 center surrounded. With the seconds ticking off Neilson drove up to the free throw line and put up a jump shot that cleanly stripped the basket with four seconds left in the game and the Bulldogs had ended four years of frustration and had won their spot in the national playoffs in Hutchinson Kansas, beginning March 19.

During the game the Bulldogs had several opportunities to blow the game wide open. In the first half they streaked to a 30-19 lead, but during the next five minutes Ferrum outscored them 15-5 and trailed only 35-34. During this span the Bulldogs did not work the ball to Gilmore and the All-American freshman did not score a point.

In the second half, especially in the early minutes, Gardner-Webb appeared to be ready to break it open as they stretched their lead to eight points and held possession of the ball. However, on each occasion Ferrum came back to keep the score close.

Gilmore connected on 19 field goals in 27 attempts in his near record-breaking scoring performance as he nearly snapped Dennis Childress' record of 46 points, scored in 1965. Gilmore also added five of nine free throw attempts and pulled down 17 rebounds.

Four other Bulldog players scored in double figures with Neilson scoring 15—six of which came in the overtime period. Arthur Roberts came in as a reserve guard and scored 12 points—eight coming in the second half and overtime—and Steve Kebeck and David Brown scored 14 and 11 points, respectively.

Gary Rymer, who was a consistent scorer both inside and on long jump shots from the corner, led the Panthers with 32 points. Venable had 29 before he fouled out of the game and Kilby added 17 points. Youmans and John Penn rounded out the Ferrum scoring with 11 and 10 points, respectively.

The Bulldogs will leave for Hutchinson sometime Sunday, March 17, and will meet Northwestern College of Sterling, Colorado, in the first round of the tournament at 1:45 p.m. Tuesday, March 19.

Bowling Results
Mixed League
3-1 was the story in the Mixed Bowling league this past week, as Ronnie Culbertson and Clyde Culbertson defeated their challengers by that score.

Clyde Culbertson rolled over Ranny Blanton with Clyde Culbertson taking scoring honors for the winners. He rolled lines of 125, 110, and 143 for a 378 total. Ranny Blanton led the losers with a 329 total.

Rennie Culbertson trounced Bob Haddon. Ronnie Culbertson paced his team with a 340 total. He rolled lines of 109, 116, and

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ODDS-N-ENDS

By JOE CORNWELL
Herald Sports Editor

Duke 10, N. C. State 12...

Yes, that was the story Friday night in the Charlotte Coliseum, as North Carolina State downed Duke in one of the slowest games ever played in the history of basketball. State held the ball, with Duke's full cooperation, and scored their amazing victory. The victory, Coach Norm Sloan's first ever over his former teammate Vic Bubas, set the finals with North Carolina playing State. North Carolina won that contest, 87-50.

What State did was no different from what Wake Forest and South Carolina both tried against Duke during the regular season.

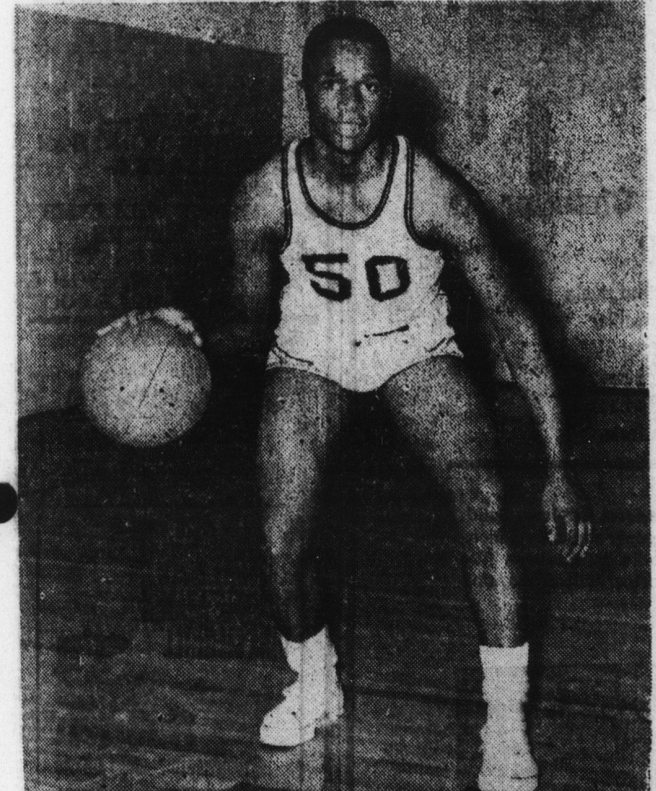
Sloan had his center, in this case Bill Kretzer, dribble the ball between the center circle and the foul circle. Duke never sent Mike Lewis out for Kretzer, so State could hold the ball as long as they wanted.

At one time State held the ball for 13 minutes, 45 seconds. Then with 2:47 left, State got the ball to Biedenbach, and he scored on a jumper with 2:30 left.

Then Duke killed the ball for almost two minutes. State remained in their zone defense until 1:05 was left in the game, and with 43 seconds left Golden drove from the left, tried a shot and was fouled. He made the first but missed the second. Lewis got the rebound, but traveled.

Bubas was trying to protect his 9-8 lead. In trying to protect this lead he may have outcoached himself. He told his players to foul Kretzer, the worst free throw shooter on the State team. Just to make sure he missed his foul shot, he called consecutive time outs to allow pressure to build.

Bubas succeeded in building the pressure and Kretzer missed the foul shot. But, unfortunately for Duke, State gained the rebound and scored. That gave State its first lead in the game since Biedenbach's basket made it 2-1 with 12:14 left in the first half.



Ken Mitchem

Mitchem's Really All-Conference

Some of you KMHS basketball fans may be wondering why Ken Mitchem wasn't selected for the All-Conference Basketball Team.

The 6'1" junior forward has helped lead the Mountaineers through their undefeated season. Without him the season may have been a little less prosperous for the Mountaineers. Several times this year he has kept the Mountaineers in the game. His rebounding and outside shooting ability has made him well known.

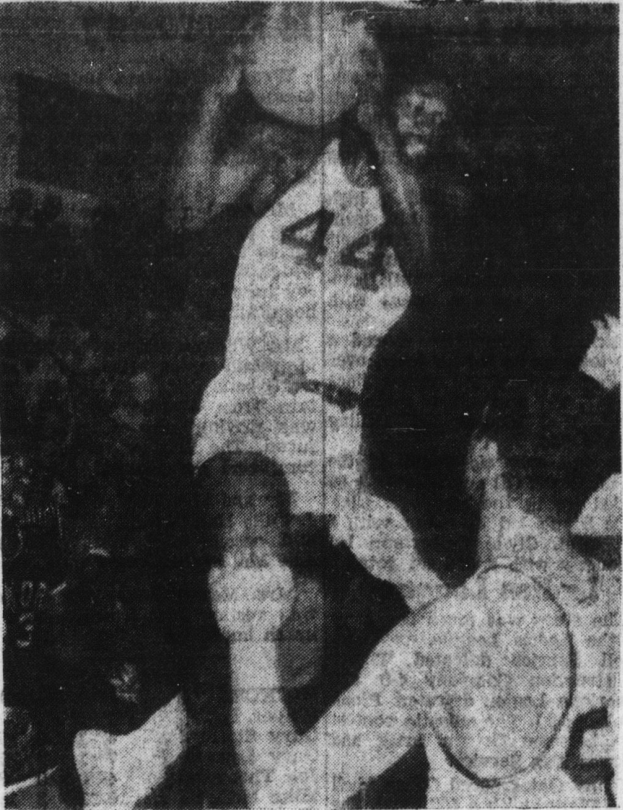
He is recognized as the most underrated player on the Mountaineer squad.

It is my belief, along with others, that Mitchem should have been chosen on the All-Conference squad.

Maybe he wasn't chosen because the Mountaineers already had three players on the team (George Adams, Steve Spencer and Otis Cole). If this is the reason, and sometimes it is, I feel that the WNCCHSAA officials should have their heads examined. Leaving a player of his caliber off of the team should be a cardinal crime in the selections of All-Conference players.

No matter what the WNCCHSAA official decision is, my own remains the same.

Ken Mitchem is All-Conference in my book and in just about everyone else's.



KMHS SUPER STAR: George Adams, Kings Mountain's sensational senior center grabs a rebound in the finals of the Northwest-Southwest Bi-Conference Basketball Tournament. The Mountaineers defeated Hickory 75-60 in their last home court appearance this year.



TO APPALACHIAN — Charles Greene, a 6-2, 215-pound tackle on last fall's Kings Mountain High football team, has signed an athletic grant-in-aid to attend Appalachian State University.

Hickory Tops Crest

The Hickory Tornadoes defeated the Crest Chargers, 68-41, in the first boys' game of the Southwestern and Northwestern Bi-Conference Tournament.

Crest, playing one of their worst shooting games of the season, fell behind early in the game and never could catch up. Gary Lawson and Mike McNeil led Hickory with 15 points each. Bobby Laif and Thomas McSwain led Crest with 16 and 15 respectively.

Lawson along with Gary Stafford combined scores in the first quarter to give the Tornadoes a six point lead at the end of that quarter, 16-10.

An 18 point output in the second quarter gave the Tornadoes a six point lead at the end of that quarter, 34-16. Mike McCall led the scoring in that period of play with six points. T. C. Covington added five to Hickory's winning cause.

The win sent Hickory to the finals against Kings Mountain.

KM Wins Tourney

(Continued From Page One)

Kings Mountain led by a narrow two points at the end of the first half (35-33). The scoring summary gave Adams 18 points for his first half performance. Hickory's Stafford scored 15 marks in that section of play.

Mitchem got into foul trouble early in the contest. The 6'1" forward fouled three times in the first half and quickly collected his fourth early in the third period. The fact of Mitchem fouling out gave the Mountaineer fans a scare.

Well rounded scoring, as in the first period, provided Kings Mountain with enough steam to their add four more points to their point margin, in the third. Adams added eight to the Mountie's winning cause in that period of play.

A fast breaking Mountaineer basketball team was the case in the fourth and final period of play. Kings Mountain stormed

over Hickory, outscoring them 21-12 with fast break after fast break. The Mountaineers increased their margin to 15 points, good enough for a trip to the WNCCHSAA Finals.

Coach Hussey, in looking to the championship game, views Kannapolis as a "real fine ball club". Hussey said, "They have to have a fine team or they wouldn't be where they are. We feel like they are going to be a hard team to beat."

Hussey also made the remarks that he thought the Mountaineers played a good ball game Tuesday night. However, he said, "We fouling out gave the Mountaineer fans a scare."

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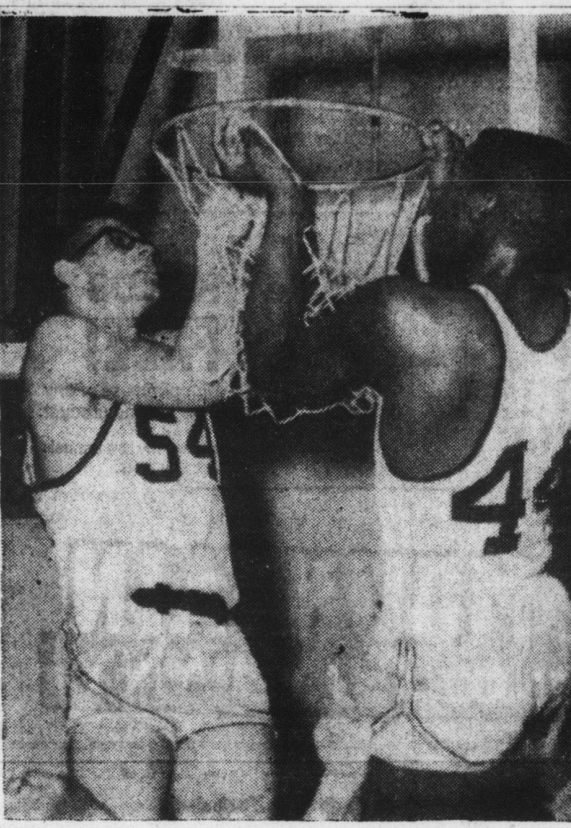
Coach Earl Lentze, of Kannapolis, said that his squad has played good basketball all year. Kannapolis has three starters from last year's WNCCHSAA championship team. Those players are: 3'2" guard Vernon Long, a 5'10" guard Ken Sharp and a 6'3" forward Larry Johnson.

The Mountaineers, taking a 25-0 record into the contest, will be depending on the performance of George Adams, along with Steve Spencer and Otis Cole. Ken Mitchem and Rick Finger will be counted upon heavily to give the Mountaineers their much needed rebounding strength.

Kannapolis sports a 21-2 record going into tonight's game with the Mountaineers. They will probably be starting Dan Dayvault and Larry Johnson at the forwards, James Lipscomb at center and Ken Sharp and Vernon Long at the guards. Lipscomb is a 6'5" center. Dayvault and Johnson are 6'2" and 6'3" respectively.

KINGS MOUNTAIN (75)
Player, Pos. FG FT PF TP
Mitchem, Ken 6 2 4 14
Finger, Rick 2 1 1 5
Adams, George 11 4 4 26
Cole, Otis 3 2 2 8
Spencer, Steve 10 2 2 22
HICKORY (60)
Player, Pos. FG FT PF TP
Stafford, Gary 10 5 2 25
Lawson, Gary 4 3 4 11
Thomson, Joe 1 0 4 2
McCall, Mike 4 1 2 9
Covington, T. C. 3 3 9
Walls, Johnny 1 0 1 2
Sinclair, David 1 0 3 2

Score by Quarters
Kings Mountain 16 19 19 21
Hickory 20 13 15 12



It takes plenty of concentration to do this! This must be the thought going through Rick Finger's (54) mind as he and George Adams (44) take the nets down after defeating Hickory in the finals of the Southwest - Northwest Bi-Conference Basketball Tourney. He and Adams combined rebounding abilities to lead Kings Mountain to their 25th straight win of the year.

Chase Upsets Shelby In Finals

Nancy Tate set the pace for the Lady Chase Trojans as they glided to a 39-31 win over Shelby, in the finals of the Bi-Conference Basketball Tournament, held in the Kings Mountain High School Gym.

Tate tossed in 15 points to pace the Trojans to their third win over The Lady Lions. Shelby led after the first quarter by four points, 12-8. In the second quarter Chase rallied scoring Shelby 12-6. The Trojans took a 20-16 lead to the dressing room at the half.

In the third quarter, Chase mustered by outscoring the Lions eight to six. Again in the fourth Chase crushed the Lions outscoring them 11 to nine.

The victory sent the Trojans to Kannapolis for the WNCCHSAA Finals tonight.

CHASE (39)
Player, Pos. FG FT PF TP
Nancy Tate 5 5 2 15
Vivian Dobbins 4 1 9
Sarah Huss 4 2 8
Susan Padgett 1 2 3 4
Priscilla Robinson 0 2 2 2
Jimmie L. Tate 0 1 1 1
SHELBY (31)
Player, Pos. FG FT PF TP
Linda Poston 4 1 4 9
Suzie Greene 3 1 4 7
Pat Christopher 5 0 3 10
Millie Keeter 1 1 3 3
Ruthie Browning 0 1 2 1
Pat Maddox 0 1 2 1

Score by Quarters
Chase 8 20 28 39
Shelby 12 16 22 31

Mountaineers Rip Marion For 24th Straight Win

The Kings Mountain Mountaineers rolled over the Marion Rippers 70-60 in the semi-finals of the Northwest - Southwest Basketball Tournament.

The Mountaineers had some trouble with the Rippers early in the game, but they rallied to gain their 24th straight win of the year.

George Adams once again paced the Mountaineers with 30 points. He was followed by Otis Cole with 16 and Steve Spencer with 13.

In the second, the Mountaineers once again outscored Marion, this time it was by a 16-10 mark.

At the half Kings Mountain led by 36-24 count. In the third Kings Mountain rolled on behind Adams' 11-point output to take a commanding lead. In the fourth, Kings Mountain let Marion outscore them 24-17.

The win sent the Mountaineers to the finals against Hickory. In the first, the Mountaineers

Mounties Down Crest, 64-40

Yes, that was the score in the finals of the Southwestern Conference Basketball Tournament, as Kings Mountain rolled to their 23rd straight win of the season, over the Crest Chargers.

Kings Mountain tallied 64 points on 27 field goals and 10 charity tosses. Crest rolled up 40 points on 16 field goals and eight tosses from the foul line.

George Adams, once again, led the Mountaineers with 22 points. Adams connected on nine field goals and four foul shots for his game leading total. Sophomore guard Otis Cole tossed in six field goals and three foul shots for his total of 15. Ken Mitchem added 10 points to the Mountie cause with five field goals.

After the first quarter the Mountaineers lead only by two points at 10-12. They rallied in the second scoring 19 big markers, as they were off to their Southwestern Championship victory. In the second, Crest only scored eight points to the Mountaineers 19. This margin gave the Mountaineers a 43-25 lead at the half.

In the third quarter Kings Mountain added five more points to their margin, as they outscored Crest 15-10. In that period the Mountie scoring was well rounded, all players scoring well.

The Chargers outscored the Mountaineers in the fourth and final period of play, 18-14.

During the contest, Kings Mountain could only hit on 38 percent of their field goal attempts. The win gave the Mountaineers a first place seed in the Bi-Conference Tourney.

Tryon Clinches Title

Tuesday, March 12, marked the end of the City's Recreational Basketball League Tournament. The Tryon Plowboys came out on top defeating Bethlehem Fire Department, 49-46.

In another game in the tournament, Bethlehem Fire Department defeated Fashion Cleaners by a 34-29 count.



The 1968 Southwestern and Northwestern Bi-Conference Champions, 25-0