

HERALD SPORTS

By GARY STEWART

A Few Glances Back At The Post 155 Legion Campaign

A few glances back at the legion baseball season: There were some folks suggesting the Kings Mountain-Shelby playoff series that the two teams go together next year and form a Cleveland County team. The idea was that the two county posts, KM Post 155 and Shelby Post 82, could co-sponsor the team and play one home game in Kings Mountain and one in Shelby. But, as long as Post 155 is willing and able to sponsor a team, let's go on our own. If Kings Mountain goes with Shelby, that will mean even fewer KM boys having an opportunity to play baseball.

Only four Post 155 players lost their eligibility this year, so that means a good season should be in store for next year. Players not returning will be catcher David Bolin, pitcher-outfielder Danny Hartsoe, outfielder Tim Echols, and first baseman Grafton Withers. Starters returning will be pitcher Rick Hord, infielders Darrell Van Dyke, Robble Moore, Keith Parker and Wayne Bridges and outfielder Jimmy Pitts.

A few things I'd like to see next season: A public address system that will work... a permanent pitcher's mound... seven-inning games... more players out for the team... and better support.

The local Juniors surprised a lot of people this summer and with a few breaks here and there and with a little more depth could have gone even further than they did. The new coaches, Bobby Jones and Gus Hartsoe, got a lot out of the players and put a lot into the program themselves.

Cats Open With St. Bonnie

Davidson's Wildcats will meet perennial toughie St. Bonaventure in the opening round of the Charlotte Invitational Tournament on Dec. 29. The Wildcats and St. Bonaventure will meet in the 7:30 opener and Cincinnati and Bradley will clash at 9 p.m. The winners will play for the championship on Dec. 30.

When Junior Crouch claimed his initial sportsman victory at Hickory Speedway a couple of weeks ago a lot of fans might have thought it was a fluke. The Taylorsville driver took the checkered flag when the two front-runners wrecked on the last lap. Last Saturday, Crouch on his second race and it was nothing resembling a fluke. He took over on the 37th lap and led the rest of the way, outdueling Asheville's Bob Pressley and Taylorsville's Harry Gant.

Shelby Speedway attracted the top cars in the area last week in its first race under new management. Sparrow's Chuck Piazza won the feature event and will be going after two-in-a-row tonight. Kings Mountain's Freddy Smith and other local favorites will be out to stop Piazza.

South Carolina baseball coach Bobby Richardson has signed another top prep prospect. He has landed Tim Lewis of Philadelphia, who posted a 6-0 record and a 0.63 earned run average and also hit .380 his senior season. Lewis was coached in high school by former major league pitching great Robin Roberts.

Another Athlete To Olympics

The University of North Carolina has added a second athlete to the 1972 Olympic Games, set for Munich in August. Lennox Stewart, a track star at UNC, will represent his native country of Trinidad. Earlier, Tar Heel basketball star Bobby Jones of Charlotte was named to the U. S. Olympic cage squad.

Outfielder Donnie Hatcher, leadoff hitter for Louisville College, is leading the N. C. Collegiate Summer League in hitting with an average of .412. Mike Ramsey of Appalachian is second with a .392 mark. Bruce Cavanaugh of Wilmington leads in home runs with seven while Mike Merritt of North Carolina leads in the pitching department with a 6-1 record.

Marty Roberts won't be getting a lot of rest this weekend. He'll be part of a big country music "Show of Shows" at Atlanta International Raceway grandstand on Saturday night, then will take his race car on Sunday and compete in the big Dixie 500. All of the 65 drivers entered in the race will be guests of Georgia Governor Jimmy Carter at the Governor's Mansion on Thursday night.

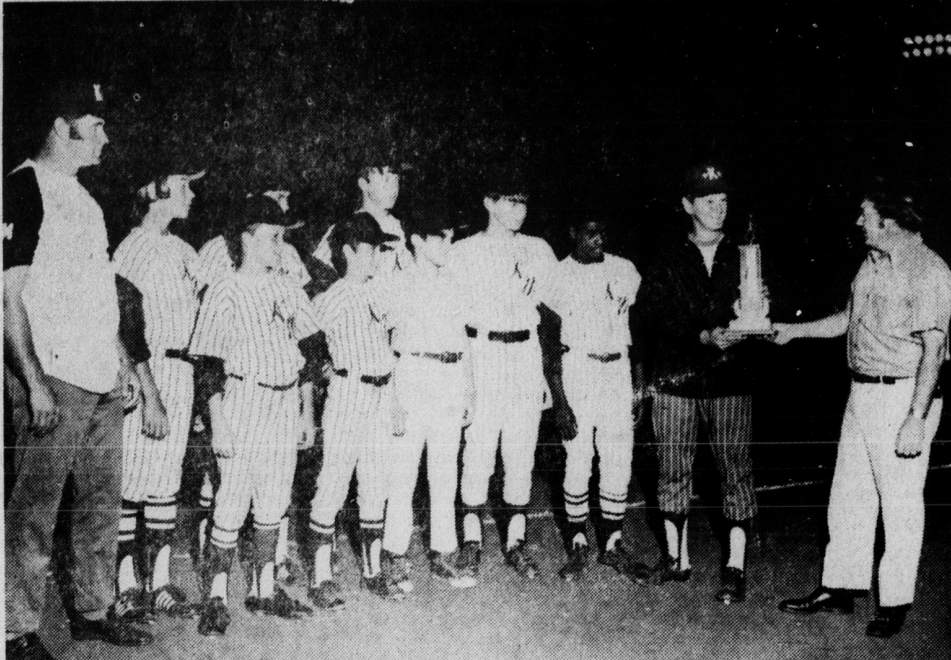
Silver Villa And Legion Post To Honor 1972 Baseball Squad

Members of the Otis D. Green Post 155 American Legion baseball team will be fed twice next week. On Monday night, the players and coaches will be guests of the Silver Villa at 6 p.m. supper. Next Thursday night, the legion post will hold its annual supper in honor of the team. Four trophies will be awarded at the legion fete. They are most valuable player, best defensive

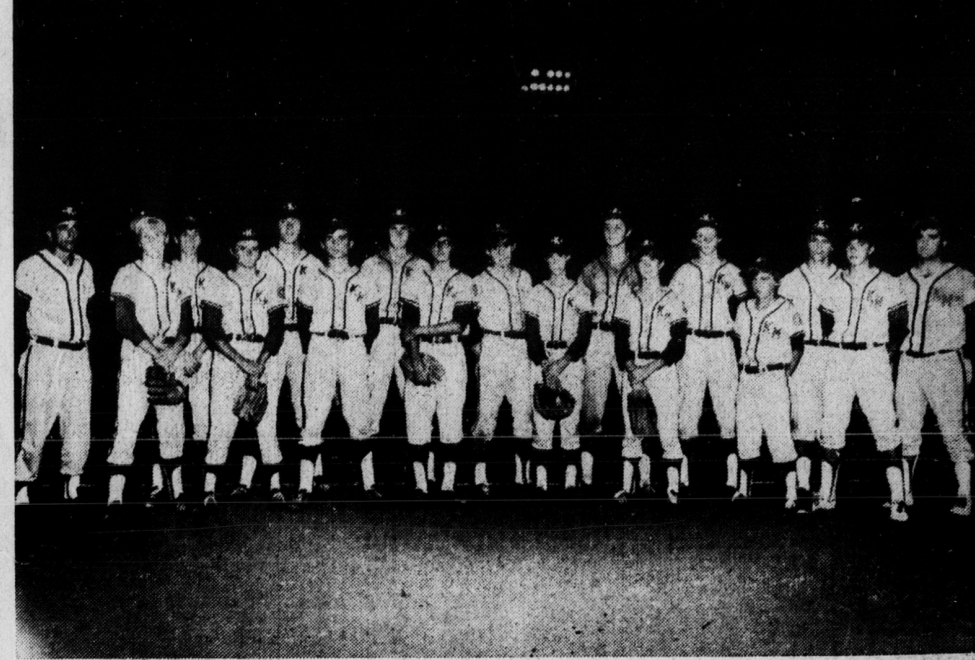
player, best offensive player and sportsmanship. Gene Tignor, athletic officer for Post 155, said that all players and their girlfriends, all coaches, managers and their wives and all persons who helped with the program in 1972 are invited to attend. The fete will get underway at 7:30 p.m. at the legion hall. Tignor asks that all players bring their uniforms.

THE SCHEDULE

Table with columns for date and location: 1-Tennessee City, 2-Chase, 15-at East Rutherford, 22-at South Point, 28-Cherryville, OCTOBER, 6-R. S. Central, 13-at Shelby, 20-Crest, 27-at Furnas, NOVEMBER, 3-at Lincolnton



TROPHY PRESENTATION - Gene Austin, right, presents trophy to Rick Hamrick, coach of the 13-year-old Kings Mountain Babe Ruth League all-star team for their victory in the district tournament last week in Charlotte. The all-stars will go to Asheville next week for the state tournament. Eight members of the team smile their approval as Austin presents the hardware. (Photo by I. G. Alexander)



BABE RUTH ALL-STARS - The Kings Mountain Babe Ruth League all-stars pictured here lost out in the semi-finals of the District Four tournament here last week. Union County, which ousted Kings Mountain 8-3 Wednesday night, went on to down Charlotte 4-2 Thursday night to claim the title. The Union County team now goes to Lumberton for the state tournament. (Photo by I. G. Alexander)

Mounties Will Play Five At Home

First Football Practice Set For August 7

For the first time in over 10 years, Kings Mountain High School will have a balanced football schedule this fall.

For several years, the Mountaineers have played on a six-four basis, six home games one year and four the next. But this year, KMHS will play five at John Gamble Stadium and five on the road.

Coach Bobby Jones said Bessemer City, KM's only non-conference opponent, agreed to play here for the second straight year and that allowed KMHS to balance its schedule.

The Mountaineers and Bessemer City will collide here in the season opener on September 1, then the Mountaineers will face nine straight Southwestern Conference opponents.

In their second year under Jones, the Mountaineers will be trying to improve on a 4-4-2 record. Jones will have 12 lettermen around which to build his team but the backfield will be young and inexperienced.

"We have several lettermen returning up front," said Jones, "but Chris Johnson, who started on defense, is the only letterman we'll have in the backfield."

The Mountaineers lost several good backs, including quarterback David Bolin, fullback John Gray and halfbacks Chris Blanton and Marshall Logan. Jones indicated that he has several good backs coming up from the ninth grade team and they might be called on for starting duty.

"We hope to have a 10th grade team this year," he said, "but there's a strong possibility that we'll have to carry some sophomores on the varsity."

While Jones will have his work cut out in the backfield, assistant coaches Bill Cashion and Warren Georgia should have some good material to work with up front. Lintner returning include ends Jerry Valentine and Blaine Laves, tackles John Bridges, Jack Bridges and Lummy Shirey, guard Alled Ash and center Mark George. All started at one time or another last season.

Jones said the Mountaineers will have their physicals at 10 a.m. on August 7 and will hold their last practice session that afternoon. He said players should bring shoes, shorts and T shirts and be ready to work out.

"We encourage the players to start working out on their own now, so they'll be in good shape by August 7," Jones said. "We'll practice in the mornings for three or four days, then start working out twice a day until school starts."

Jones said all coaching assignments will be the same as last year. Tommy Pruitt and Blaine Fronberger will coach the junior varsity team and John Black and Steve Baker will handle the freshman team.



ANNOUNCES SCHEDULE - Bob Jones, Kings Mountain High football coach, today announced his team's 10-game schedule for this fall. The Mountaineers will play five games at home, beginning with Bessemer City on Sept. 1. The Mounties begin pre-season practice on August 7.

Ohio's Best Rebounder Inks With G-W Bulldogs

BOILING SPRINGS—A 6-7, 235-pounder, termed "the best high school rebounder in Ohio," has signed a grant-in-aid to attend Gardner-Webb College and play basketball for the Bulldogs.

Bradley Robinson, of Akron Central Hower High School, Akron, Ohio, will enter Gardner-Webb College this fall. Robinson was highly recruited by several colleges in the mid-west and southeast.

He scored more than 1200 points during his three years in high school including 497 his senior year. He also averaged 16 rebounds per game his final year in high school. His team advanced to the state tournament where it reached the semi-finals.

Lincoln County Horse Show Dates Are Set

The Lincoln County Horsemen's Association, Inc., of Lincolnton, North Carolina are now finalizing plans to stage their Tenth Annual Lincoln County Horse Show on July 22nd, 27th, 28th and 29th.

Entries are being made from all over the Southeast and a record number will be entered in this year's Show.

Judges for this Tenth Annual Show will be: The Honorable Pat Propst of Elcitt, Maryland judging all Western Division Classes; The Honorable Dewey Henderson of Powder Springs, Ga. will be judging the entries in the Saddle Horse Division, Roadster Division, Ponies, English Pleasure Division, Arabian and Mexican Horses and the Saddle Seat Equitation Class; The Honorable Mack Motes, Eagleville, Tenn. will be judging the Walking Horses.

Over \$5,000.00 in Prize Money and Trophies will be awarded this year during the four days.

Mr. Sonny Dysart, Chairman, says the competition will be the strongest this year that it has ever been and over Two Million Dollars worth of Horses and Equipment will be brought to Lincolnton to vie for the coveted

Don't Forget To Vote For All-Time KM Teams

Okay, fans. We need your votes for the all-time Kings Mountain football, basketball and baseball contest.

Entries are coming in rather slowly and we need more in order to make the team a representable one.

Just take a few minutes to trace back in your memory book and send us the names of the players you believe were the best at their positions. If you're not a three-sports fan and want to name only a football team, then do that.

Deadline is Monday. The teams will be announced in next week's paper.

District 23 Tourney Opens At Deal Street

The District 23 men's open sl-wpitch softball tournament begins tonight at Deal Street Park and the men's industrial and women's district tournaments start next week.

Thirty-two teams are entered in the men's open tournament. The winner of the double-elimination event will advance to the area tournament, to be played here at a later date. The winner of the area tournament will advance to the state tournament, to be played in Eden, N. C.

The winner of the men's industrial tournament, which begins Monday night at Deal Street Park, will advance to the state industrial tourney, also to be held in Eden. The winner of the women's tourney will also advance to the state tournament.

Carolina Throwing of Kings Mountain will take on Al-Da Barbecue of Shelby tonight at 6 p.m. in the opening game of the men's open tournament.

The complete first round schedule is as follows: Thursday, 6 p.m. - Carolina Throwing vs. Al-Da Barbecue; 7 p.m. - B&L Oil Co. vs. Cowan Plant; 8 p.m. - Dover Yarns vs. Durlex; 9 p.m. - Hillside Social Club vs. Oxford Knitting; 10 p.m. - Dover Textiles vs. Kings Mountain Mica.

Friday, 6 p.m. - Dehart Motor Lines vs. Dicey Fabrics; 7 p.m. - Joe Waters, Honda vs. Gastonia Knit; 8 p.m. - Dover-Ora vs. Renn's Cafeteria; 9 p.m. - Champion's Landscaping No. 2 vs. Shelby Motor Lines; 10 p.m. - Ellenboro vs. Minnette Mills.

Saturday, 8 p.m. - D.A.V. vs. Pythians. Opening round winners will begin play on Saturday night at 9 p.m. with the winner of the Carolina Throwing-Al-Da game

Adams Looking To Milwaukee Training Camp

George Adams, former Kings Mountain High and Gardner-Webb College basketball All-American, is busy preparing for his second tryout with the Milwaukee Bucks of the NBA.

Adams recently returned from the Bucks rookie camp at Marquette University and is scheduled for another go with the one-time NBA champions when they open their pre-season training camp in September.

Adams reports that the Bucks cut all the rookies except three, their first three draft choices. Adams was chosen third by the Bucks in the April NBA draft.

Adams and the other two rookies now have to beat out one of the 12 veterans on the Milwaukee squad and that might not come easy. But Adams, who recently signed a contract in the neighborhood of \$100,000, says he intends to give it a good try.

Cherryville Sets Softball Tourney For August 14

CHERRYVILLE - The fourth annual Cherryville Invitational softball tournament is slated for an Aug. 14th start at City Park. Rapidly becoming one of Western Carolina's biggest and best tournaments, the local event will continue for two weeks.

The tourney is sponsored by the Cherryville Recreation Commission and is sanctioned by the ASA. Tourney director is Cherryville rec director Floyd Wright.

Entry fee for the local affair is \$40 and any club wishing to enter should contact Wright or Gary Simpson at City Park. Telephone 435-9078.

Handsome trophies are to be awarded to the champs and runners-up, also to the best sport (team trophy), and to the MVP. Last summer, Hardin Mig. roared out of the losers' bracket to post six wins on the final three nights of action to cop the title and Hardin pitcher Mike Braswell was the tourney's MVP.

Previous tourney champions include Town & Country of Lincolnton and the Cherryville Rec all-stars and previous MVP's included Eddie Utton and Bill Abernathy of Cherryville and Ken Aubrey of Charlotte.

Craftsman of Kings Mountain won the sportsmanship trophy here two campaigns ago.

Little Leaguers Begin Practice

Candidates for the Kings Mountain Little League all-star team will begin practice today for the Western Area Tournament to be held at Deal Street Park beginning next Thursday.

Rick Moore, who coached Parkgrove to an unseason 13-0 record and the city championship, will serve as head coach of the all-star team. His assistants will be Carroll Ledford, Rotary, and Pressley Anderson of Parkgrove.

The three coaches will choose 15 players to represent the city in the district tournament. Kings Mountain will open tournament play on July 27 at 8 p.m. against the Tryon all-stars. Gastonia and Dallas will get the tournament under way at 6 p.m.

The winner of the Kings Mountain-Tryon game will draw a bye to the championship game. The winner of the Dallas-Gastonia game will meet St. Stephens on July 28 at 6:30. The winner of that game will play either Kings Mountain or Tryon for the championship on July 29 at 6:30. The winner of the Kings Mountain tournament will go to Concord for the regional tournament. The winner at Concord will advance to the state tournament at a site still undetermined.

Recreation Department News

Craftsman and Duplex won three games apiece in men's sl-wpitch softball action last week.

Craftsman whipped Skidmore 12-7, Dicey 10-6 and Carolina Throwing 10-7.

Bill Broome led the hitting attack against Skidmore with four hits. Shields and Harvey added three hits each, one of Shields being a home run. Bennett also homered for the winners.

Jerry Ramsey, Harvey and Shields had three hits each in the victory over Dicey. Several players had two hits apiece for the losers. Against Carolina Throwing, Dickie Burgess, Shields and Moss had three hits each. Don Sessoms and Sonny Jackson hit home runs for the losers.

Duplex defeated Dicey 15-7, Spectrum 14-4 and Spectrum 14-8. In the victory over Dicey, Robinson, Jackson, Jones and Rhodes had three hits each. Rhodes, Jackson and Robinson homered.

In the 14-4 win over Spectrum, Charlie Barnes, Donnie Mace and Robinson had three hits apiece. Tommy Barratt had three hits for the losers.

In the 14-8 win over Spectrum, Danny McDowell had four hits and Barnes, Rhodes and Jones added three each. Cutchins had three for the losers.

Champion's Landscaping Number Two, the league's top team, had to hold on for a 7-6 victory over Gastonia Knit. Gene Connor led the way with four hits, including two doubles.

Temple Baptist stopped Allen Memorial 9-5 in a church league contest. Childers and Brooks led the winners with three hits each and Smith had three for the losers.

Gastonia Knit won a pair of games, edging Skidmore 10-9 and Oxford 6-4.

Day had three hits, including a home, in the victory over Skidmore and Day and Phillips had two apiece in the win over Oxford. Bridges had three hits to lead the Oxford attack.

Gene Putnam had three hits to lead Dicey to a 11-4 victory over Mica Mine. Harris and Hughey had three hits each for the losers.

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