

ments  
Clayton, B...  
er City...  
son, W...  
gs Mountain  
us A. Clary,  
announce  
Thursday,  
ain hospital.  
lvin Dover,  
C. announce  
Friday, July  
hospital.  
nel S. Man...  
a, N. C. an...  
a daughter,  
gs Mountain  
les Hinson,  
announce the  
ay, July 28,  
ital.  
ve E. John...  
et, Gastonia,  
f a son, Sat...  
Kings Mountain  
t Walker,  
C. announce  
er, Saturday,  
tain hospi...  
y Shope, 222  
y Bessemer  
birth of a  
August 1,  
pital.  
le W. Gr...  
ee the b...  
August 1,  
pital.  
eph E. Lane,  
mont, N. C.,  
of a daugh...  
t, Kings

# HERALD SPORTS

By GARY STEWART

## Look For Shelby, South Point To Be Teams To Beat In SWC

It's still too early to tell, but look for Shelby and South Point to be the teams to beat again this year in the Southwestern Conference football race.

Both clubs lost some outstanding players last year but they still have some returning starters and back-up men who'll make them among the pick of the litter again in '72.

Of course, we're not discounting perennial toughies, Lincolnton, Kings Mountain, East Rutherford, and others, but the Lions and Red Raiders should be at or near the top.

And, look for Crest to be much-improved, even though Max Beam also lost several players. Crest has added former East Rutherford coach Marley Sigmon to its staff, and that can't hurt. Sigmon's probably the best defensive coach in the SWC.

We were checking through some of last year's programs the other day trying to see what to expect this fall.

South Point, which tied for the WNCSSAA title last year after cruising to the SWC title, lost All-American Scott Crawford, Dany Clawson, Bill Hannon, and several other standouts.

But the Red Raiders return a host of starters and lettermen and even though they lost Hannon, the Belmont school won't be hurting at the quarterback position. Butch Harris, last year's backup quarterback, will be on hand and he should be the top passer in the conference.

Coach Jim Biggerstaff will also return his back-up fullback, Dennis Grier, but he'll possibly be looking for new faces at half-back, where he lost Crawford and Dean Ivester.

His returning linemen will include center Vic Forney, guards Jim Forbes and Louis Lineberger, tackle William Bowns and ends William Clark and Jimmy Stowe, all starters on last year's unbeaten team.

Shelby will return its quarterback, Chris Horne, plus halfbacks Tommy London and Larry Eberheart, all proven performers. If Coach Gerald Allen's line comes through, the Golden Lions might just regain their place at the top of the SWC standings.

Chase, a long-time nemesis of KMHS, also returns a host of veterans, but the Trojans lost one of the league's top coaches in Bob Bush, who did his student coaching at KMHS several years ago. With Bush gone, the KMHS-Chase rivalry no doubt will lose some of its glitter.

Chase's top returnee is quarterback Tony Fowler, whose passing brought the Trojans from a 14-0 deficit to a 16-14 victory over the Mountaineers last fall.

Crest, which lists former KMHS All-Stater Hubert McGinnis on its coaching staff, has come a long way the past few years and the Chargers should be set for their best season. The Chargers tied KMHS 0-0 last fall after losing to the Mountaineers every year since joining the SWC.

Teams like Lincolnton, East and R-S Central are always strong and Cherryville is beginning to take big strides under Jerry Carpenter, a coaching buddy of KM's Bobby Jones two years ago at Gastonia Ashbrook. And Burns, which has annually been the SWC doormat, should begin to shape up under new coach Steve Curtis, who led East to a pair of SWC titles in 1965 and '66.

As for Kings Mountain, the coaching staff will have its work cut out in the backfield but the Mountaineers should have a line as good as any in the conference. The Mountaineers have returning starters at every line position but lost their entire backfield.

## Kale Happy Over Showing

You can't blame Red Kale, coach of the El Bethel Methodist Church softball team, for being happy over his team's copping the recent Church League Tournament.

Kale's team probably had the least depth of any team in the league but it came out of the loser's bracket to whip regular season champ Temple Baptist twice for the title.

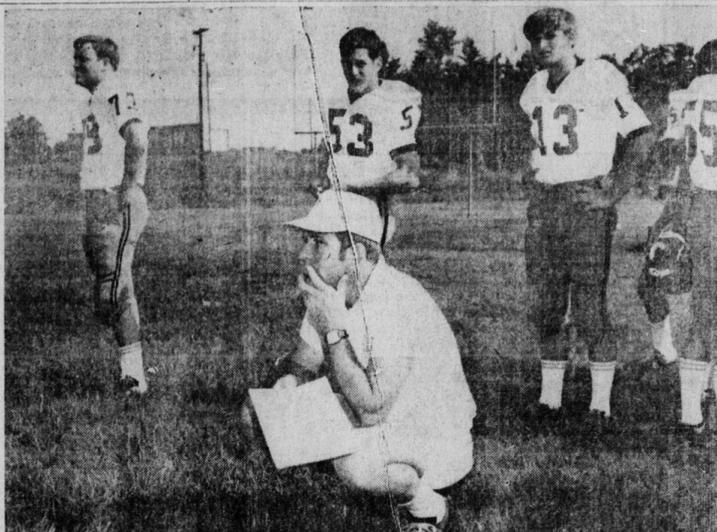
"We had three substitutes over 40 years old playing in the final game," recalled Red, "including myself." Kale refers to the three 40-plus reserves as the "Medicare Bunch."

But, the reserves, as well as the regulars, put forth a 100 percent effort in whipping Bethlehem 11-6, Temple 14-5 and Temple 11-9 on the final night to win the prize. "Barry Rikard pitched all three games for us," said Red, "and that must be some kind of a record. It was a team effort all the way. Everybody pulled together and gave their best."

Kale cited Ronnie Falls, Mike Riddle and Bob Merck  
Continued On Page 6

# KM Little League All-Stars Cop Tournament

## Regional Event On Monday Night



EYEBING FOOTBALL SEASON—Bob Jones, KMHS football coach, is anxiously eyeing the start of summer practice, which begins Monday. Jones, shown above, will greet his players at 10 a.m. Monday for physicals, then practice for the first time at 5 p.m. Monday. Players at back, left to right, are tackle Jake Bridges, center Mark George and quarterback Chris Johnson.



HOME RUN HITTER — Steve Lancaster, right, receives congratulations after first inning homer against Tryon in Area Two, Little League Tournament Thursday at Deal Street Park. KM All-Stars won 16-2, then whipped Dallas 4-1 Monday night for the championship. (I. G. Alexander photo).

Kings Mountain's Little League All-Stars romped over Tryon 16-2 Thursday night and stopped Dallas 4-1 Monday to win the Area Two Tournament and advance to the regional tournament beginning Monday at the Moose Lodge Field in Concord.

A big first inning got the locals going in each contest. In the Tryon victory, the KM all-stars scored eight runs, in the first inning and in the championship game Monday night, they scored all four of their runs in the first.

Ronnie Wilson hurled a five-hitter for Thursday night's victory and lefthander Steve Lancaster tossed a three-hitter in Monday's championship contest.

Kings Mountain used a 16-hit attack Thursday night. David Robinson and Bryon White led the way with three hits apiece and Wilson, Scott Ellis, and Lancaster added two hits apiece. Lancaster slammed a three-run homer in the first inning.

Kings Mountain's bats weren't as alive Monday night against Dallas but an errorless defense made the four first inning runs stand up. KM collected five hits, nobody getting more than one.

Robinson's double and singles by Lancaster and Tim Riddle highlighted KM's first inning uprising. KM's only other hits were a second inning single by Dennis Putnam and a third inning single by Wilson.

Kings Mountain will play its first game in their regional tournament Monday night at 7:45 against the winner of the Concord tournament. The winner of the Concord Moose Lodge tournament and the Union County tournament will also play Monday.

The winner of the regional event will go to Raleigh the following week for the state tournament. The exact dates and pairings for the state tourney have not yet been announced.

Four players from Kings Mountain made the All-Area Two Tournament team, selected following Monday's championship game. They were Lancaster and Ellis, who played for Parkridge, Wilson of Rotary and Robinson of Optimist.

## Babe Ruth Team Wins First, But Then Is Ousted

Kings Mountain's 13-year-old Babe Ruth All-Star team won its first game but then dropped two straight in the state tournament last weekend in Asheville.

The local club defeated Hominy Valley 4-2 Friday in opening round action but then lost to Brunswick County 6-3 Saturday and was eliminated by Cabarrus County 4-2 Sunday.

Hominy Valley, New Bern and Brunswick County were the only teams still in the tournament Tuesday.

Joel Burgess was the big gun in Kings Mountain's lone victory Friday. He went the distance on the mound, tossing a six-hitter, and also led the KM plate attack with a pair of doubles. Rusty Bell also doubled for KM.

Four of Hominy Valley's six hits off Burgess came in one inning when the losers scored their only two runs.

Continued On Page Six

Wilson, Chapman, C. Haynes, HR  
C. Haynes, Lancaster  
Pitcher: IP H R ER BB SO  
Wilson (W) 6 5 2 2 1 11

## Kid Football Teams Enter Gaston League

The Kings Mountain Optimist Club sponsored mighty mite and pee wee football teams will again compete in the Gaston League this fall. Both teams will play a nine-game schedule, which will be announced in the near future.

The pee wee team, or Little Mountaineers, will be coached by Jimmy Littlejohn and Charles Burns. All boys between the ages of 10 and 13 and who weigh less than 110 pounds may play for the team. Interested players are urged to contact either coach before August 12. Littlejohn may be reached at 739-4965 after 5 p.m. each day and Burns may be contacted at 739-3655 before 5 p.m.

All players will be required to fill out a registration form. They may be obtained by either coach or at the Kings Mountain Community Center.

The mighty mites, or Baby Mountaineers, will be coached by Joe Cornwell. All boys between the ages of nine and 12 who weigh less than 80 pounds are eligible to play. Interested players should contact Cornwell at 739-2816 or coaches Burns or Littlejohn. They may obtain registration forms from Recreation Director Roy Pearson at the Kings Mountain Community Center.

Both teams will begin pre-season practice on August 14 at the Deal Street Park. All games will be played at John Gamble Stadium.

The Gaston Pee Wee and Mighty Mite League is supervised by the Gastonia Recreation Department. Teams competing are from Gastonia, Groves Thread, Belmont, Mt. Holly, Lowell, Bessemer City, Cherryville, Stanley and Kings Mountain.

A Veterans Administration Center specializing in treatment for amputees opened in Seattle recently, raising the total to 17.

## Mountaineers Open Football Practice Monday Afternoon

Kings Mountain High School football candidates will meet for the first time Monday morning and will hold their first practice session Monday afternoon.

Head Coach Bobby Jones asks that all interested candidates meet at the high school gym at 10 a.m. Monday for physicals. He said the first practice session would be held Monday afternoon at 5 o'clock.

Jones expects to greet a dozen

lettermen from last year's squad, plus several players from the ninth grade team which posted a 6-1 record last season. The varsity lost its entire starting backfield but returns at least one letterman at every line position.

Returning lettermen up front include ends Jerry Valentine and Harlee Davis, tackles Jake Bridges, John Bridges and Tommy Shirley, guard Alfred Ash and center Mark George. Chris Johnson, who started on defense and was three number two quarterback last year, is the only returning letterman in the backfield.

The Mountaineers will be trying to improve on a 4-4-2 record. They were 3-4-2 in Southwestern Conference play.

Jones will be assisted on the varsity by Bo Goforth, who'll handle the ends, and Bill Cashion, who will be in charge of the interior line. Both are veterans on the KMHS staff.

Tommy Pruitt and Blaine Froneberger will handle the junior varsity squad and John Blalock and Steve Baker will again be in charge of the ninth grade team. All KMHS coaches are currently in Greensboro attending the North Carolina High School Coaches Clinic.

Jones said the team will work out in the afternoons for the first three or four days, then go to twice-a-day drills until the opening of school on August 23.

The Mountaineers will open their season at home on September 1 against Bessemer City, which will be coached this year by former KMHS standout Jerry Adams. After the EC game, the Mountaineers will face nine straight SWC foes.

## KMHS Coaches Attend Clinic

Six members of the Kings Mountain High School coaching staff are in Greensboro this week attending the annual North Carolina Coaches Clinic.

Attending are head football coach and athletic director Bobby Jones and assistants Bill Cashion, Bo Goforth, Tommy Pruitt, Blaine Froneberger and Allen Dixon.

The clinic started Monday and will conclude tonight with the annual East-West All-Star football game.

## Little League Boxscores

KM - DALLAS		AB	R	H
Dallas				
Cook, rf-1b		3	0	0
Lutz, p-1b		3	0	0
McGinnis, 3b		3	1	1
Essary, p-1f		3	0	1
Rowe, 2b		2	0	0
Bryant, ss		1	0	0
Gearley, lf		2	0	0
Glover, cf		2	0	0
Leonhard, c		2	0	1
Totals		21	1	3

Kings Mountain		AB	R	H
Putnam, rf		1	1	1
Jackson, rf		1	0	0
Robinson, 3b		3	1	1
Lancaster, p		2	1	1
Ellis, c		3	1	0
White, 2b		1	0	0
Whitaker, lf		3	0	0
Riddle, ss		3	0	1
Wilson, cf		2	0	1
Valentine, 1b		2	4	5
Totals		22	4	5

Score by innings:		000	100	—1			
Dallas		0	0	0			
K. Mtn.		4	0	0			
2B—Robinson, HR—McGinnis.							
Pitcher:		IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Lancaster (W)		6	3	1	1	1	10
Essary (L)		1	3	4	3	2	1
Lutz		5	2	0	0	5	7

KM - TRYON		AB	R	H
Tryon				
Sellers, rf		3	0	1
C. Haynes, 3b-p		3	1	0
V. Hanes, p-3b		3	0	1
Steele, ss		3	0	0
T. Robinson, c		3	0	0
J. Kiser, 1b		3	0	1
Anthony, cf		2	1	0
B. Kiser, 2b		2	0	0
Bolin, lf		2	0	0
Totals		24	2	5

Kings Mtn.		AB	R	H
Putnam, rf		2	2	1
Spicer, rf		3	0	0
Robinson, 3b		4	2	3
Lancaster, 1b		3	3	2
Ellis, c		4	3	2
White, 2b		4	2	3
Gamble, 2b		0	0	0
Wilson, p		4	1	2
Riddle, ss		4	2	1
Valentine, cf		1	0	0
Whitaker, cf		3	1	1
Loftin, lf		2	0	0
Jackson, lf		1	0	0
Chapman, lf		1	0	1
Totals		35	16	15

Score by innings:		800	395	—16
K. Mountain		0	0	1
Tryon		6	0	10
2B—Robinson, Lancaster, White,				

Wilson, Chapman, C. Haynes, HR  
C. Haynes, Lancaster  
Pitcher: IP H R ER BB SO  
Wilson (W) 6 5 2 2 1 11

## Rick Hord Cops Most Valuable Player Award

Rick Hord, the only regular to hit over 300 for the Post 155 Juniors this summer, copped the most valuable player trophy at the annual legion baseball fete Thursday night at the legion hall.

Hord and three other Post 155 players won awards for their help in leading the local Juniors to a 11-12 record and to the Area Four semi-finals playoff series.

Other trophy winners included David Bolin, best defensive player; Tim Echols, sportsmanship; and Robbie Moore, most improved player.

Hord hit .310 and posted a 4-5 pitching record for Coach B. B. Jones' and Gus Hartsoe's club. Hord was one of the team's most versatile players as he saw action on the mound, in the outfield and at first base.

For the year, he collected 27 hits in 87 times at bat and was second only to Keith Parker in runs batted in with 12. Parker led the club with 17.

On the mound, Hord led the squad in innings pitched with 82 2/3 and had the lowest earned runned average, 2.39. He walked only 27 batters while striking out

63. His 4-5 record was second best, bettered only by Parker's 4-2 mark.

Bolin had an off year at the plate but his ability to handle the pitchers and his ability to get on base consistently were key factors in the team's success. He was rated as the best defensive catcher in the league as he continuously caught runners stealing. He hit .227 with 20 hits in 88 times at bat, scored 13 runs and batted in six.

Echols missed most of the regular season with an eye injury but came back in the playoffs to help lead the club to a series win over Shelby and an narrow miss against Crest City.

Echols finished with a .240 average with 12 hits in 50 times at bat.

Moore came on strong after a dismal year in high school, when he hit only .081. But in legion ball he was near the top of the hit parade all year and finished with a .273 average, second only to Hord. He led the club in hits with 29 and 106 times at bat with 106. He also scored 13 runs and drove in nine.



REGULAR SEASON CHURCH CHAMPS — Here's the Temple Baptist team which won the regular season championship in the Church Softball League. Front row, left to right, Bill Childers, Jerry Barrett, Larry Wood, Tony Tompkins, Max Brooks, Tommy Barrett and Solan Moss. Back row, same order, Gary Patterson, Gary Oliver, Ronnie Tessemer, Randy Oliver, Ken Towery, Charles Moss, Phillip Wood, and Rev. Frank Shirley. Not present when picture was made were C. B. Green and Chuck Hamrick. (I. G. Alexander photo).



TOURNAMENT CHURCH CHAMPIONS — The El Bethel Methodist Church team, shown above, won the recent church league tournament by downing Temple Baptist in two straight contests. Shown above are, front row, left to right, Coach Red Kale, Jim Kale, David Bullock, Bobby Merck and Howard Swafford. Back row, Roy Kall, Barry Rikard, Mike Riddle and Ronnie Falls. Absent when picture was made were Ray Cash, Lyn Atwood, Harry Jackson, Robbie Eng and Jack Eaker. (I. G. Alexander photo).