Wilson, Leach Combine For Four-Hitter

Mountaineers Win SWC Opener Over R-S Central

Kings Mountain's Mountaineers go after their second straight Southwestern 3-A Conference victory and their fourth in a row overall today at 4 p. m. when they host Burns at Lancaster Field.

The Mountaineers opened conference action Friday at R-S Central, defeating the Hilltoppers 9-1 in a game played in the cold and snow.

The weather didn't bother the Mountaineers' performance as they once again used the big inning to post their third straight victory.

Coach Barry Gibson's charges broke open a 1-0 ballgame by sending 13 men to the plate to score eight runs in the fourth inning.

The Mountaineers collected five of their seven hits during that uprising and also took advantage of three Hilltopper errors and three bases on balls.

Bryan White and Bruce Valentine both produced two-run singles, Andy Loftin had a run-scoring double and David Ray Robinson tripled. R-S used three pitchers during the inning.

Senior Ronnie Wilson and sophomore Tim Leach combined for a four-hit 11-strikeout performance for the Mountaineers and their teammates backed them with errorless defense.

Wilson worked the first four innings, giving up just two hits and fanning six. R-S scored its lone run off him in the bottom of the fourth on a fielder's choice, wild pitch and single by Ted Harris.

Leach came on in the fifth and worked two perfect innings before giving up two harmless singles in the bottom of the seventh. He fanned five.

Burns brings an 0-1 team to Lancaster Field today, the Bulldogs having dropped their opener last Friday to a veteran North Gaston team, 10-1. The Bulldogs got a late start with their pre-season drills because Coach Tommy Pruett was involved in the state basketball playoffs.

The Bulldogs won a pair of non-conference games against the Mountaineers last year, so KMHS will be seeking some revenge this afternoon.

After today's contest, the Mountaineers will break for Easter, returning to action on Wed., Mar. 29 against North Gaston.

★★★

INFIELDERS — These 11 players hold down the infield positions for Kings Mountain's Mountaineers, who are 1-0 in the Southwestern Conference and 3-0 overall heading into a home game today at 4 p. m. against Burns. Players include, front row, left to right, Tim Chapman, Ricky Chapman, Mike Spears, Tim Patterson, Eric Moore and Mark Shuman. Back row, Eric Dixon, Bruce Valentine, David Ray Robinson, Steve Boggan and Danny Bolin.
Photo By Gary Stewart

★★★

Mounties Nip Ashbrook 4-3

Kings Mountain's baseballers closed out non-conference play Wednesday at Ashbrook with a tough 4-3 victory and a perfect 2-0 record against 4-A rivals.

Coach Barry Gibson made several changes from his opening season lineup against Hunter Huss, and the new players, mostly sophomores, built up a quick 4-0 lead before the Green Wave staged a big comeback bid.

Sophomore lefthander Tim Leach started on the mound for KMHS and worked four good innings. He allowed four hits. Senior Andy Loftin came on in the fifth and picked up the win. He gave up two hits.

The Mountaineers collected seven hits with shortstop Steve Boggan going 2-for-2 and driving home a pair of runs. Ashbrook reliefer Bruce Huffstetler held the Mounties hitless over the final four and two-thirds innings.

Singles by Alan Putnam, Mark Schuman and Boggan produced two runs in the first and the Mounties moved ahead 3-0 in the second on two walks and a single by Jeff Cloninger. Singles by Boggan and Lyn Hayes and Kale Goins' double produced the final run in the third.

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KMHS Boxscores

KINGS MTN.	AB	R	H	RBI
B. White lf B. White, lf	3	1	1	2
Dixon, ph	1	0	0	0
Robinson, ss	4	0	1	0
Cloninger, ph	1	0	0	0
Wilson, p	2	1	0	0
Leach, p	2	0	0	0
T. Chapman, 2b	0	0	0	0
Ellis, dh	3	1	0	0
Whitaker, c	3	1	1	0
Goins, ph	0	0	0	0
Valentine, 1b	3	1	1	2
Hayes, ph	1	0	1	0
Boggan, 3b	4	2	1	0
Putnam, rf	2	1	0	0
R.Chapman, ph	0	0	0	0
Loftin cf	2	1	1	1
Shuman, ph	0	0	0	0
Totals	29	9	7	5
R-S CENTRAL				
G. White, ss	3	0	0	0
Miller, 2b	2	0	0	0
Morris, lf	3	1	0	0
Henderson, p-c	3	0	0	0
Harris, rf-p	2	0	2	1
Deck, cf	3	0	1	0
Towery, 1b	3	0	1	0
Shultz, 3b	3	0	0	0
Dobbins, c	0	0	0	0
Miller, dh	1	0	0	0
Freeman, p	0	0	0	0
Duffy, rf	1	0	0	0
Totals	24	1	4	1

By innings:		T
KM	001 800 0	9
RS	000 100 0	1

E — G. White, Miller, Morris, Henderson, Shultz. LOB — KM 9, RS 4. 3B — Robinson. SB — B. White, Wilson, Whitaker. S — Putnam.

Pitcher	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Wilson	4	2	1	1	2	6
Leach (W)	3	2	0	0	0	5
Henderson (1)	3	1	3	1	2	1
Freeman	0	3	5	4	1	0
Harris	4	3	1	1	4	6

WP — Henderson, Freeman, Wilson.

K. MTN.	AB	R	H	RBI
C'ger, cf	4	0	1	1
Putnam, lf	1	1	1	0
Burton, ph	1	0	0	0
White, lf	1	0	0	0
S-man, 3b	2	1	1	0
Bolin, 3b	1	0	1	0
Wh'ker, dh	2	0	0	0
Ellis, dh	0	0	0	0
Leach, p	0	0	0	0
Loftin, p	1	0	0	0
Hayes, c	3	1	1	0
Boggan, ss	2	0	2	2
Spears, ss	1	0	0	0
Goins, rf	1	1	1	1
Clark, rf	1	0	0	0
R. Ch'man, 2b	2	0	0	0
Moore, 2b	1	0	0	0
Dixon, 1b	2	0	0	0
V'tine, 1b	0	0	0	0
Totals	26	4	8	4
ASHBROOK				
Smith, lf	3	0	0	0
Besson, 2b	4	0	2	1
Seltzer, 3b	3	1	0	0
West, c	1	0	1	1
Lewis, dh	3	1	1	0
Capps, p	0	0	0	0
H'tler, p	0	0	0	0
Del'ger, rf	2	0	0	1
McC-rry, cf	3	0	0	0
Bu'lson, ss	3	1	1	0
McBee, 1b	1	0	0	0
Pruitt, ph	1	0	0	0
Pyles, ph	1	0	0	0
Totals	25	3	5	3

By innings:		T
K	211 000 0	4
A	000 200 1	3

E — Chapman, Loftin, Huffstetler. LOB — KM 7, Ashbrook 4.

2 B — Goins, Burleson. SB — Goins. Cloninger. SF A— Dellinger.

Pitcher:	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Leach	4	4	2	2	3	1
Loftin (W)	3	1	1	0	1	0
Capps (1)	2 1-3	7	4	4	2	2
H'tler	4 2-3	0	0	0	1	4

WP — Loftin. HBP — Hayes (by Capps).

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