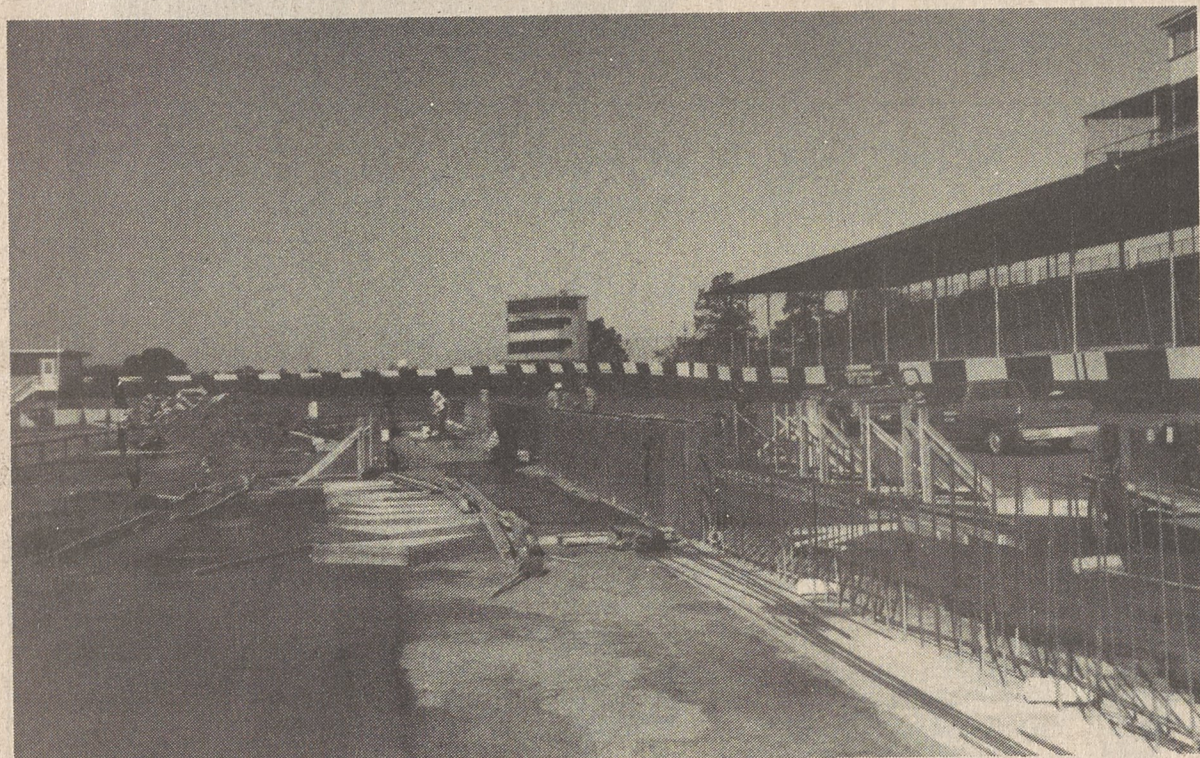




WALL-LESS TRACK—The old wall that protected the Darlington Raceway Pit area is gone. It has been replaced with a new concrete barrier, four feet high, a foot wide and 1,764 feet long. All of the new construction will be completed prior to the Dixie Cup 200, Saturday, April 13 and the Transouth 500, Sunday, April 14.



NEW WALL GOES UP—The new concrete wall, between Darlington Raceway's Grandstand and pit area on the frontstretch, starts to take shape. The new wall is 1,764 feet long and will be completed prior to the running of the Transouth 500 April 14.

Darlington Wall Gone

DARLINGTON, SC—One of stock car racing's most enduring landmarks is gone.

But it won't be forgotten by some of the sport's top stars, including Richard Petty and Hall of Famer Fred Lorenzen...This isn't to suggest, however, that it'll be missed.

No longer a part of the landscape at Darlington Raceway, the South's oldest super speedway dating to 1950, is the inside wall that protected the frontstretch pit area.

The concrete barrier, which extended 1,052 feet down the home straightaway of the storied

1.366-mile track, has been replaced by an even longer wall of 1,764 feet.

The new structure is part of an ambitious program undertaken by International Speedway Corporation officials to upgrade the Darlington facility, with emphasis on improved safety and competition.

Both Petty and Lorenzen experienced violent tangles with the old wall, accidents which put the two in the hospital and which subsequently have been rated the worst of their tremendous NASCAR Winston Cup Series careers.

Petty, the all-time Grand National Division victory leader with 200 triumphs, wrecked in 1970. Speeding through turn four in the Southern 500, Petty suddenly swerved into the outside wall, then his Plymouth careened across the track and hit the old inside wall at an angle. The latter impact, so forceful that it sounded like a mighty clap of thunder, sent Petty's machine bouncing into the air where it was to roll seven times before slamming to the asphalt track upside down, right in the racing groove. Miraculously, the car wasn't struck by another.

Petty, unconcious, hung from his shoulder harness. He was freed and pulled from the car by crewmen of two other teams, buck Brigance and Francis Allen. Petty regained consciousness in the infield care center and was taken to a Florence hospital for treatment of a broken shoulder.

Lorenzen, attempting a comeback after retiring from his "Golden Boy" glory years that produced 26 grand national victories, crashed in 1971.

Practicing in the Wood Brothers Mercury, Lorenzen hit the outside wall fronting the fourth turn grandstands at almost the same point struck by Petty. His car, too, angled across the track like a billiard ball, hurtling into the inside wall.

While Lorenzen did not get airborne, the force of the crash was violent enough to send chunks of concrete flying a considerable distance into the garage area. Again miraculously, no one was hit or hurt by the debris. Lorenzen suffered lacerations and a dislocated shoulder, which essentially aborted his comeback effort.

Turn To Page 4-B

8-10 Year-Old Basketball Schedule

The Kings Mountain Recreation Department's 8-10 year old basketball league will begin play next week at the Community Center and National Guard Armory.

Games will be played each Monday, Tuesday and Thursday night through the month of February. Monday's games will begin at 5:30, Tuesday games at 6:30 and Thursday games at 6:30.

The schedule:
January 14 - (Community Center), Jaycees vs. Custom Metal; Kiwanis vs. Thombs Tigers, Plonk Oil vs. C&C Metal, Deacons vs. Optimist.

January 15 - (Armory), Kiwanis vs. Plonk Oil; Optimist vs. C&C.

January 17 - (Armory), Thombs vs. Custom Metal; Deacons vs. Jaycees.

January 21 - (Community Center), C&C vs. Thombs; Plonk Oil vs. Optimist; Custom Metal vs. Deacons, Jaycees vs. Kiwanis.

January 22 - (Armory), C&C

vs. Jaycees, Custom Metal vs. Optimist.

January 24 - (Armory), Deacons vs. Kiwanis; Thombs vs. Plonk Oil.

January 28 - (Community Center), Optimist vs. Kiwanis, Plonk vs. Deacons, Jaycees vs. Thombs, Custom Metal vs. C&C.

January 29 - (Armory), Plonk vs. Jaycees, Kiwanis vs. Custom.

January 31 - (Armory), Deacons vs. C&C, Thombs vs. Optimist.

February 4 - (Community Center), Thombs vs. Deacons, C&C vs. Kiwanis, Optimist vs. Jaycees, Custom vs. Plonk.

February 5 - (Armory), C&C vs. Kiwanis, Thombs vs. Deacons.

February 7 - (Armory), Optimist vs. Jaycees, Custom vs. Plonk.

February 11 - (Community Center), Plonk vs. Jaycees, Kiwanis vs. Custom, Deacons vs. C&C, Thombs vs. Optimist.

February 12 - (Armory), Optimist vs. Kiwanis, Plonk vs. Deacons.

February 14 - (Armory), Jaycees vs. Thombs, Custom vs. C&C.

February 18 - (Community Center), C&C vs. Jaycees, Custom vs. Optimist, Deacons vs. Kiwanis, Thombs vs. Plonk.

February 19 - (Armory), Custom vs. Deacons, C&C vs. Thombs.

February 21 - (Armory), Plonk Oil vs. Optimist, Jaycees vs. Kiwanis.

February 25 - (Community Center), Kiwanis vs. Plonk, Optimist vs. C&C, Thombs vs. Custom, Deacons vs. Jaycees.

February 26 - (Armory), Jaycees vs. Custom, Kiwanis vs. Thombs.

February 28 - (Armory), Plonk vs. C&C, Deacons vs. Optimist.

Basketball League To Form

All young men between the ages of 16 and 18 who are interested in participating in a basketball league sponsored by the Kings Mountain Parks and Recreation Department should register at the Kings Mountain Community Center gym Saturday at 9 a.m.

A five dollar registration fee is asked.

All players are urged to register Saturday. No player will be added after Saturday.

For more information, contact George Adams at 739-9631.

Adams Honorary Captain

Kings Mountain's George Adams will serve as honorary captain of the Gardner-Webb College basketball team for Thursday's game with Mars Hill at G-W's Paul Porter Arena.

Game time is 7:30 p.m. Adams, who is recreation director for the City of Kings Mountain, is Gardner-Webb's all-time leading scorer and rebounder and still holds nine of the school's 11 career records. He still holds the single game records for most points (57) and most rebounds (26).

Adams was G-W's first NAIA All-American, making the team in 1971 and 1972. He later played for the San Diego Conquistadors of the American Basketball Association.

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Dates For Pictures To Be Taken: Tuesday, January 15th, 1985
Thru Saturday, January 19th, 1985 - 10:00 A.M. To 6:00 P.M.

Eligibility - Birth To 6 Years

FREE 8x10 PHOTOGRAPH TO EACH CONTESTANT

Idea: to help find the prettiest baby in our area! You must see a salesman to get a ballot to vote. No purchase required. Winners are determined by most votes. 1 vote per person per day.

1st Prize - To Boy And Girl Winner: A \$50.00 Savings Bond!
Runner Up Prizes - A Trophy - To 2nd & 3rd Place - Boy & Girl Winners

A professional photographer will be in Powell Olds-Cadillac Showroom to make your babies' picture to be displayed for the contest.

Contest Will Run January 28th, 1985 Thru February 8th, 1985

BALLOTS WILL BE TOTALED FEBRUARY 8, 1985 - WINNERS WILL BE NOTIFIED

PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED FEB. 14TH, 1985

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