

Mounties Win Opener Over West Charlotte

Kings Mountain's Mountaineers lived up to their pre-season billing as a Southwestern 3-A Conference contender Monday night when they opened their season with an impressive 67-59 victory over perennial 4-A power West Charlotte.

The Kings Mountain girls dropped the opening contest, 49-46.

The two Kings Mountain squads play before the home folks for the first time tonight at 6:30 against the same West Charlotte teams.

Veteran Coach John Blalock praised his team for its defensive play and comeback effort in the second half. The Mountaineers jumped out to a quick 12-4 lead but West Charlotte tied it at 46-all at intermission.

Carl Smith, KM's quick point guard, sat out most of the first three periods with an ankle injury, but scored all five of his points in the fourth quarter to spark the comeback effort. All of his points came from the foul line.

Todd Wray, 6-4 wingman up from the jayvees, led the Moun-

taineers with 18 points. Terrence Blalock and Demetrius Goode, two returnees, added 14 and 13, respectively.

"I was well pleased overall," said Coach Blalock. "West Charlotte has a real good team and this victory will help build our confidence."

Blalock praised Wray and Blalock for their all-around play, and Goode and Byers for their rebounding. They led the way with seven and six, respectively.

Bill Henderson and Arnold McClain led the Lions with 23 and 21 points, respectively, but they were the only West Charlotte players in double figures.

BOYS GAME

K. Mtn. (67) - C. Smith 5, Byers 7, Blalock 14, Roseboro 3, Ingram 7, Wray 18, Goode 13.

WC (59) - McClain 21, Henderson 23, Carmichael 1, Medley 8, McGinnis 1, Mosley 2, D. Smith 4.

Kings Mountain's girls shot only 32 percent from the floor and 44 percent from the foul line, but still almost pulled the

game out in the final seconds.

Coach David Brinkley's girls came from seven points down in the fourth quarter to tie the game at 46-all with 26 seconds remaining.

The Mountaineers called timeout to set up a final shot, but lost the ball on a poor pass and West Charlotte came downcourt and connected on a three-point play for the final margin.

Seniors Diane Williams and Sheryl Goode led the KM effort. Williams led the scoring with 18 points and Goode topped all rebounders with 16. Kings Mountain outrebounded West Charlotte 40 to 30.

"We just didn't play well, either offensively or defensively," said Coach Brinkley. "Our inexperience hurt us. But I hope we use these two non-conference games to gain some experience for our conference games."

West Charlotte led most of the game after a 9-9 tie following the first period. The Lady Lions were out front by 27-24 at halftime and 41-34 going into the fourth period.

GIRLS GAME

K. Mtn. (46) - Williams 18, Goode 5, Bolton 5, Bell 8, Hamrick 8, Curry 2.

WC (49) - Blocker 7, Morris 10, Roberson 9, Kendricks 14, Easton 2, Nussear 2, Ratcliff 2, Standifer 3.

Brantley Speaker

District Governor of District 31-C, Lion Farris Brantley, made his official visit to the Kings Mountain Lions Club Tuesday night.

Lion Brantley presented the program at the regular meeting.

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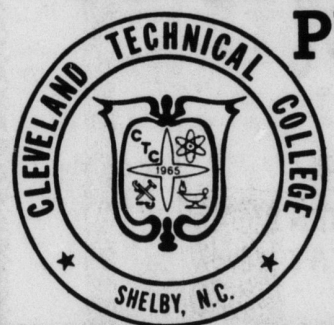
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