

Baseball Team Top '80 Story

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Kings Mountain Junior High added three more championships to its Western Junior High Athletic Association collection during the year.

Last winter, the Patriot wrestling team went unbeaten for the third straight year under Coach Phil Weathers and continued its distinction as being the only club

Moss Named

Kings Mountain Mayor John Henry Moss has been elected chairman of the executive committee of the National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues.

Moss, President of the South Atlantic League, was elected to the one-year term at the Association's meeting during the annual Winter Baseball Meetings earlier this month in Texas.

Mayor Moss is serving his fifth year as a member of the executive committee, which rules on all types of disputes and complaints in the 18-league association.

The duties of chairman also include the office of Vice President of the Association.

Other members of the executive committee are Harold M. Cooper of Columbus, Ohio, President of the International League; and Carl Sawatski of Little Rock, Ark., President of the Texas League.

The executive committee meets four times a year and has called meetings when necessary. Its offices are in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Moss has been president of the Western Carolinas League (renamed South Atlantic League two years ago) since its organization in 1960.

Movie Stars To Sponsor Softball Team

Dave Carroll, President of Dave Carroll Sports announced today that three of America's best known Hollywood figures will participate as sponsors of his world champion softball team in 1981.

Hal Needham, Director of Smokey & The Bandit I & II, along with actors Burt Reynolds and Paul Newman, have agreed to sponsor the team. The softball team will be known as the "Bandits" in recognition of Needham and Reynolds movie box office smash hits.

Needham, present at the press conference announcing the association stated, "Softball annually finds over 30 million people participating. They're the same kind of people that helped make the Smokey & The Bandit films such successes. We have decided to participate in the sport to say thank you to all those people and to give them back a little something for all they did to make our movies such hits. Besides, any sport that involves 30 million people is a sport that I want to be part of."

Carroll's "Bandit" team will participate in various "Invitational Tournaments" across the country in 1981. They will also be on the field in every major A.S.A. and U.S.S.A. sanctioned event possible, including the 1981 Slowpitch "World Series" where they will be defending titlists.

"Although softball is the nation's largest participation sport, never have we had the opportunity to gain the national exposure and recognition that we deserve. The addition of the Needham, Reynolds, Newman support will start us on our way to getting that kind of exposure," said Carroll.

In addition to the announcement of the Needham, Reynolds, Newman association, Needham also revealed that negotiations are underway for major corporate co-sponsorship as well.

"1981 will mark my 25th year of active participation in softball," said Carroll. "I am committed to making it not only the biggest and best for me and my company and my team, but for the entire sport as well."

in the WJHA to ever win a wrestling title.

In the fall, the varsity football team, coached by David Heffner and John Bumgardner, won the conference title with a 6-0-1 record. The Patriots won six games in a row after a season-opening 6-6 tie with West McDowell.

In the spring, the Patriot baseball team won the championship under first-year coach David Heffner, defeating Shelby for the title on the last day of the season.

The boys basketball team, coached by Ken Napier, led the conference much of the year but faltered after Napier dismissed one of his better players for disciplinary reasons. Still, the Patriots finished second.

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