



# Pat's Peckings

By NEALE PATRICK

## WNCHSAA Changes All-Star Picks

Pickups and leftovers from the whirl of sports... The WNCHSAA comes up with something new in all-star athletic teams starting next school season...

The Conference football teams, for instance, will be 22-man selections, broken down by four boys each at end, tackle and guards, two centers and eight backs...

Marion cast the only dissenting vote in the balloting which defeated the re-alignment proposal for Western Conference teams...

If folks think that Area Four has its problems in junior baseball, state commissioner Charlie Smith suggests you consider one he will have to workout down east...

## N. C. Almost Lost Regional Tourney

North Carolina faced the possibility of losing the Region Four Legion junior baseball tournament this season, if National Commissioner Lou Brissie had his way about it...

But Memphis put in a bid for the event this summer, and Brissie asked North Carolina Legion baseball officials if it suited them to move the tournament to the Tennessee city...

Some folks figured this has been a wet and rainy spring... But you can't prove it by the Mountaineers baseball schedule...

James Robbs finally returns to action with the Mountaineer nine after missing most of the schedule with a couple of broken toes suffered in a basketball game...

A couple of Queens played for the Kings Mountain High girls basketball team last winter... Guard Gertie Pearson was the May Day Queen last week...

## Mountaineers To Wear TV-jerseys

The Mountaineer football team will be dressed-up fit for tee-vee next autumn... Coach John Gamble has purchased a brand new set of white nylon jerseys...

Two of the Mountaineers top sophomore baseball players this spring may be forced to miss junior baseball due to summer school...

An early look suggests that the local juniors should field an experienced team, with good pitching this summer... Eleven players move up from Kings Mt. High...

George Wilson's big bat caused the St. Louis Cardinals to forsake their youth movement at Rochester and sign the veteran outfielder to provide more left-handed hitting power...

The Milwaukee Braves refuse to push their prized bonus baby, Tony Cloninger, too fast... He has been assigned to the Class B Three-I League this summer...

Mason Rodden, Belmont Banner sports editor, tried to pin-point the cause of the Red Raiders slump this diamond season, but couldn't find the answer...

## Low Hit Games Feature In LL

Richard Pack of Burmil and Leftwich of North turned in low hit pitching wins to feature local Little League play in games late last week... Pack hurled a one-hitter as his team defeated Parkgrace, 5-0...

# Mountaineers Maul Tri-High By 12-1

## Jrs. Open Drills, Tickets On Sale

BY NEALE PATRICK

Following the tradition of the armed services, everyone connected with the American Legion junior baseball program is "turning-to" to put things in ship-shape for the opening of the season in three weeks.

Coaches Fred Withers and Bill Bates opened practice sessions for their junior charges last Saturday afternoon, and have called the second pre-season workout at 4 o'clock this Saturday.

Meanwhile, local Legionnaires and other persons interested in the local program are busy selling tickets and contacting others to aid in various phases of making the junior diamond season a successful one.

First-round tickets, selling for a dollar, have been placed in sale in at least nine local business establishments and several local Legion members are making a house-to-house canvass to sell tickets.

maires also will "set up shop" down town Saturday to sell the tickets which will admit bearers to all the home games in the first round of play.

Most of the members of the Kings Mountain High School team who are eligible for the juniors were on hand for Saturday's opening junior practice, consisting of several rounds of batting practice.

Grover sent two candidates for opening drills, including a promising catcher, C. B. Green, who has been one of the standouts for Coach Preston Holt's team this spring.

The expected prospects from Bethware High School were unable to attend Saturday's kicking off drills, but sent word they will be on hand later.

ely responsible for putting the junior program on its feet here this season, emphasized again this week:

"We are depending on public support for funds to operate the program here this summer.

"We believe that the big majority of Kings Mountain citizens favor continuing the program and the chance to participate in it, and that given an opportunity, the public will support it through donations, ticket purchases and otherwise.

Many Legionnaires and others are now actively working in this effort... but more workers are needed. Anyone wishing to help should contact Joe McDaniel at the City Hall for tickets to sell, or Ray Cline, athletic officer for Otis D. Green Post.

"Since we feel that we will not be able to reach everyone interested in the program, we are running the coupon soliciting aid in today's edition of the Herald. If you wish to help in this fine program, fill out the form and return."

Caroleen AB R H rbi Butler, cf-1b 3 0 0 0 Walker, rf 3 0 1 0 Lowery, lf 3 0 0 0 Green, 3b 2 1 1 0 Bailey, ss 2 0 0 0 Francis, 1b 2 0 0 0 Moore, 2b 1 0 1 1 Harrelson, c 2 0 0 0 G. Wright, p 0 0 0 0 Byers, p 2 0 0 0 Holland, c 1 0 0 0 Wells, ss 1 0 0 0 Phillips, rf 1 0 0 0 Totals 23 1 3 1

Kings Mt. AB R H rbi Tignor, 2b 1 2 1 3 Robbs, ss 2 1 1 2 R. Pearson, rf-c 3 1 1 2 Fisher, cf 4 1 1 0 Thorburn, 1b 3 1 2 1 Smith, c 3 2 1 0 Parker, lf 2 1 0 0 J. Wright, p 3 1 0 0 Ware, 3b 2 1 0 0 Hendricks, ss 1 0 0 0 Adams, 1b 1 1 1 0 Thomas, lf 1 0 0 0 Haynes, 2b 1 0 0 0 Rickard, rf 1 0 0 0 Hillard, 3b 1 0 0 0 Wilson, p 0 0 0 0 Totals 29 12 8 8

Caroleen 000 000 1-1 Kings Mt. 602 310 x-12

Pitchers IP H R ER BB SO G. Wright (1) 0 2 4 3 0 0 Byers 6 6 8 4 4 3 J. Wright (w) 5 1 0 0 3 1 Wilson 2 2 1 1 0 0 E-Bailey 3, Francis, Byers, Greene; DP-Lowery to Harrelson; Tignor to Thorburn; LOB-Caroleen 4, Kings Mt. 8; 2B-Robbs, Tignor, Green; SB-Tignor, Thorburn, Smith, Fisher; HBP-Tignor, Pearson, Robbs 2; Smith; U-Kiser and Hamrick; T-1:45.

Caroleen 000 000 1-1 Kings Mt. 602 310 x-12

## Jerry Phillips Represents K. M. In Track Finals

Jerry Phillips will be the Mountaineers lone representative in the WNCHSAA track meet to be held Friday at Davidson College.

The Kings Mountain senior hurdler won a berth in the Association championships, capturing third-place in the 180-yard low hurdles in the Western Conference meet at Hickory last Friday.

Phillips posted a time of 23 seconds in the race, with Shook's winning time being 22.2 seconds.

He will go to Davidson Friday with the six qualifiers from Shelby High which relinquished its Western Conference track championship to Hickory. The host team copped the Northwest-Southwest meet with 37 points, compared to Shelby's 28 3/4.

The top six finishers at Hickory go to Davidson along with the first six qualifiers from the Piedmont Conference meet at Statesville, won also by the host team.

Phillips was the only Mountaineer finishing in the first six of his event, although several other local trackmen barely missed the qualifying half-dozen.

Arthur Allen finished seventh in the low hurdles with a 23.3 second qualifying time.

Derek Smith finished seventh in the discus, and Don Gladden posted the seventh best time in 220-yard dash. Gladden finished second in his heat of the 220, but his time was slightly slower than a second in another heat.

The Mountaineers entered 15 in the Conference meet, with entries in the majority of the events.

Trailing Hickory and Shelby in the team scoring were Lenoir with 19 points, Newton-Conover 16, R. S. Central 10 1/2, Marion 8, Wilkes Central 7, Valdese 6 1/2, Morganton 3 3/4, Kings Mt. 2, Lincolnton 3/4.

## Bethware Beats Casar, Belwood To Win Berth In State Playoffs

Bethware's Buccaneers won the right to represent Cleveland County in the state Class A elimination series, defeating Casar and Belwood in a pair of playoff games last week.

Coach Bill Powell's defending county champions and current leaders in the South zone of the county chase defeated the North zone's co-leaders, Casar and Belwood, to advance into district play in the state.

Bethware defeated Casar, 7-1, last Wednesday, tripped Belwood, 4-2, in a 15-inning thriller on Friday afternoon at Bethware.

The playoffs were arranged to determine a Cleveland County team to participate in the state organization's series. As result of the victories, Bethware moved against Gaston County champion Bessemer City Tuesday night.

Clyde Carroll and Dean Burton handled the pitching chores for Bethware in the 7-1 victory over Casar in the first game of the county playoffs. Two afternoons later, Beth-

## Wright And Wilson Spin 3-Hitter, Thorburn, Tignor, Robbs Top Bats

The Mountaineers went on their biggest run-scoring spree of the baseball season here Tuesday afternoon, mauling Caroleen Tri-High, 12-1, to avenge the third early-season defeat within the past week.

Chip Thorburn clubbed a pair of singles and Don Tignor and James Robbs contributed the extra base power, with a double each, to pace the Kings Mountain attack. Six Tri-High errors, four walks and five hit batsmen also aided the cause as the Mountaineers batted around in two of the innings.

Pitchers Jerry Wright and Ken Wilson just coasted behind that offensive fireworks. Jerry went the first five frames, allowing only one single and gained credit for the win, his third of the year against three losses. Ken mopped-up in the last two frames and allowed the lone Tri-High run on two hits in the seventh.

Caroleen is the third team within the past week to feel the sting of the Mountaineers revenge for first-round defeats. Last week, the Mountaineers also beat R. S. Central and Cherryville, both of whom had whipped our side on the first trip around the circuit.

Coach Fred Withers used 16 players in the Tuesday rout, with only Don Fisher and Ronnie Pearson playing the entire game.

The Mountaineers started off with a bang, sending 12 batters to the plate and scoring six runs in the first inning. The local lads managed only two hits in the big frame, but three Mountaineers were tagged with pitched balls, three more walked, and a couple of errors helped keep things moving.

Robbs rapped his double and Thorburn his first single to provide the hitting punch to the quick start.

Ronnie Pearson's single drove home another pair of tallies in the third, and the Mountaineers batted around again in the fourth inning.

Fisher and Thorburn singled in this uprising, and after a couple of errors, Tignor slammed a double on the left field bank, driving home a pair of tallies.

Hits by Jerry Adams and Don Smith, along with an error, hiked the score to an even dozen in the fifth.

Ronnie Pearson pulled the fielding gem of the game, nabbing Bailey's long drive into deep right field in the fourth frame. Running with his back to the diamond, Ronnie speared the ball over his shoulder, robbing the batter of at least a double.

Bethware bowed out of Class A district playoffs Tuesday night, losing a 7-1 game to Bessemer City's Gaston County champions.

Playing their first night game of the year, the Buccaneers could manage only four hits off the stout hurling of big Don Honeycutt of the Yellow Jackets. Honeycutt is the same right-hander who defeated Tony Cloninger in district A playoffs last spring.

Bobby Biddix, returning to the mound after only three days rest since his 11-inning performance against Belwood last Friday, wasn't up to his usual sharp performance. Clyde Carroll finished up for the Bucs, the two hurlers allowing 7 hits.

Biddix fanned ten and did not allow an earned run in his five innings on the hill, as the Bucs made eight errors in the game.

Dean Burton rapped two hits and Jerry Wright and Don Horn one each for Bethware.

The win advances Bessemer City against the McDowell-Burke County winner in state Class A action.

Linescore: Bethware 000 001 0-1-4-8 Bess. City 201 112 x-7-7-2 Biddix, Carroll and Morris. Honeycutt and Franklin.

## Golf, Tennis Teams Host F. C. Today

Kings Mountain High school golf and tennis teams will complete their home schedules here this afternoon (Thursday), playing host to a pair of Forest City teams.

The tennis matches are scheduled at the Deal Street Recreation Center courts and the golf rounds at the Kings Mountain Country Club. The matches will start at 3:30.

Meets between the same teams at Forest City last week were postponed at the request of Forest City, and may be made up next week. The Mountaineer teams, participating in golf and tennis for the first time, have lost four straight matches each, two each to Shelby and R. S. Central.

## Shelby Clinches Southwest Loop Baseball Crown

Thirteen didn't prove unlucky to the Southwest Conference baseball-leading Shelby Lions.

The defending league champions won their 13th straight loop title of the season, belting R. S. Central, 8-0, behind the two-hit pitching of Johnny Kouri. Big John fanned 14 and helped his cause with a triple and a pair of singles.

The victory clinched what has been a foregone conclusion for weeks... the SWC baseball title for '59.

Cherryville held second-place in the circuit, with a 6-2 win over Forest City Tuesday, but the Irons are now mathematically out of the title race. Eddie Homesley, who was battered out of the box against the Mountaineers last week, held Cool Spring to two hits Tuesday.

Belmont managed to hold onto third place in the circuit, with a 3-1 win over Central on Monday. Bill Saunders tossed the win for the Raiders.

Kings Mountain took over fourth place in the league with its 12-1 romp over Caroleen here Tuesday.

Southwest Conference baseball standings: Team W L Pct. Shelby 13 0 1.000 Cherryville 9 4 .692 Belmont 8 4 .667 Kings Mt. 8 5 .615 Lincolnton 7 5 .583 R. S. Central 7 7 .500 Forest City 4 9 .308 Caroleen 2 11 .154 Cliffside 0 12 .000

## Minette Still Batting .500

Minette Mills continues to bat at a 500 pace in the South Atlantic Softball League.

The defending state champions divided a twin bill with the Brooks Ice Cream Bar team of Hendersonville last Saturday night at Brice Harry Memorial Park in Grover to give them a season's record of three wins and three losses in the new softball circuit.

Veteran Wade Vaughn lost a heart-breaking one-hit game in the opener, 1-0. The Minnettes ace fanned 12 but lost the brilliant duel to Tom Conrad of Hendersonville, who permitted two hits and struck out 13 Minnettemen. Pitcher Conrad won his own game with a squeeze bunt.

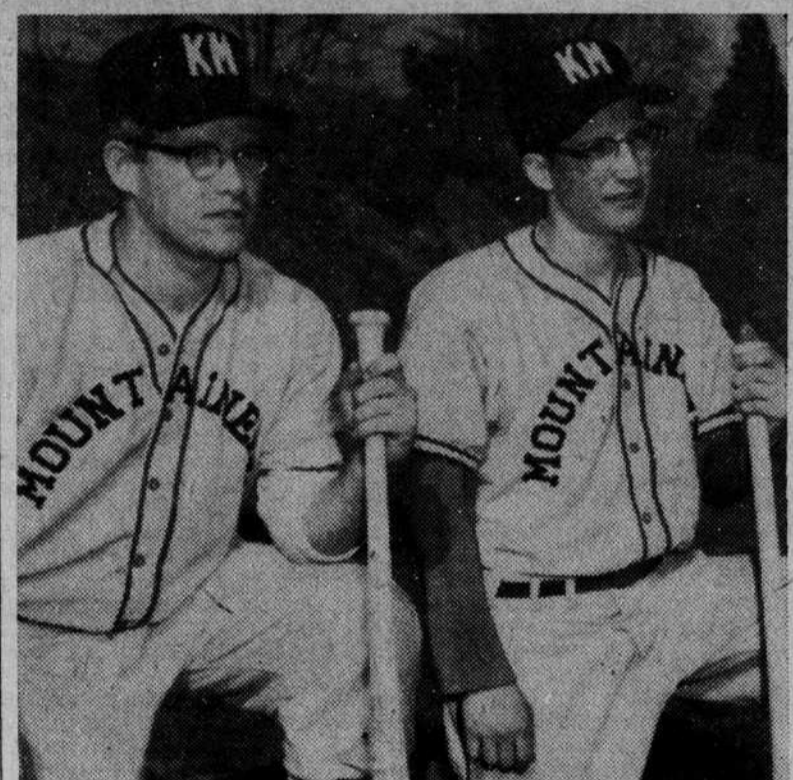
Lefty Orbin Taylor came through with another fine pitched game to cop the nightcap for Minette, 2-1, besting Bill Smith in another mound duel. Genee Turner drove home both runs for Minette with a first inning double.

Saturday's games were the third straight double-header in which Minette has bounced back to win the second game after losing the opener.

Coach Zero Hastings' Minnettemen go to Charlotte for their league tussle Saturday night.

## George Wilson Slugs In Pinch-Hit Roles

George Wilson is proving a pinch-hit hero for the Rochester Red Wings of the International League.



MOUNTAINEER INFELDERS - Mike Ware, left, and Don Tignor share a distinction for the Kings Mountain High Mountaineer baseball club this spring. They are the only two players on the team who have started every game of the season at the same positions. Mike at third base and Don at second. The Mountaineers hit the road for their next two games, return here Friday night of next week (May 15) to close the year against Shelby.

## Don Fisher Halts Cherryville For Fifth Straight Mound Win

Don Fisher moved right up in the ranks with the top pitchers in the conference in his fourth, 5-3 victory over Cherryville here last Friday afternoon.

Although needing aid from Ken Wilson during a Cherryville rally in the top of the seventh, the rangy junior right-hander posted his fifth straight mound win of the campaign, a mark which places him on the same level with a pair of undefeated Shelby tossers, Johnny Kouri and Robert Camp.

Fisher's mates put together some timely hitting in one big inning to score the impressive win over the second place team in the Southwest league. Five hits in the third inning produced four runs and enough to win the game.

Fisher held Cherryville scoreless through the first six frames and seemed well on his way toward his fourth complete game of the season. But a fluke hit in the seventh inning opened the door for Cherryville and before it was over Wilson came on to turn in a neat relief job and halt the Irons threat.

The Mountaineers took a one-run lead in the first when Don Tignor was hit by a pitched ball, advanced to third on a wild pitch and an infield out and scored on Ronnie Pearson's grounder.

Kings Mountain wrapped it up with four in the third. Tignor started it again, this time with a double on the left field bank. Playing his first game, James Robbs beat out a bunt, and when pitcher Eddie Homesley attempted to pick Robbs off first, heaved the ball into right field and Tignor scored.

Pearson singled home Robbs, and another pair of base knocks by Don Smith and Punch Parker loaded the bases.

Stan Crisson relieved Homesley on the hill and promptly allowed two runs, walking Jerry Wright to force home Pearson, and uncorking a wild pitch to admit Smith.

That was all for the Mountaineers, but Fisher protected the advantage until the top of the seventh when C. Jenkins started a rally with a single off Fisher's shin. Mick Mauney forced Jenkins at second, but Fisher lost control and walked three straight batters, forcing in a run.

Wilson came on and walked Homesley to push home another. He forced Crisson to fly out to deep center, driving home the

## Tigers Slug 10-3 Victory In Opener

The Kings Mountain Tigers opened their season, blasting Hickory Grove, 10-3, last Saturday afternoon.

Starting pitcher Will Jones allowed only three hits in his six-inning stint, and D. Jones finished, pitching hitless ball.

Brown led the Tigers hitting with a double and pair of singles. The Tigers will attempt to make it two straight, facing Grover at Davidson Park Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

Linescore: H. Groves 021 000 000-3-3-4 K. M. 310 220 20x-10-16-4