



Pat's Peckings

By NEALE PATRICK

Confusion On The Prep Scene

If you think that the athletic situation for some young athletes from Bethware and Grover wishing to participate in the sports program at Kings Mountain High School is confusing . . . you have been engaged in clear thinking.

It's very clear that things have been confusing for the youths from the two neighboring schools who planned to make their first splash in interscholastic football this autumn.

Mountaineer grid mentor John Gamble has been attempting to answer the unanswerable question for the boys in the recent weeks since the legal decision returned the Grover and Bethware schools to the Cleveland County system, instead of carrying through with the consolidation plans.

Gamble and local school officials were as much in the dark as to the status of the would-be gridlers from Bethware and Grover as were the boys. No one knew the answer to the question whether the youths would be allowed to attend Kings Mountain High. And no one could answer the question whether the boys would be eligible, if and when they did transfer to the local school.

A total of 48 youths at Grover and Bethware signed as prospective football candidates when Gamble visited the two schools shortly after the consolidation election last spring. All the boys were planning to take their first football step, coming out of the county schools which did not sponsor the grid program. But all the youths were eager, and many were sophomores and freshmen, meaning several years of eligibility.

Then came the legal edict and the enthusiasm turned to confusion.

The decision was partially resolved last week with the announcement that Bethware and Grover students must secure a release from the county school system before being allowed to enter Kings Mountain High. Even, if and when that is accomplished, the would-be athletes faced the other barrier of the Southwest Conference of the WNCCHA ruling on their eligibility here.

The chances of the Mountaineers getting player help from Bethware and Grover for the 1960-61 athletic campaigns, thus, seem very slim.

Cleveland Co. Conference Uncertain

Kings Mountain High and the local coaches, however, have company in their confusion.

The status of the Cleveland County athletic conference also is unsettled. The old 12-team county circuit, of course, is dead. No one seems to know whether a new and smaller conference will be formed for the ensuing basketball and baseball campaigns.

Nine of the former members of the old Cleveland Conference have consolidated, as you know, into three schools . . . at Fallston, Boiling Spring and Polkville. These three new consolidated county units will have large student bodies and adequate material to field strong court and diamond teams. Waco and Belwood consolidated with Fallston in the northeast area, Lattimore and Mooresboro at Boiling Springs in the southwest area, and Casar and Piedmont at Polkville in the northwest section of Cleveland County.

That leaves the three county schools closest to Kings Mountain standing alone . . . Bethware, Grover and No. Three.

Presumably, the three schools which retain their individual identity for another year will again field athletic teams.

That could mean a six-team Cleveland County Conference, consisting of the three consolidated schools and the three neighboring schools which will go-alone.

Obviously, that would be an unbalanced league. The point has been made here before, and is made again, that the three lone-wolf schools (Bethware, Grover, and No. Three) will be at a serious disadvantage personnel-wise against the three consolidated teams from Fallston, Polkville and Boiling Springs.

The three consolidated units will select their basketball and baseball talent from holdovers from three schools, each. That factor gives the three large consolidated schools a distinct advantage against our neighborhood schools which have less than 200 students each at Grover and Bethware and no more than 300 at No. Three.

Grover Searches For New Coach

At least one of the lone-wolf schools, Grover, will need another coach before the athletic seasons roll around.

Preston Holt, the successful coach at Grover for the past five years, assumes his new duties as principal of the Elizabeth elementary school near Shelby this autumn. Holt coached both boys and girls basketball, as well as baseball, at Grover and his departure into the administrative field throws a burden at Grover in planning its athletic program for the 1960-61 school term.

Holt stated here a few days ago that James Scruggs, principal of the Grover school, probably would coach the girls basketball team, with a teacher being assigned the duties as boys basketball and baseball mentor.

Bill Powell and Blaine Froneberger are expected to return to Bethware, with Powell again coaching boys basketball and baseball, and Froneberger the girls basketball coach.

But the Buccaneer mentors and the new Grover coaches will find the personnel pickings slim in comparison to the depth of material available to the mentors of the three consolidated schools.

Moose Lodge Host To Pony League Teams At Supper On Tuesday Night

The Kings Mountain Moose Club was host Tuesday night to the players of three local Pony League teams during the past season.

Some 35 coaches and players from the Moose, Rebels and Mauney teams were the guests at the new Moose Lodge. The pennant winning Margrace team planned its own banquet. Pony League coaches attend-

ing were Willie Gries, Bob Hope, Chuck Huffstetler, Charles Helms and Clarence Smith.

The local Pony League completed its season last week and the Moose Lodge followed its annual custom of playing host to the team it sponsors in the local league for the 13-15 year old youths. This year, the Moose officials also invited members of the other teams, including



LITTLE LEAGUE PLAYOFF CHAMPIONS—The North team was the "Cinderella Club" of the Kings Mountain Little League program in 1960, winning the post-season playoff tournament after finishing in a tie for fourth-fifth during the regular campaign. North won three straight games in the local tournament, including the title game victory over regular-season champion and undefeated Kiwanis. The North squad, left to right, FRONT ROW—Rich-

ard Blanton, Gary Cooke, Corky Fulton, Morgan Hollifield, and Glenn Wells; SECOND ROW—Billy Bridges, Danny Greene, Hoyt Phipper, and Larry Gillespie; BACK ROW—Coach Fred Jacoby, Jay Powell, Wayne Odell, Roy Whitaker, Chip Bridges, and assistant coach Bill Falls. Absent when the picture was made were: assistant coach David Falls, Fred Clary and Chuck Gladden.

Pairings Set For Ping-Pong Tournament

Six entries have been listed for the ping-pong tournament which will be staged at the Deal Street Recreation Center starting this week.

Recreation Director Charles Helms said that the pingpong tables will be set up at the Center and pairings for the event have been posted at the pool office.

Ronnie Cole will meet Dennis Patterson and Erwin Smith will meet Jerry Patterson in the two opening round matches.

Perry Champion and Charles Helms gained first-round byes. Champion will meet the winner of the Cole-D Patterson match, and Helms will meet the Smith-J. Patterson winner in the second round.

Several of the players also are playing in the local tennis tournament, and Helms said that, the same deadline schedule for matches will prevail in both tournaments. The two finalists in the ping-pong event must be determined by Sunday August 21, and the finals match must be played the week of August 22-28.

G-W Gridders To Play Nine

The Gardner Webb Bulldogs will play a nine-game football schedule this fall, including two games each (home and away) against each of the three Conference foes, Mars Hill, Lees-McRae and Wingate.

Other games for Coach Norman Harris' team will be against Chowan, Davidson Freshmen and Furman Freshmen. The opening game pits the Chowan team, coached by former G. W. assistant James Garrison, against his former coach and boss, Norman Harris.

Assistant Coach Bob Blackburn will be on hand for practice finishing work for his Master's Degree at George Peabody College in Nashville, Tenn.

Nineteen returning prospects will be among the Bulldog candidates, along with several heartening discoveries in spring practice. Approximately 30 freshmen hopefuls are expected to give Harris his largest squad.

BULLDOG SCHEDULE

Sept. 17	— Chowan, home.
Sept. 24	— Mars Hill, home.
Oct. 1	— Lees McRae, Away.
Oct. 8	— Wingate, home.
Oct. 15	— Mars Hill, away.
Oct. 22	— Davidson (Freshman), home.
Oct. 29	— Lees McRae, homecoming.
Nov. 5	— Wingate, away.
Nov. 10	— Furman (Freshman) away.

Tigers Play Here Saturday Night

The Kings Mountain Tigers will play their first home night game of the season here Saturday night at 8 o'clock at City Stadium, facing the Shelby Red Legs.

Manager William Orr's local team will be seeking revenge for a recent 7-5 loss to the Shelby club and the 18-strikeout pitching of Jay Wright.

R. Adams is expected to open on the mound for the Tigers, against the Red Legs here Saturday night, with M. Brown as his catcher.

The Tiger infield will show A. Jordan at firstbase, Burris at second, B. Owens at third and C. Adams, shortstop.

Margrace Finishes Undefeated; Moose Hurlers Toss No-Hitters

The Kings Mountain Pony League closed its season with a flourish last week.

Margrace won its final two games to finish the campaign with ten straight victories and the new league champion.

The new champs, however, had to share the final headlines with defending champion Moose whose pitchers hurled a pair of no-hitters on the final afternoon of the season.

Reggie White and Jimmy Medlin each pitched a two-hitter as Margrace defeated Rebels, 3-1 and 2-1, last Wednesday afternoon.

The next day, the Moose moundmen were more effective pitching no-hitters in a twin-bill against Mauney and Rebels. The no-hitters were the first of the season in the Pony League.

Eddie Huffstetler tossed a hitless game against Mauney, winning 4-2 in five innings in the first half of the double-bill. He struck out four and allowed the runs on errors and walks. Two errors and a walk provided Mauney a run in the second, and two walks and another error admitted another run in the third.

The no-hit tasser also led his Moose team in hitting with a pair of singles. Mike Huffstetler clubbed a double for the other Moose blow. Moose scored in the first, on strength of Huffstetler's single and Huffstetler's double.

Four Moose hurlers teamed up for a no-hitter in the second game of the twin-bill although the Rebels battled to gain a 3-3 tie, despite being held hitless.

Mike Ballard, Mike Huffstetler, Huffstetler, and Barrett shared the mound work for Moose. Rebels scored their three runs in the fourth on four straight walks, followed by an error.

Ballard led Moose in hitting with a pair of singles. Henry Hillard and Huffstetler added one blow each to the Moose four-hit attack, against Jerry Lockridge. The Rebel pitcher fanned 11 and the four Moose moundmen struck out nine.

Margrace continued to get the steady pitching which has marked its entire season in the final pair with Rebels last Wednesday. Reggie White gave-up both hits in the fourth frame, a double by Bobo Goforth and single by Jerry Lockridge for the lone Rebel run in the 3-1 contest. Tony Thrift paced Margrace with a double and single. White also

Rippers, Braves Match Goose Eggs; Jake Early Makes Home Pro Debut

The longest baseball game in major league history was 26 innings . . . and here on Saturday night, Kings Mountain fans were treated to 26 goose-eggs in the Western Carolina League tussle between Gastonia and Salisbury. The Class D rivals battled through 13 scoreless innings in the second game of the double-header sponsored by the Cleveland County Rescue Squad.

Dave Squires of the Rippers and George Schneider of the Braves matched each other pitcher-for-pitcher in the mound duel. Each allowed eight hits and fanned ten. Schneider walked three and Squires two.

The game was finally called at the midnight curfew. Salisbury romped off with the seven-inning opener, 13-3, turning the game into a rout with ten runs in the final two frames, including a seven-run explosion in the seventh. Acting manager Jack Falls was hurling that frame, and gave up three doubles, along with three walks, a single and an error for the big

Margrace Wins Pony Loop Title

Margrace replaced Moose as the champion of the Kings Mountain Pony League for the 1960 season.

Coach S. E. Norris' team swept to ten straight victories in the campaign to top the league by bunting by a three and a half game margin over the runner-up and defending champion Moose outfit.

Rebels finished third and Mauney was last in the league chase. Two rained-out games between Margrace and Mauney were cancelled as they had no bearing on the final standings.

FINAL STANDINGS

Team	W	L	T	Pct.
Margrace	10	0	0	1.000
Moose	7	4	1	.636
Rebels	3	8	1	.273
Mauney	1	14	0	.067

joined his cause with a double, with Medlin and Butch Moss adding singles. White whiffed seven.

Margrace pushed over the winning run in the bottom of the fifth and final frame of the second game to win 2-1. A single by Jackie Hughes, double by Moss, a walk to Medlin to load the bases and a game-winning single by Reggie White brought the victory for Medlin. The winners scored their other run in the fourth, following a two-bagger by pitcher Medlin.

A double by Goforth and a single by Eddie Robbs were the lone knocks for Rebels, the two-bagger admitting the only run. The linescores:

Margrace	111	00	3-5-2
Rebels	000	10	1-2-0
R. White and Medlin, Lockridge and Goforth.			

Rebels	001	00	1-2-2
Margrace	000	11	2-5-0
Lowery, McDaniel and Goforth; Medlin and Sprouse.			

Mauney	011	00	2-0-1
Moose	301	0x	4-3-3
Smith, Childers and Reynolds; Smith; Huffstetler and Huffstetler.			

Moose	001	200	0-3-4-1
Rebels	000	300	0-3-0-1
Ballard, Huffstetler, Barrett, Huffstetler and McGinnis; Lockridge and Goforth.			

Mountaineer Gridders Open Pre-Season Drills Monday

Kings Mountain Softball Teams Win In Midwest

Kings Mountain's pair of entries posted victories in the opening round of the Midwestern softball tournament at the Brice Harry Memorial Park in Grover last Saturday night.

The local club which played in the Cleveland County Industrial fast-pitch softball league in Shelby this summer scored a 1-0 victory over Dover with Bud Ross pitching a two-hitter.

The Kings Mountain Ramblers, composed of the same players who played for Burmill in the Gaston Slow-Pitch circuit this season, made the switch to fast pitch in a 10-2 triumph over Dallas Brewers in another opening round game and the KM softball Minette Mills' defending Midwestern champions defeated Moose of Stanley, 9-2 in other opening night action.

The tournament which is being sponsored in the Minette home park by the Grover Rescue Squad was due to continue on a double-elimination basis Wednesday night with Dover meeting Dallas at 7 o'clock, followed by Minette vs the Kings Mountain Ramblers at 8 o'clock, and the Kings Mt. Softball club vs Rocky Ford at 9 o'clock.

Play will continue Thursday Friday and Saturday night with the Midwestern champion being determined the final night.

Bud Ross and the KM softball team gained partial revenge in the victory over Dover and pitcher Jake Kiser on Saturday night. Kiser had pitched Dover to two wins over Kings Mountain in the finals of the Shelby league tournament the week before.

Kings Mountain scored the lone and winning run in the first inning, a hit by Holland Smith admitting Dewitt Guyton. Don Tignor led KM with a pair of knocks, with Gene Stone, Jim Guyton and Gerald Higgs obtaining the other hits.

The KM Ramblers exploded for ten runs in the second inning for all the runs in the 10-2 victory over Dallas. Charles Smith led the Rambler attack with two hits. The Ramblers managed only five hits, but counted them along with a host of walks and a pair of Dallas errors for the big frame.

Palmer Smith pitched the victory for the Ramblers, allowing five hits.

Phil Roark hurled a two-hitter as Minette defeated Moose, 9-2, in the other game. Wayne Apple led the defending Midwest champions with a pair of hits.

The linescores:

Kings Mt.	100	000	1-6-2
Dover	000	000	1-2-4
Bud Ross and J. Guyton; Kiser and Bridges.			

KM Ramblers	0(10)	0	10-5-3
Dallas	101	0	2-5-2
WP-P. Smith; LP-Hastings.			

Minette	206	01	9-9-2
Moose	010	01	2-2-4
WP-Roark; LP-Key.			

Sprouse Hurls Macedonia Win

The Macedonia team boosted its season record to seven wins and three losses in the R. A. junior baseball league with a 9-1 triumph over Boiling Springs here last Saturday afternoon.

Danny Sprouse hurled a one-hitter for Macedonia and Johnny Hullender led the local club's hitting with three straight singles.

The two teams entered the game with identical records of six wins and three losses. Macedonia scored three times in the first frame on two hits, by Harold Farris and Hullender, along with three walks and a hit batsman.

Three more hits and a like number of walks produced five runs in the fifth frame. Sprouse clubbed a triple, Roy Medlin a double and Hullender a single in that late upending.

Sprouse allowed the lone hit in the first inning, a single by Hedrick. The Macedonia hurler fanned nine.

Macedonia plays at Ross Grove Saturday afternoon.

The linescore:

Boiling Springs	000	001	1-3
Macedonia	310	05x	9-6-3
R. Hamrick, Hastings and Hastings. Hamrick; Sprouse and Medlin.			

Lucky Strikes Cop Ten-Pin Bowl Title

Lucky Strikes won the title in the men's summer ten-pin bowling league at the Mountain Lane Center.

The league champs posted a mark of 30 wins and 12 losses to cop the crown over Trouble Shooters.

Final standings in the league:

Team	W	L	Pct.
Lucky Strikes	30	12	.714
Trouble Shooters	24	15	.615
Cherry Pickers	19	23	.452
King Pins	8	31	.205

BY NEALE PATRICK

About 40 candidates are expected to report when Coach John Gamble blows the whistle on the opening autumn football drills for the Kings Mountain High Mountaineers at City Stadium on Monday morning.

Gamble sees little likelihood of being able to use Bethware and Grover players this year. Boys from the neighboring county schools who originally were scheduled to enter Kings Mountain High under the consolidation plan now have been returned to their original schools.

Releases now must be obtained from the county school system for all students wishing to attend Kings Mountain High, and then eligibility for athletics must be determined by the Southwest Conference.

Don Parker and Bill Bates will assist Gamble in the opening football drills until school starts, at which time Fred Withers will join the staff as Jayvee grid mentor.

The eight lettermen returning for this year's club are:

James Robbs, Punch Parker, Jerry Adams, Curtis Floyd, Dale Hollifield, Mike Dixon, Charles Burns and Steve Harmon.

Eight lettermen graduated, Paul Hendricks, Jimmy Blanton, Harold Crawford, Phil Mauney, Gary Blanton, Steve Henderson, Don Fisher, and Mike Ware.

The complete list of candidates who signed intentions last spring of playing football this season are:

Don Champion, James Robbs, Wally Harris, Punch Parker, Chester Clontz, Jerry Adams, Curtis Floyd, Sammy Houston, Dale Hollifield, Jerry Rikard, Eddie Ross, Mike Dixon, Charles Burns.

Also Charles Goodson, Alton Stewart, Steve Harmon, David Adams, Eddie Spencer, Steve Brown, Tommy Armstrong, Tim Heavner, Jimmy White, Robert Whistnant, Billy Belt, Wayne Goforth, Arthur Allen.

Also James Hope, Forest Dover, Bill Ramsey, Douglas Yarbro, George Allen, Joe Cunningham, Leonard Smith, Tommy Hope, Steve Carpenter, Henry Raines, Perry Champion, Barry Gibson and Brent McDaniel.

Defending Champion John Warlick Top-Seeded In Tennis Tournament

Defending champion John Warlick is seeded number one in the Kings Mountain tennis tournament which opens today at the Deal Street Recreation courts.

Warlick heads the nine entries in the singles division of the annual late-summer tennis tournament here.

While Warlick will be favored to repeat as the singles champion, a new doubles champion will be crowned this summer. Last year's winners, Rudy Frazier and Roger Stowe, have left Kings Mountain and will not participate this year.

Frazier and Stowe formerly worked here with the Phenix Plant of Burlington Industries, but Frazier has been transferred to St. Paul and Stowe has entered the army.

Warlick defeated Frazier for the singles crown, 2-6, 12-10, 6-4, last year.

Frazier and Stowe won the doubles crown last year beating Warlick and Fred Plonk, 9-7, 4-6, 9-7, in the finals.

Oddly, the outcome of the finals in both singles and doubles last year reversed the championship matches of the year before as the same four players—Warlick, Plonk, Frazier and Stowe—have been involved in the local tennis finals for the past two years.

Wilmington First Eastern Team To Repeat As State Junior Champ

Is the balance of power in the North Carolina Legion junior baseball race shifting to the East?

It very well could be, noting the rising strength of the Wilmington team which copped its second straight state Legion title and its third in the past five years with the triumph over Lincoln-Cherryville last week.

Wilmington came back to sweep the final four games of the state finals after the Linc-Chemies won the series opener. A pair of southpaws, Louis Howard and Howard Dardeen, allowed the normally hard-hitting Linc-Chemies only four runs and 19 hits in the four victories which carried the state junior title to the East for the second straight season.

Last year Wilmington whipped Kannapolis in the state finals and five years ago (1956), the Coastal City kids beat Gastonia, coached by Fred Withers, in the championship set.

Wilmington's next step on the junior baseball ladder will be as host to the new-style Regional tournament to be held next week. Six state champions, instead of the previous four, will take part in the regional event. Greenwood will represent

drills for the next two weeks until the Forest City game.

He has set practice time at 8:30 in the morning and at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, with a skull drill every afternoon before the field sessions.

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Also James Hope, Forest Dover, Bill Ramsey, Douglas Yarbro, George Allen, Joe Cunningham, Leonard Smith, Tommy Hope, Steve Carpenter, Henry Raines, Perry Champion, Barry Gibson and Brent McDaniel.

Warlick and Plonk are top-seeded in the doubles this season.

Recreation director Charles Helms will direct the tournament and said that the pairings will be posted at the Deal Street Pool office. He said all players must arrange their matches.

He has set up deadlines for play, allowing two weekends to complete the action through the semi-finals in both the singles and doubles.

Finalists in both the singles and the doubles must be determined by Sunday, August 21.

The championship matches will be played the week of August 22-28.

Jerry Wright and James Pressly will meet in the only first round match as all other players drew byes into the quarter-finals. A draw determined the pair for the opening match.

Winner of the Wright-Pressly match will meet Warlick in one of the quarter-finals matches.

Other opening pairing for entries are:

Penny Champion vs Joe Austin. Don Fisher vs R. G. Plonk. James Robbs vs Bill Ramsey. The pairings in the doubles show:

Warlick and Fred Plonk vs Fisher and Champion. Robbs and Ramsey vs Austin and R. G. Plonk.