KINGS MOUNTAIN HERALD, KINGS MOUNTAIN, N. C.

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Pat's **Peckings** BY NEALE PATRICK

'Hickory Stick' for H. S. Athletics

Schoolboy athletics is the whipping boy for the "hic-kory stick" being toted by school administrators these days.

You, of course, have been reading in the papers about the state school officials labeling prep athletics as the "bad apple" in the otherwise solid barrel of school activities. The powers-that-be say that too much emphasis is being put on high school sports, particularly on football, claiming that the seasons are too long, that post-season championship and bowl games should be eliminated.

It seems to me that the school officials may be using athletics as their "scapegoat" in answering the question of the high number of failures in schools. They find that athletics makes-for a good "whipping boy".

But, I wonder just what effect athletics and sports have on study-habits and semester grades in school.

There is the hue and the cry that athletic practice takes time from study, that travel to games takes boys out of school.

Let's investigate the claims a little closer.

Practice sessions are held between the hours of 4 and about 6 p. m .- after school hours and before supper time. could count them on the fingers of one hand.

Youths not taking part in school athletics are dashing supervision during practice sessions.

And, just how much class time is missed due to ath-lethic trips? Very little. Night football and basketball do not cause any absenteeism. Afternoon baseball games in the spring possibly do do take boys out of one or two postlunch classes. Any of the time which is missed can be and is easily made-up.

The school officials would have you believe, too, that Player the long afternoon practice sessions and the sports trips Champion Allen cause a wholesale rate of failures among the athletes. Adams

The facts hardly bear-out such a belief.

Percentage of failures among athletes, actually, are Clontz lower than with the student body as a whole. Athletes are Ross well aware that they must keep-up their grades and make Houston passing marks or they will not be permitted to participate in sports. The driving urge to "stay eligible" for football, or any sport, might well be the factor which keeps many TOTALS boys above the passing level.

Kings Mountain, for instance, has not lost a standout Cash player in any sport, due to grades-deficiency in the three Mullinax years that I have been here. And, I have it on the authori- Robinson ty of the coaches here that many boys have improved Little Heafner their grades, and their general aptitude, after becoming a Cooke member of a Mountaineer athletic team. Moss

Length of Football Season Questioned

School night athletics, such as Tuesday night basket- Kings Mt. ball games, is another item of discontent among the Grover school leaders. They figure that players and spectating students, alike, should be home studying . . . or watching Forwards TV

Gladden Just one question. If the officials do cancel all Tuesday weir night basketball, does that also mean that all other school- M. Plonk



happy quintet represents the principals in the Lions Club annual football banquet honoring the Mountaineers last Tuesday night. Charles Burns, second from left, holds the Fred Plonk Blocking trophy, presented to him by Coach John Gamble, left. Punch Parker, second from

(47)

.2

0

0

0

(35)

FT

FT PF

3.3

4-6

2.3

0-1

0.0

16 15-23 17

(53) FT

2.4

1.2

0.1 5.6

0.0

1-1

0.0

18 17-24 17

FG

15

6 16

14 17

GIRLS

8-10

TP

12

right, and Dr. George Plonk, right hold the trophy which Dr. Plonk presented to the half-Sophom back as the Most Valuable Player. Davidson Tunior Coach Bill Dole, speaker for the banquet at the Woman's Club, smiles his approval in the cen-Senior TOTALS ter. (Photo by Pennington Studio)

And how many of those athletes, and, in truth, how many of the ones not participating in athletics, would be study-ing in the late hours of the afternoon? Normally, you Youths not taking part in school athletics are dashing the highways and the by-ways in hot-rods, or playing so-da-shop cowboy. At least the athletes are under school Points Each To Top KM Outfits

BOXSCORES

BOYS

FG

KINGS MOUNTAIN

GROVER

FG

10

Parker

TOTALS

Score by periods:

KINGS MOUNTAIN

GROVER

6

Junior Kings Mountain High cagers ran into a pair of hot-handed Grover sharp-shooters last Fri-day night in the visitors Gym and came away with a pair of defeats in the final games for the locals before the Christmas holidays Senior TOTALS

Sophomore Junior Allen's late effort and five holidays. Senior points by Punch Parker, also in Linda Eaker of the Grover girls and Jack Mullinax of the boys team scored 28 points each The 54 points by the Grover TOTALS boys team scored 28 points each in teading the county rivals to the double victory over the Mountaineer teams. Linda's 28 helped her club to a 54-35 win in the girls game, and Jack's duplicate figure played the big role in the Grover boys 53-47 tri-umph. DON FISHER Sophomore TOTALS GEORGE HARRIS umph. 6 Umpn. 7 The loss was the second in a 7 The loss was the second in a 7 The loss was the second in a 7 The Grover lassies, runners-up 7 In the Cleveland County tourna-7 ment last year and one of the 7 pace-setters in the new Tri-7 County circuit. 7 The Mountaineers' loss souar-7 The four foul tosses. Sophomore Junior Senior TOTALS MEARL VALENTINE The Mountaineers' loss squar- 15 lead at halftime. Sophomore 53 ed the season's set with Grover. the local lads having romped to Junior 8 17-47 an easy victory by a 24 point 19 3-53 margin just four days earlier KM Cage Clubs Senior Mullinax was the big differen. Drill Next Week TOTALS

Ken Baity's 144 Tops KM Grid Career Point Total BY NEALE PATRICK Ken Baity and Punch Parker now add additional evidence to **Grid Career** the well-founded beliefs that they are two of the finest run-Scoring Leaders ning backs in history of Mountaineer football. Here are the career totals for They rank one-two in the carten leading Mountaineer football scorers in recent years: Mountain High School backs in recent years . . . the most suc-KEN BAITY cessful seasons, in fact, in the Year Points annals of the sport here. Sophomo 1955 12 Junior 1956 78 54 1957 Senior

A thorough search of past scoring totals by seasons, as re-corded in copies of The Kings Mountain Herald, disclose that 144 Baity, a rising senior at the Points University of South Carolina, is the all-time scoring king for the 12 Mountaineers, with a three-year total of 144 points. 0 122 Parker's, whose 122 markers this year is believed to be the all 134

in summer baseball.

KEN BAITY . . . 144 points

time high point mark for a sin-Year Points gle season, valuted into second 1954 6 place among the careeer scorers, place among the careeer scorers, with a high school total of 134 points. Punch added his 122 this year to 12 points scored two au-tumns ago as a sophomore. He failed to score as a junior, missing most of the 1959 season with a broken collar bone, suffered His absence from offensive ac-PUNCH PARKER

tion as a junior, probably cost 108 him the career scoring lead for the Mountaineers. Baity spread his scoring out Year Points 24 35 over three years. Like Parker, Ken also tallied two touchdowns 46 and 12 points as a sophomore (1955), then he had his biggest 105 point year as a junior, with 78. He added 54 more points as a senior (1957) for his 144 total. Points Parker and Baity both won a-30 rea scoring title trophies, given by the Gastonia Gazette, for 30 their biggest point seasons --Parker this season and Baity in 90 Year Points Johnny McGinnis, another fine running halfback here, whose 0 30 career overlapped that of Baity's is the third ranking career point-maker for the Mountaineers. He 42 posted a three-year total of 122 points, starting with six points Year Points 1953 / 0 as a sophomore in 1954, then adding 84 points as a junior and 42 24 32 points in his senior season of McGinnis' 84 points in '55 is believed to be the single sea-66 Year Points son high mark before Parker



related activities during the week, such as PTA's, etc., al- Roberts so will be discontinued? What's fair for one should be fair TOTALS for the other.

Another big beef has it that football seasons last too long. Hendricks.

It's a fact that some teams which happen to be both lucky and good and advance into championship rounds do Forwards play as many as 13 or 14 games a year. That's the normal Gloria Huffstetler Eaker ten games for the regular schedule, then a series of playoff Gail Huffstetler contests for conference, inter-conference, and state crowns. TOTALS

Agreed, that's a lot of football for 16-and-17 year olds.

But, trimming football schedules to six-or-eight games is swinging the pendulum too far in the other direction.

As a sport, football must "pay it's own way" with its **Checkers** Play gate-take. Most schools that I know anything about have a tough time making athletic-ends meet by playing their For Family Night normal five games at home. Trimming a schedule to eight games, thus, would eliminate one home game, and that road trip. the Charlotte Checkers lead in the first period on the one contest could well mean the difference in writing the return to their home ice in the strength of Mullinax's hot-hand- play their first home Conference financial success of the season in red or black ink.

For that matter, football, normally, is the only money- the Clinton Comets. making sport in high schools (and colleges, too) and as such is the "sugar daddy" for the other athletic teams. first family night. All children a 14-6 lead. Without a good season at the gate in football, the other sports would, in turn, suffer the consequences.

And, if the gate-take does not support some sort of school sports, then the burden falls on the taxpayers.

This is not a case for the high school football program which often calls on a team to play a dozen or more games. I feel that a more workable plan could be devised to crown a state or Association champion without so many roundabout playoff contests continuing over into December.

Education And Athletics Do Mix

Perhaps I need to be "educated" on this next point which deals more specifically with college, than with high school, athletics. But I have a hard time trying to "buy' the reasoning of some educators that good educational institutions and good athletics do not go together.

These folk assert that the principal objective of a college or a university is education, not athletics, and the tail, so to speak, should not wag the dog.

That's all well and good, and true, and as it should be.

or losing on the gridiron have to do with the things to be learned in the chemistry department or in the business are the only players on the pair school?

For instance, did Notre Dame achieve any higher educational rank in this autumn of two football victories and contests with Grover last week. Marlene Weir eight defeats than it held during the heyday of the undefeated national championship seasons ten years ago?

Admitted, Notre Dame might be a better school today, and I'm sure it is, but the decline in the number of goals and eight charity tosses. football wins had nothing to do with that improvement.

By the reverse token, was the University of Minnesota's educational rating lowered this fall simply because leading figure of 22. the Gophers reversed their football record from a 1-8 mark in 1959 to an 8-1 figure and the school's first bowl trip in 1960? trip in 1960?

I doubt it. Minnesota grads next spring will be as well educated as the ones who drew their sheepskins last June, score in the opener against the despite the sudden grid success.

8 in the game here, but topped 13 that figure by a 21 margin Fri Gymnasium is being refinished 0 night, and that proved the major and repainted and the cage clubs item in reversing the scores be- have a vacation from drills, as 5 35 tween the county-rivals. well as from school. Coaches Don Parker and Bill

14 mes. He tallied only seven points are "homeless", this week.

TP ce in the result of the two ga- Mountaineer basketball teams Sophomore

Guards-Yates, J. Plonk, Len-The games with Grover were non, Arrowood, Burton, McClure, the lone ones for the Kings Bates, however, plan to recall Mountain High teams before the their teams to practice sessions

holidays. The Mountaineer clubs next week, for a full week of (54) FG FT TP will return to action in South- drills before school reopens here 14 west Conference games after on Monday, January 2 28 Christmas. 12 4

here (by a 51-27 score).

Arthur Allen, pressed into a workouts, at 10 o'clock, starting 12 6 0

starting post instead of a flu- next week, and Coach Bates wi 22 10 54 ridden James Robbs, was the conduct practice for the girls Guards - C. Allen, P. Allen, scoring ace for the Mountaineers, team at 2 o'clock in the after Rollins, Wright, Sides, Green. hitting 18 for the game. He hit hoons

6 8 7 13-35 four of his seven field goals for The local clubs will have near-8 23 10 13-54 the game in the final quarter as ly three weeks of drills before

he almost-personally trimmed the next game on the schedule, the Grover margin which had which also will be the first reached a 14-point spread at the Southwest Conference game, at end of three stanzas. Forest City on Friday night, Jan-

12

4

FG

BOYS

Grover hopped into an early uary 13. Big Dome, Wednesday night, De- ed shooting of his favorite run- games the following Tuesday cember 21st when they will meet ning jump shot. He poured in night, January 17, against Cher-

four field goals in the first quar. ryville. The Checkers will have their ter as the home team assumed

age 15 and under will be admit. The little sharp-shooting sen- each of the seven other South-

ted free when accompanied by ior sank four more fielders and west members, constitute the one paid adult admission. There two foul tosses in the second post-Christmas schedule.

will be free ice skating for all af- quarter, for a personal total of on the trip, the Checkers won Grover club held a 31-22 advanter the hockey game. one game, tied one game, and tage.

Leave Gridiron lost one game. Three points were Mullinax colled off slightly afgained by the team. . ter intermission, with only two

Gladden, Weir And Parker Set Early Point Pace For KM Teams

Scoring has been sparse for the Mountaineer basketball teams in the pair of pre-Christ: but missed the second game due to illneer His 14 points the University of the formation mas games, with three players, to illness His 14 points is mat-

two girls and one boy, setting ched by Jerry Adams. The other two-point-makers the early pace. Pat Gladden and Marlene for the girls also posted their cock school.

Weir, the pair of senior forwards, marks in single games, Marion pense knowledge and to provide access to learning. But just how does a good football team detract from the edu-cational qualities of the school? Just what does winning have scored 26 points each to Plonk tallying 13 at Grover 'for year by Paul Amen who was the first half on Monday. the Mountaineer teams in the with 22 points.

The trio of scoring leaders also pair of pre-holiday games: GIRLS of local teams averaging in the Player FG

double-digits for the couple of Pat Gladden Pat has hit 12 field goals and Marion Plonk two foul tosses for her 26 points, Pucky Lewis

and Marlene, the team's leading TOTALS scorer last year, has nine field

Punch has seven fielders and Player eight free tosses for his team. Punch Parker Arthur Allen

Mountaineers' loss at Grover on Chester Clontz same Grover club. TOTALS

TOTALS PAUL HENDRICKS Year Points 1957 1958 1959 Senior

Junior

TOTALS

Sophomor Junior

TOTALS

Sophomore

Senior

PUNCH PARKER

JOHNNY McGINNIS

DON GLADDEN

JIMMY KIMMELL

Year

1958

1959

1960

1955

1956

Year 1956

1957

1958

1950

1951

1952

Year

1957

1958

1959

1953

1954

1955

1954

1955

1952

1953

1954

0

0

66

66

12

60

CHARLES SMITH

84

32

122

Points

0

42 66

TOTALS Coach Parker plans morning **Two Local Hunters**

Bag Bucks On Hunt Two Kings Mountain hunters bagged two bucks each on a recent deer hunt at the Oakland Plantation in the eastern part of the state, between Elizabethtown and Wilmington. Mrs. Joe Neisler, Jr., and Joe A. Neisler, Sr., each shot their season's limit of two bucks on the same hunting trip. Kings Mountain's teams will

Mrs. Neisler said that her two kills were a seven-point an eight-point, the first and deer she has bagged in two nine or ten years of hunting. with

"It certainly was a lucky trip for me, a thrill of a lifetime," she said.

Six local couples mong the party on the hunt. They were Mr. and Mrs. Joe Neisler, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Joe Neisler, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Char-les Neisler, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Neisler, Mr. and Mrs. John O. Plonk, Jr., and Mr. and Mrs.

Half of the speakers to the Lions' Club's annual Mountain-eer football banquets here in the W. B. Grimes past four years are now out of **Dilling Heating Team Cops Crown** football coaching profession . .

by choice.

Fourteen Conference games,

home-and-home schedule

The Dilling Heating Co. team Paul Ware also had three hun-copped the first-half title in the dred-plus games' for Dilling's the University of South Carolina, to devote his fulltime to the post

of athletic director at the Game-

anking business. Clarence Stasavich of Lenior-ge's Mens, Store which divided mark in the league for the night.

31 11

⁷³ Bulldogs Cop First Conference Victory ²² Boiling Springs — Gardner-¹⁸ Webb College toppled Wingate ¹⁴ 67-59 with a brilliant second-¹⁴ half team effort here Saturday. ¹⁰ Jerry Beane led the GW Bull-¹⁰ dogs to their second win of the ⁸ season as he ripped the cords ¹⁰ first in the Conference.
⁸ week, a 132, and he was one of three bowlers sharing the top set score, with 345. John Dilling of the Dilling team and Clarence Plonk of Page's also rolled 345's. ¹⁰ Jerry Beane led the GW Bull-¹⁰ dogs to their second win of the ⁸ season as he ripped the cords ¹⁰ first in the Conference.
⁸ week, a 132, and he was one of three bowlers sharing the top set score, with 345. John Dilling of the Dilling team and Clarence Plonk of Page's also rolled 345's. ¹⁰ Jerry Beane led the GW Bull-¹⁰ dogs to their second win of the ⁸ season as he ripped the cords ¹⁰ first in the Conference.
⁹ with a 107 game and 286 series.
⁽³¹⁵⁾ with all three games ov-¹¹ de the Cunningham TV team ¹² with a 107 game and 286 series. FT

Two other fleet halfbacks in the decade of the fifties also scored more than 100 points in their football careers.

swept past it with his 122 total

this campaign.

Don Gladden racked-up 108 points in two seasons of pointmaking. After failing to score as 48 sophomore, in 1956, Don galloped to 42 points in 1957 and ded 66 as a senior in '58.

Jimmy Kimmell also topped the century mark with a 105 point total for his three seasons of balanced scoring when he improved his tally-making by 11 points each year. He scored 24 as a soph in 1950, boosted that to 35 as a junior, and then to 46 as a senior in 1952.

Kimmell was credited, following his senior year, with holding

Charlie Carpenter, Jr., then sports editor of The Herald and a long-time follower of Mountaineer football, wrote following the '52 campaign that Kimmell's 46 points that year and 105 mar-

kers for his career "probably are school records."

In First-Half of Men's Bowling

thes chool scoring record.

DON GLADDEN

. . . 108 points

JOHNNY MCGINNIS

. . . 122 points

Don Fisher rounds out the top half-dozen recorded scoring lead-ers for the Mountaineers, with a career total of 90 points . . . compiled by the balanced and unusual distinction of scoring 30

points in each of his three prep

ge's team in the split with Inde-JNMMY KIMMELL

... 105 points

Bethware Divides Pair With Cherries

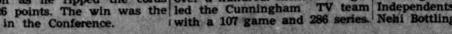
Bethware stepped out into Southwest Conference basketball action Friday night, dividing a twin-bill with Cherryville.

Pat Bolin tossed in 21 points and Jeanette Hamrick, moved from guard to forward,, scored 20 to pace the Lady Buccaneers to a 55-36 victory in the girls game. Jeanette, an all-conference guard

 Is beanette, an all conference guard last year, was playing her first game at forward.
 20.667 The Ironmen squared the set with a 68-45 win, Robert Jenkins 14
 33.450 to pace Cherryville. Jerry Morris 37.383 with 15 and Johnny Cashion with 44 ten paced the Bi

FT TP and Bill Dole of Davidson, this 2 26 year's speaking guest, maintain 8 26 the 50-percent batting average 1 13 for mentors still in the profess-0 8 ion. 11 73 Burll doese Con Right for mentors of the profession of the section of the sectio

Rhyne, the speaker here in 1958, its final night games with In- Lemaster Auto and Home Sup



men's duckpin bowling league, team. winning four straight games on Plonk's 126 line and his league He follows the lead taken last the final night's action of the high matching 345 series led Pa-