



Pat's Peckings

By NEALE PATRICK

KM Cagers Eye More Victories

The Yule time season brings visions of sugar-plums for the young folks . . . and for the slightly-older Mountaineer cage players, the holiday season brings visions of the best basketball records here in years.

While the youthful charges of Coaches Don Parker and Bill Bates take their Christmas respite from the hardwood and baskets, they can look back on the pre-holiday outings which suggest that the new year will bring more victories.

The victories to date have been over non-Conference foes, it is true, and the league opponents will put in their appearance after the Yule vacation. But victories are victories, nevertheless, and both local cage teams already are only one victory each shy of the total number of wins posted last season.

The Mountaineers have won three in a row and the Mountaineettes have copped two out of three, the lone loss being a last-second affair. Last year, the local lassies won four games, and the KM boys copped three. And both teams have 15 games to go on the current campaign, playing each of the seven league foes twice each, along with a return session with Bessemer City, the Yellow Jacket boys being the only team to hand our side a whipping before Christmas.

Kings Mountain's twosome already has accomplished a feat twice in the first three games that they failed to pull off last year . . . that of winning a double-header. The local clubs clipped Dallas twice in both meetings this winter, and the best the KM clubs could do last year were a few even breaks in a given evening.

Addition of players from Bethware and Grover has considerably aided and abetted the Mountaineer teams.

Linda Eaker, all-Conference performer from Grover, is setting the scoring pace for the Mountaineers, leading the team in scoring in all three games. Gall Huffstetler and Mary Green, also from Grover, and Becky Bolin and Judy Watterson of Bethware are other transfers giving the KM girls a big boost.

A trio of products from Bethware — Tommy Barrett, Lawrence Bolin and Ken Cash — lead the Mountaineers in scoring in the pre-Christmas games. Each has led the locals in point making in one game.

And the Mountaineers, collectively also have twice turned a scoring trick they failed to accomplish all last season. They have scored in the "60's" in points twice and the highest point total the Mountaineers amassed in a game last year was 51.

Dick Hunter Rides Again

Twisting a few tales in wrapping up the Lions Club football affair.

Coach Earle Edwards dutifully thanked Dr. George Plonk for reminding the assembled at the Lions football banquet last week about State winning the ACC championship four years ago, in 1957, with twin-halfbacks Dick Christie and Dick Hunter, running wild.

"It seems so long since that championship, that we like to be reminded of it," said Edwards, "And I want to tell you a story about Hunter's first year at State.

"He came to us weighing 150 pounds . . . and after a well-balanced diet, well-planned training program and plenty of rest, he boosted his weight to 153."

Edwards went on to relate that early in Christy and Hunter's sophomore year (1955) State went over to play Duke.

"Duke had a good team, we weren't so good, and the game turned out to be a track meet . . . everytime I looked up, a blue jersey was running by the bench on the way to the goal . . . Duke won all the first places that day," Edwards recalled and with the after thought, added, "And I think they also took most of the second and third places, too."

The State mentor reminded that Duke's best runner was big Hal McElhaney, 210-pounds, six-two in height, and quite a horse in the running department.

"His favorite play was right up the middle, and he burst into the secondary like an express train," said Edwards, "And tackling him head-on was something for a boy to think about . . . and not do it."

"Well, I finally decided to send in Hunter, but I reminded him not to tackle McElhaney head-on . . . I told Dick that if he tried that we would never have any further use for him . . . I told him to grab McElhaney around the neck, and hold-on, until we got help to him."

"Sure enough, in a few plays, here came McElhaney right up the middle, and Hunter obeyed instructions perfectly, and grabbed the Duke fullback around the neck . . . the momentum pulled little Hunter up on McElhaney's back, and he didn't even break stride . . . In fact, I doubt if he knew Hunter was up there."

"And as they came by the bench, Dick looked over at me and hollared, 'Hi-Yo Silver.'"

'Upset' Is Misnomer—Edwards

The state mentor belongs to the school of thought that the much-used name of "upset" is a misnomer, that there really is no such thing as an upset in college football.

He explained:

"There are so many good high school players today, and so many good coaches teaching them the fundamentals that any college that recruits athletes can get enough good football players to produce a good team . . . And today, almost any college team can beat another on a given day."

"Competition is so even and balanced, that I don't believe there is any such thing as an 'upset' . . . Just consider that 540 colleges played football this year, and only two went undefeated and untied, an indication of the even competition."

Edwards pointed out that for a club to have a great, undefeated season, it must be "lucky, escape injuries and get the breaks."

Edwards used the ACC as an example of the even competition, adding:

"Everybody in our league had their moments and everyone was capable of beating another . . . you can name scores of turn-about such as the fact that we (State) defeated South Carolina by a big margin, and Clemson beat us by a big score, but South Carolina defeated Clemson . . ."

"We lost four conference games at State and think that we played a mighty tough outside schedule," he added, "For instance, the three outside teams we played last fall lost a total of only three games, and we handed one of those to Mississippi Southern . . . Alabama did not lose a game and Wyoming lost only one."

KM 7-Year Grid Mark Tops In SWC

BY NEALE PATRICK

Seven years ago, the Mountaineers began flexing their football muscles in the Southwest Conference.

Coach Shu Carlton molded Kings Mountain's first Southwest grid champion that autumn, and the Mountaineers have continued that victorious tradition right down to the present with the best won-lost percentage in the Conference.

The seven-year standings for Southwest teams against their

7-Year Standings In Southwest Loop

(SWC games only, 1955-61)

Team	W	L	T	Pct.
Kings Mtn.	30	8	7	.744
Shelby	31	10	4	.733
Lincolnton	23	17	5	.567
R. S. Central	23	18	4	.556
Belmont	19	22	4	.467
Forest City	15	28	2	.356
Cherryville	10	29	6	.289
Chase*	2	19	0	.095

(*—Chase entered Conference in 1959).

(By WNCSSAA policy, tie games count half-win and half-loss in figuring percentage).

Conference rivals place Kings

Mountain atop the field, a few percentage points ahead of county neighbor Shelby.

Kings Mountain has a .744 percentage in the 45 league contests through the past seven years, 11 points above the Golden Lions who closed in on the Mountaineers this season with seven straight victories.

The KMHS teams, coached by Carlton and John Gamble have won 30 games, lost eight and tied seven in the "seven years of plenty" in SWC grid action.

Shelby, over the same span, has 31 victories, ten losses and four ties.

Using the WNCSSAA and Southwest Conference regulation of counting tie games as half-win and half-loss, the Mountaineers hold the top spot in the seven-year percentage standings.

Lincolnton and R. S. Central, the other two teams which annually battle the Mountaineers and the Lions for the top-drawer berths in the Conference ran neck-in-neck for third-and-fourth place in the seven-year records.

Both teams won 23 games over the stretch, with Lincolnton losing one less game to nab third

place in the overall standings since the 1955 season.

Belmont, Forest City, Cherryville and Chase, in that order, bring-up the second division in the standings. The Trojans of Chase have been members of the SWC for only three years, with only two grid victories to show

for the trouble.

In addition to leading the standings, Kings Mountain also holds several other leading distinctions over the seven years.

The Mountaineers are the only team which has posted two undefeated seasons since 1955. The local gridgers did not lose

a Conference game in either 1955 or 1956.

Only three other schools, in fact, have been able to record undefeated seasons, Forest City in 1955, Lincolnton in 1960 and Shelby in 1961. Kings Mountain beat Forest City in the '55 playoffs for the crown.

Kings Mountain also has suffered the fewest losses in the seven seasons, a total of eight. The Mountaineers also have tied the most contests, seven, while Shelby has won the most games, 31.

Three of the Mountaineers eight defeats in seven years came this season, losing to Shelby, R. S. Central and Lincolnton . . . the only three teams, oddly enough, which have defeated Kings Mountain over the stretch. The Mountaineers have lost three games each to Shelby and Lincolnton and two to RSC since '55.

Adding another feather to the Mountaineers grid hat, KMHS is the only team which has not lost over three conference games in a single season in the past seven autumns. The three losses this fall was the low mark for the Mountaineers, and every other club in the circuit has lost

at least four games in a single campaign.

The 1961 season provided one dubious "first" for the Mountaineers, in that it is the first time in the seven years of plenty that the locals have not finished either one-two in the Conference chase.

The previous six seasons showed two championships, one three-way tie for the top, and three second-place finishes.

Kings Mountain won the league crown in 1955 and '56, finished second to Shelby in '57 and '58, losing by the matter of an extra point and a field goal to the Lions in those seasons. The Mountaineers, Hilltoppers and Shelby deadlocked for the top in '59, and our side was second to Lincolnton in 1960.

Mountaineers 7-Year Record

Season	W	L	T	Pct.	Finish
1955	5	0	1	.917	Champ
1956	5	0	1	.917	Champ
1957	4	2	0	.667	Second
1958	3	1	2	.667	Second
1959	4	1	2	.714	Tie-First
1960	6	1	0	.857	Second
1961	3	3	1	.500	Fourth

TOTALS 30 8 7 .744

Eaker, Barrett, Cash Lead KM Cage Scoring

Transfers from Bethware and Grover are setting the scoring pace for the Kings Mountain High School basketball teams in the pre-holiday games of the 19-61-62 season.

Grover products Linda Eaker and Gall Huffstetler are running one-two at the head of the Mountaineering parade, and a trio of Bethware transfers, Tommy Barrett, Ken Cash and Lawrence Bolin, are waging a three-way scrap as the biggest point-makers for the boys team.

Linda, the high scorer and all-Conference performer for Grover in the Tri-County circuit last winter, has hooped 78 points for a .26 point average in the three pre-Christmas games against other high school foes.

Gall is second in the girls scoring race with 32 markers. She also was a regular at Grover last season.

Tommy and Ken are tied with the most points for the boys, each with 33, an average of 11 per game to date. Just one point back is one of their Buccaneer teammates last year, Lawrence Bolin with 32.

The point totals are for the Mountaineer teams' three games against prep foes, Bessemer City and Dallas, and do not include the points scored in the exhibition games with the alumni teams Tuesday night.

Linda and Tommy have turned in the biggest single game scores to date, Linda hitting 31 against Bessemer City in the opener, with Tommy hitting the season's high for the boys with 21 at Dallas last week.

The Kings Mountain teams completed their pre-Christmas holiday schedule with five wins in the six games played. The Mountaineettes swept to three straight victories, and the boys won two of three, the lone loss being a last second defeat by Bessemer City.

Mountaineer clubs return to action on Friday night, January 5, at Forest City, the first of 14 Conference games for the local outfits.

First Conference home game and the first here after the holidays will be against Cherryville on Tuesday night, January 12.

Most Valuable Player trophy at York was the second of its kind for the Kings Mountain boys and girls as Southwest Conference affairs, the lone non-league contests being the pair at Bessemer City on January 16.

A total of 12 boys and seven girls have scored points in the three early contests, both totals exceeding the number of point-makers for the Mountaineers last season. Ten boys and six girls scored points in the 1960-61 season.

Senior Marlene Weir with 399 points and Punch Parker with 162 led the scoring for the Kings Mountain last year.

The scoring totals for the pair of Mountaineer clubs to date are tabulated in an accompanying table.

Helms To Coach Grapple Team

Charles Helms, former Kings Mountain High teacher and summer-time recreation director here in 1960, will coach the wrestling team at Chowan Junior College this winter.

Helms, a member of the wrestling team during his collegiate days at Appalachian, is serving his first year as a teacher at the junior college near Murfreesboro in eastern North Carolina.

He received his masters degree last year at Appalachian, after leaving his teaching and recreation post here.

His wrestling team will be the first in that sport in the expanding athletic program at the junior college.

Old-Timers Have Athletic Grants

Six of the ten members of the Old-Timers basketball team which defeated the Mountaineers in the alumni game here Tuesday night are now attending college on athletic scholarships.

The group includes five on football grants and one on a baseball scholarship.

Old Timers with grid grants were Keith Layton and Punch Parker at The Citadel, Ken Baity at South Carolina, Mike Ware at Catawba, and Jerry Adams at Western Carolina.

The other athletic scholarship holder is Jerry Wright, for baseball at Newberry.

Medics Bowlers Move Into Tie For Loop Lead

Medical Pharmacy moved into a tie for the lead in the ladies duckpin bowling league, defeating Rollettes three straight games, while the Go-Getters lost their slim edge, defeating Mountaineers two games to one.

The results left the Go-Getters and the Medics tied for the top at the Christmas holiday break. The league will be idle next week for Christmas.

Helen McGinnis with a 103 line and Iva Lee Parson with a 274 set paced Medical Pharmacy to the three straight wins.

Evelina Herndon scored a 108 line and 278 series to pace Rollettes. Her 108 was tops for the league for the night.

Jo Ann Smith bowled a 101 game and 281 total to lead Go-Getters to their victory.

Margaret Harmon had a 90 line and Doris Ware a 252 series to pace Mountaineers who edged the Go-Getters in the second box to bounce the rivals out of sole possession of first place.

Warriors scored the high team tallies of the night, a 443 team-game and 1,258 team total pinfall in defeating Scorettes, two games to one. Betty Fite led the set, winners with a 100 line and 283 set.

Lib Bolin was best for Scorettes, a 106 game and 303 total.

THE STANDINGS

Team	W	L	Pct.
Go Getters	37	11	.771
Medical Pharmacy	37	11	.771
Warriors	26	22	.542
Rollettes	17	31	.354
Scorettes	14	34	.292
Mountaineers	13	35	.271

McCarter MVP On York Team

Ernest McCarter, Kings Mountain's American Legion Junior pitching star for the past two summers has been named as the Most Valuable Player on the York York High School football team for this fall.

He was presented the MVP trophy at the York banquet last week, climaxing the season which saw the Green Dragons win eight games and lose two, one of the defeats coming in the Upper State grid finals, by 21-20 to Honea Path.

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Furman Wilson Team Cops Crown For First Half In Bowling Loop

The Furman Wilson team wrapped-up its Christmas package several days early in the shape of the first half title in the men's duckpin bowling league.

They won four straight games over the Plonk Oil outfit Monday night to complete the first half of the bowling season with a 44-16 record and a seven-game advantage over the second-place McGinnis Furniture team.

Richard Culbertson and Furman Wilson set the scoring pace for the league champions, the former rolling three games over the century figure, and the latter leading his team with a 121 game and a 319 set.

Paul Ware was the big gun for Plonk with a 105 line and a 301 series.

Top individual and team scoring honors for the final night of the first half went to Albert Brackett and his McGinnis Furniture team which won four straight games from Page's Men's Store and finished in second place in the circuit.

Brackett hit a 129 line and a 340 set tops in the league, and the

Husky Old-Timers Defeat Mountaineers; KM Girls Win

A husky, football-flavored "Old-Timers" team taught the modern day version of Mountaineers some old and new tricks of basketball with a 59-43 victory Tuesday night at Central High Gym.

The Mountaineettes, however, squared the set with the alumni teams, winning the other half of the double-header, 50-49, on a goal by Linda Eaker in the final seconds.

The pair of games with the "old grads" completed the pre-holiday schedule for the KMHS teams and they learned that the lads and lassies who have preceded them still know their basketball.

With five of the alumni boys being members of college football teams this season, the Old-Timers beat the Mountaineers with ruggedness off the boards and sharp shooting from all sectors of the court.

All ten Old-Timers scored at least one field goal and three points, led by Keith Layton's 11 points, and only member of the winning team hitting in the double-digits. The Old-Timers substituted in team units, changing a couple of times each period.

A Big Mearl Valentine and Layton, along with Jerry Adams and Ken Baity, completely controlled the rebounding, seldom permitting the Mountaineers more than one shot.

The Mountaineers grabbed an early lead, 15-10, at the end of the first period, but the Old-Timers assumed command in the waning minutes of the first half, scoring three fast-break goals in the final seconds against a third Mountaineer unit. The alumni led 25-23 at halftime, and boosted the lead in the second half.

Tommy Barrett was the only Mountaineer able to hit with consistency from the floor, with six field goals and 12 points, with Ken Cash chipping in with ten; Barrett hit ten of his points in the final half in an effort to keep the Mountaineers in the game.

The Mountaineettes and the alumni girls matched basketball all night, seldom over four points separating the teams. The KMHS lassies led at halftime, 25-24, and maintained the edge through most of the second half, until the alumni captured the lead with slightly over a minute to go.

But Linda Eaker drove-in for a lay-up-shot with 30 seconds to play to win the game.

McGinnis team rolled the high game of 511 and the high series of 1,496.

James Cordell rolled a 107 game and all his lines over a hundred and a 310 set to pace Page's, along with Clyde Culbertson who also had a 107 line.

Neisler Mills defeated Dilling Heating, three games to one, but could not escape the cellar for the first half. Peterson was best for the winners, with a 124 line, three lines over a hundred and a 329 total.

Tottie Allen bowled a 118 line and John Dilling a 309 series to lead the losers.

The men's duckpin league will take a vacation next week, and return to action for the second half of the season the first of the year.

NOMINATION BLANK For Kings Mountain Jaycees' Sponsored YOUNG MAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Name of Nominee _____

Address _____

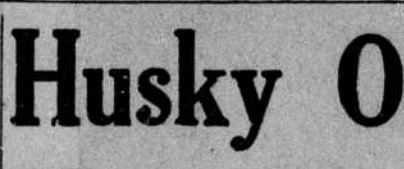
Age _____ Date of Birth _____

List Information about nominee: _____

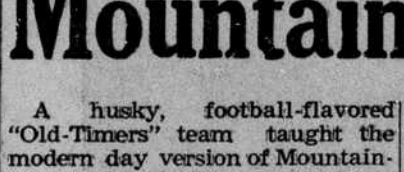
(Enclose separate information sheet)

MAIL TO: CHARLES BLANTON, CHAIRMAN

DSA Committee, P. O. Box 252, Kings Mountain



JOHN GAMBLE



SHUE CARLTON

Linda and Gall Huffstetler hooped 14 each for the Mountaineettes, Judy Watterson adding 12.

Sandy Myers, Miss Kings Mountain of 1961, and Pat (Bolin) Barrett, former Bethware star, led the alumni with 17 points each, and Pat Gladden scored 15. Sandy hit five straight long shots in the first half, firing two-handed sets from behind the circle.

Isaiah Davis "coached" the Old-Timers to the victory and Wanza Davis was the "coach" of the alumni girls.

GIRLS

Alumni (49)

Player	FG	FT	PF	TP
Forwards	6	3	15	
Gladden	7	3	17	
Myers	7	3	17	
Fair	0	0	0	

TOTALS 20 9 19
Guards — Goodson, C. Plonk, Lynn, R. Barrett, Yates.

Mountaineettes (50)

Player	FG	FT	PF	TP
Eaker	5	4	14	
Huffstetler	5	4	14	
Watterson	6	0	12	
P. Plonk	0	0	0	
Roberts	1	2	4	
Hamrick	3	0	6	

TOTALS 20 10 50
Guards — M. Plonk, Bolin, Green, Hendricks.

BOYS

Alumni (59)

Player	FG	FT	PF	TP
Layton	5	1	0	11
Parker	2	0	2	4
Robbs	2	1	2	5
Champion	1	1	3	0
Ware	2	0	1	4
Baity	2	2	2	6
Adams	1	3	4	5