

# Herald Sports

By HAROLD PEARSON

## How is A Column Written?

How does a person go about writing a weekly sports column?

Ever ask that question? Probably most readers never give it a thought. Some have asked about it. Those who do just figure it's a matter of sitting down to a typewriter machine, and the words instantly brimming forth onto the page.

It's a little more, quite a bit more, than that. Two parts of the above are relatively correct. Usually a guy sits down before a typewriter, but then it is often a struggle to get the words on the paper.

There are at least three necessities before the words can come forth.

First off, you need to decide what is to be the subject matter for that particular week. Often times this is more than one subject. Almost always there are four topics put forth in this space.

Next, there is the matter of sequential arrangement. By that is meant the sequence or arrangement of material in the column.

Third and possibly the most important, the material must be put into readable prose, very few use the poetical form (last good one at this was Grantland Rice). The choice of words must be such that the reader is informed, entertained or, in some cases, provoked.

Of the three, the third is by far the most difficult, the first creating a minor problem early in the endeavor.

The second is merely a matter of personal preference and can be done in any of a great number of ways. The thought is, though, to choose this arrangement in such a manner as to get and hold the interest of the reader.

## The 'Birth' Of A Column

Taking a step by step look at the formulation of a column, let's follow this one from start to finish.

It began Saturday. As is the case many times, the thought or subject came from a colleague.

How is this?

Well, often the grey matter of your truly is suffering a malfunction as far as originality goes, and we turn to an associate with the plea, "What would be a good subject for a column this week?"

He responds with the thought, "Tell about Legion baseball, there is a lot of interest in that," or "Tell how spare time is spent on a sports desk." The range of subjects go on and on.

This was much the case Saturday. This writer was trying to decide on a promising subject, and talking with others, hit upon the idea that maybe the readers are in the dark about the "creation" of the weekly column.

After reading Shirley Povich's THIS MORNING in the Washington Post (several editions) and Jim Murray in the same daily, we got down to the matter at hand. There you have the origination of this effort.

## Second, Third Steps

Now to step two. Arrangement of this material is simple. You simply relate the development as it occurred.

Go through each part of the development and relate it as it happened, and there you have the sequential arrangement or the order in which the topic is presented.

But how do you make this routine, run-of-the-mill subject readable? That is a question that is never really answered.

You can only put it down as it comes to you and hope that the reader finds it either entertaining, enlightening or provoking. It is always easier to provoke than to hit the other categories.

So, it is presented to the people in a reasonable facsimile of "the kings English," with the hope it suffices for the stated purposes.

## Couple 'Worthwhile' Items

After this is done you then get down to giving the readers... a little something that may prove worthwhile, such as the following items.

How many of you recall the situation of a year ago in the two major leagues? Recall who the leaders were at this time?

Well, to refresh your memory, in case you don't have a paper for 365 days past, the leaders were Los Angeles in the National and New York in the American. Sound familiar?

There's just a little difference in the American league at the present. The Yankees are about five games further up than a year ago, and their pursuer is not the Angels as in '62.

Oh yes, the Dodgers show almost exactly the same margin as last year. Can they win this season?

Ed Roebuck, recently traded to the Senators by LA, says the Dodgers will win "in spite of Alston." If they do, it will be a gift from a couple of "wrong-handers," Sandy Koufax and Johnny Podres.

A final item of a year ago.

Early Wynn, some 365 days back, had just won game number 298. They (Chicago White Sox) were preparing the buttons for his "300 Club" to be distributed (for a nominal stipend) among the fans.

If you recall, he won, finally, the 300th just a few weeks back, and the Cleveland Indians chose not to buy the surplus buttons from the Chisox. Thought they might be jinxed.

And there you have it for another week.

# 16 Lettermen Returning On Gridiron Squad

## Optimist Downs BurMill, To Win Play-Off Tourney

### Little Leaguers Win On Putnam's Two-Run Double

Kings Mountain's Little League park was the scene of the all-stars victory over Gaffney, 4-2, Saturday night.

The Kings Mountain all-stars, under the coaching of Ken Short, coach of the champion Rescue Squad team, came from behind in the last inning to win the game.

Going into the last inning, the local lads had the game tied at 2-2. With runners on second and third and two outs, with a full count on the batter, Gene Putnam, who regularly plays right-field for Park Grace, Putnam doubled into deep rightfield to drive across the winning tallies for the Kings Mountain team.

The neighboring South Carolina team, had a slight advantage on Kings Mountain going into the game, with their little league age limit being one year higher than ours, but this didn't seem to stop the hustling Kings Mountain Little leaguers.

Coach Ken Short used a trio of hurlers on the mound. Larry Gantt, Mike Smith and Ronnie Green worked two innings each for the Kings Mountain team. Larry Gantt, who pitched the final two innings was ticketed with the win.

In the hitting ranks for the little leaguers, Gene Putnam, who drove in the winning tallies for Kings Mountain, was the leading hitter, backed up very capably by Glen Perkins, who had two singles. Putnam on the whole had 3 RBI's with a double and a single to his credit.

This game was a combinat' on practice game for both teams, Kings Mountain and Gaffney both starting their little league play-offs this week.

### Midwestern Tourney Underway At Grover

Lithium, one of Kings Mountain's two entries in the Midwestern Fast Pitch Softball Tournament, now being played in Grover, defeated Porter's Trim Shop of Forest City, 5-1, Monday night.

Porter's lone tally came on an error and a fielder's choice.

The leading hitters for the Lithium team were Carl Barnette, catcher, who had two singles. Fred Kiser, second-sacker, had two doubles, driving in one run and Bud Ross had two doubles, also driving in one run. Bob Bridges added a double driving in one tally.

The other Kings Mountain entry, the Moose team, also won in Monday night's tournament.

This tournament will be played all week at Brice Field in Grover, wit' the championship game Saturday night.

### City-Wide Singles Tennis Tourney Cancelled Because Of No Response

The Kings Mountain city-wide singles tennis tournament that was scheduled to start on Monday, has been cancelled because of lack of participation and interest.

Bob Hussey assistant director at Deal Street Pool, made this statement this week when only a hand full of hopefuls filed entries for the tournament.

The first singles contest had only eight boys entering.

This tournament had hopes of being the largest tourney held in Kings Mountain history, but several players were on vacations or working toward opening football drills, or were on summer vacations.

Hussey said he has no tentative plans for another tournament this summer because he is leaving his position at Deal Street Pool Saturday to assume his coaching duties of Kings Mountain high school the following Thursday.

Elmer Ross, City Recreation Commissioner, said he doesn't plan to hold another tournament this summer because of lack of participation.

Bo Goforth has previously won the initial singles tennis tournament and teamed with Jerry "Moe" Wright to capture the doubles crown.

### Pete Putnam Sustains Injury

Pete Putnam, Kings Mountain high school's top candidate for the fullback position and returning letterman from last year's squad, recently sustained a leg injury that could slow him down for the first couple weeks of practice.

Putnam was running down Cleveland Avenue, during pre-season conditioning exercises, when he met two people walking on the side of the road. He moved over to let them pass and slipped, cutting his leg on the side of the sidewalk corner.

Doctors reports show three layers of stitches were taken in Putnam's leg.

As it stands now, if no complications arise, Putnam will be ready for the opening gridiron tilt with Cherryville. Doctors said he will have to take it easy the first week of practice, to allow the stitches to heal.

Putnam started as top-a-id to Wally Harris in the 1962 season, but when Harris was injured he moved up to the number one spot.

### Bowling League Selects Teams

The Kings Mountain Men's and Women's Duck Pin League met Monday night and selected teams and captains for the coming bowling season.

Following are a list of the team selections, with the first name on each team being the team captain:

Team No. 1: A. Brackett, R. Bridges, S. Hamrick, C. Houser and A. Tignor.

Team No. 2: C. Plonk, R. Houser, S. Rathbone, G. Tignor and P. Ware.

Team No. 3: R. Blanton, R. Culbertson, K. Morrison, W. Russell, and B. Ware.

Team No. 4: J. Dilling, H. Barber, C. Fite, R. Gantt and B. Putnam.

Team No. 5: B. Herndon, C. Culbertson, Ron Culbertson, T. Gamble and M. Robinson.

Team No. 6: J. Dye, B. Biser, B. Murray, B. Wells and F. Wilson.

The Men's League will get their action underway on Aug. 19, just two weeks from this past Monday.

The Women's League will get their action underway on Aug. 20, two weeks from this past Thursday.

League will run for 35 weeks, which will be composed of 105 games, the largest bowling schedule in Kings Mountain bowling history.

The current 1963 season will last through the second week in April.

### Optimist Wins Little League Tournament

By ERNIE PAYNE

Well, it was a long hard road for the underestimated Optimist team, but in the long run they came out on the winning end, downing top-seeded BurMill Tuesday night at Deal Street Park, 6-3.

Optimist started off the tournament in a big way, by mauling the faltering Jaycees, 24-4. The following Monday the Optimist nine, under the leadership of Jim Connor, who has been coaching in the Little League and Pony League ranks for many years, romped over the Kiwanis team, 16-6. Optimist had finally begun to show its power that seemed to show its power that seemed to be hidden all year.

In advancing to the finals, Optimist was up against a strong BurMill team. Before the game concluded, there was rumors Optimist will get "stomped", a previous game BurMill had won with quite a majority of tallies.

When the required six innings had been played, the crowd was "singing a different tune." Optimist had out hit the BurMill team and had played an excellent game defensively.

Here's the way it went:

Optimist drew first blood in the first inning off pitcher Eddie Carroll. With two men on base, Junior Lefevres, combination pitcher and outfielder hit a fly ball into leftfield that was dropped, allowing two Optimist runs to score. This gave Optimist a 2-0 lead and BurMill was never to see the lead again.

The BurMill team was not counted all the way out though, they came back in the top of the second to push across one run. The run came about by virtue of a wild pitch by Larry Gantt.

In the bottom of the third, first sacker, Mickey Floyd, led off with a walk. Pitcher Larry Gantt followed with a single and both runs crossed home plate by virtue of errors.

Mickey Floyd used a little of his football initiative when he removed the BurMill catcher off home plate when he scored his run.

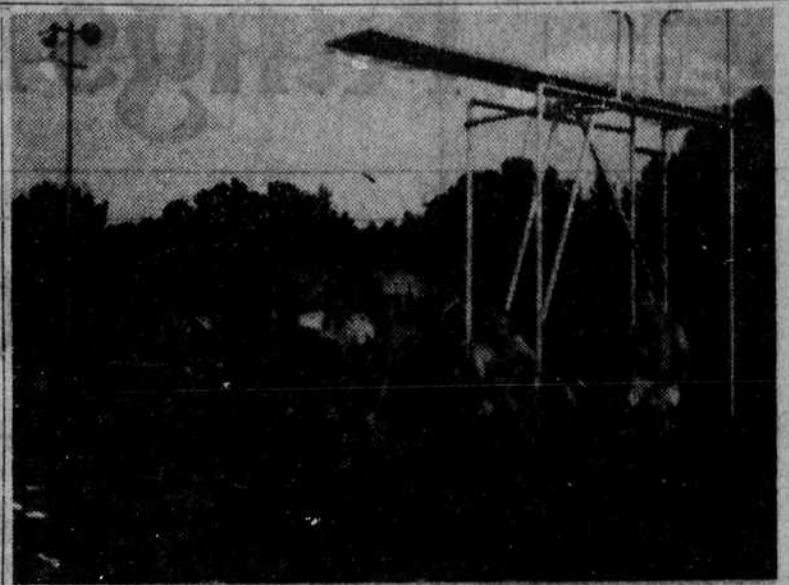
Optimist followed with two more tallies in the fourth when Larry Gantt doubled with two men on bases.

BurMill made its final scoring attempts in the top of the fifth. Gary Oliver singled to score "little" Timmy Oliver from third. The second run of the inning scored on a walk.

BurMill threatened in the sixth, but couldn't find the scoring punch.

It's been a long season for all the little league players, coaches and the association. In talking to some of the officials, I always said Optimist was the underestimated team of the year, and this seemed to be the story on the little league circuit this year.

Optimist has a lot of bright hopes for next year also. Scrappy second-sacker, Dana "Pancho" Sarvist will be returning, in fact, he has three more years of Little League eligibility. Sports fans keep your eye on this kid, he looks awfully good.



LIFESAVERS — Pictured above are the recipients of the Junior and Senior Life Saving badges and the instructors Don Crawford, Jerry Patterson, Manley Hayes and Bobby Hussey. The recipients have recently completed a two-week course in Life Savings.

### Junior And Senior Life Saving Courses Finished This Week

Certificates were awarded to 17 students in Senior and Junior life saving courses Friday at Deal Street and Maple Springs pools.

The courses were under sponsorship here of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, in cooperation with the Kings Mountain Red Cross chapter.

Instructors have been W. Donald Crawford, Jerry Patterson, Bog Hussey and Manley Hayes.

Receiving the Junior life saving badges this summer were the following: Tommy Goforth, John Clemmer, Larry Adams, Barbara Hord, Reb Weisner, Carl Weisner, Wendell Buach, Don Bridges, Jeff Mauney, Tommy Gerberding, Dean Henderson and Charles Padgett.

Receiving the Senior Life Saving badges this summer were the following: Don Freeman, Judy Morris, Dennis Patterson, Paul Reynolds and Ken Steffy.

### J. V. Aspirants Should Be Ready

The Kings Mountain Junior Varsity Football Squad will open its regular season under freshman coach Bobby Hussey, September 17 against R. S. Central at R. S. Central.

Coach Hussey said this week that practice drills for the 8th and 9th grade aspirants will start with the opening of school.

Hussey will be working with the team that tied for the conference crown last year, losing only one game to Belmont, the team they tied for the championship.

Hussey added that 100 applicants signed for the team last fall, but he doesn't know yet how many will be back this fall.

The J. V. Mounties will play their first home tilt on Thursday, September 24 against Chase.

Hussey will assume the coaching position vacated by Bill Cashion who moved into line coach for the Kings Mountain varsity squad.

### Grid Physicals August 13

Coach Bill Bates announced this week that football physical examinations will be held at the gymnasium Monday, August 12, before drills begin on Thursday, August 15.

Doctor Mitchell will be at the gymnasium at 1:00 and all football aspirants are asked to be there at the above time for the examinations.

All players must undergo this examination before he will be eligible for football drills.

### Football Drills One Week Away For Mountaineers

By ERNIE PAYNE

With the temperature rising to "95" and above and the humidity rising to near the saturation point, it looks like the "football bug" is just about ready to hit Kings Mountain.

On Thursday, August 15, just one week from the time you will be reading this article, head football coach Bill Bates will sound the proverbial signal for the opening of Kings Mountain high school practice drills for the 1963 season.

With the onset of drills, football will definitely be in our midst.

Coach Bates, who will be assuming the head reigns for his second consecutive season, was struck fairly heavy by graduation last year, as far as linemen go.

Graduate took both varsity ends, Charles Goodson and Tommy Hope. At the tackle position, Tim Heavener and James Hope have departed. Guard Brent McDaniel also graduated last year and fullback Wally Harris graduated also.

But things are not as bad as they might seem. Coach Bates has 16 lettermen returning for the 1963 gridiron squad.

In the line, at the end position, Jimmy Wright and Richard White, who lettered in the 1962 season, will be returning.

In the interior line, Bates has Hubert McGinnis and Lynn Cheshire and Jimmy Owens, all hefty boys, returning at the tackle position.

At the guard, Fred Dixon, Jimmy Medlin and Steve Grigg will all be back for another year.

At the center position, Terry Leonard will be the only letterman returning.

Moving to the backfield, at quarterback, Pat Murphy and Richard Gold, both lettermen from last years squad, will be returning.

At fullback, Steve Putnam will report back for duties.

At the halfback slot, Mike Huffstickler, Von Holcomb, Bo Goforth, and Steve Baker, all lettermen, will be returning for the summer drills.

Coach Bates cited several sophomores who will be advancing to the varsity, who played junior varsity last year.

Tackle Chip Bridges will add to the line, and Ben Grimes will be trying for a berth at the center position. In the backfield Jay Powell, Danny Kiser and Wayne Odell will add to its strength.

Looking at the football squad on the whole, things could look a lot worse. I'm not going to make any pre-season predictions before practice drills get underway. You never know what's going on the water.

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## Sale Continues at Page's

1/3 Off Men's Straw Hats One Group of Ladies Sportswear All Men's Summer Florsheim And Crosby Square Shoes All Swim Suits & Accessories

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