



Herald Sports

By DICK WOODWARD

Best Record In School's History?

The 1963 Kings Mountain Mountaineers (as we all know) finished the season with a 9-0-1 record, which is the best record a Kings Mountain team has posted since 1955 when the Mountaineers finished the regular season with an identical 9-0-1 mark.

Back in those days (or does that sound as if it were long, long ago?) there was no "PLAYOFF" rule in effect as there is today, much to the present day fan's sorrow. Allow me to elaborate. . . .

During the course of the 1955 football season there were two teams in the Southwest Conference which played ten games, and both teams finished the season with identical 9-0-1 records. Kings Mountain and Forest City tied 7-7 during the regular season (Sound familiar). This year's action, so far, was a repeat performance, but wait a minute, there has been a drastic change. The playoff rule was changed this year, and this is as far as the two seasons go with regard to being the same.

In 1955, Kings Mountain and Forest City had a playoff game (by the way, it was a regulation game, four quarters, etc. . . .) and Kings Mountain won the game 19-13 to earn the right to represent the Southwest Conference in the WNCSSAA playoffs at Hickory. Kings Mountain played Valdese and lost its first game of the season, 14-6 to a strong team. Doug Cline, who later became a star at Clemson, was the "big gun" in that game as he scored twice with runs of 91 and 23 yards. But this year everyone knows the Mountaineers lost the playoff (if that's what you want to call it) 6-3 to Shelby, and are sitting out the conference playoffs. Now don't get me wrong, the present day system may be the best, but there are not many of us KINGS MOUNTAIN fans who will agree. I still contend that the only way to determine a conference champion is the event two teams are tied at the end of the regulation season, is to have another REGULATION GAME.

The 1955 Mountaineers have been given the title of being the best team Kings Mountain has ever had, but is it? This is a question that only the followers of the Mountaineers for the past 40 years can determine. Maybe the 1926 team was the best, maybe the '63 team, all three were great.

The 1926 Kings Mountain football team actually has the right of saying that they were best. Some Kings Mountain folks can remember that year. Kings Mountain played 13 games, won 10 and tied 3. There were some questions as to which team, either Kings Mountain or Asheville, would represent the west in the state playoffs, (the two teams tied). How did they settle the dispute? They tossed a coin and Kings Mountain lost. It seems as though the hometown boys have been unlucky on occasions with regard to post season playoff games.

More Than Just A Game

But nevertheless, the '63 Mountaineers are to be commended for their fine performances throughout the year. It was my pleasure to follow the Mounties throughout the season, and watch them mature physically, mentally and morally during the ten week period. The boys performed well, exhibited good sportsmanship during every minute of every game, and all are better young men for having done so.

My hat is off to the coaching staff, which spent many long, hard, and wonderful hours in supervision of the maturing youngsters. Coaches Bates, Parker, Cashion, and Hussey did their job well, and the boys who were members of the 1963 team will remember this year for as long as they live because it taught them to be good competitors, and a sense of fair play. There are the things that will live within them forever.

Some athletes forget the real purpose for having intercollegiate athletic competition. The main reason for spending large sums of money and long hours of a coach's time, is for the purpose of molding the individual player into a finer citizen, one who will carry the things that he learned on the football field into his future life. Football, as well as any other sporting event, is designed for the purpose of teaching fair play, and to expose the participant to the realization of competition, and I say, that this year's football team displayed all of these attributes, and they will all be better men for having played the game.

Looking Back Over The Season

Coach Bill Bates began the season with six returning starters from last year's team which posted a 4-5-1 record, and he was a little bit afraid to commit himself when asked to make a comment as to the capabilities of his '63 team. But as the pre-season practices wore on one could sense an expression of satisfaction racing across Bates' face as the boys rounded into shape and made preparations for the opening game with Cherryville.

The Cherryville game was played in Cherryville and Coach Bates seemed worried about the game as he talked with me minutes before the opening whistle, but he knew the Mountaineers were ready. And ready they were. Kings Mountain took the opening kickoff and marched some 60 odd yards for the first score of the season, and Mike Huffstickler, who gained 125 yards during the game, became the first '63 Mountie to cross an enemy goal line. Huffstickler scored still another touchdown during the game, and quarterback Pat Murphy put the icing on the cake with a 15 yard gallop in the waning minutes to aid the Mountaineers in an 18-0 victory over the pre-season picked, tough, Ironmen.

The following week the Mountaineers came home to play host to outclassed Stanley, and waltzed away with a decisive 38-6 victory as Huffstickler and Murphy led the scoring for the second straight week.

A week later it was Chesebrough which fell victim to the fast improving Mountaineers, 34-6 in a one-sided game which saw Huffstickler score twice, and Steve Baker, Warren Goforth, and Ronnie Rhea, once each.

The fourth game of the season was played in City Stadium and KM trounced East Rutherford 28-7 for the third conference win. Huffstickler, Rhea, Lewis Cook, and Pete Putnam crossed paydirt for the Mountaineers in that contest.

Bessemer City was the fifth victim of the Mountaineer assault as the Mountaineers pleased an overflow homecoming crowd with an overwhelming 45-7 victory.

With five straight victories tucked under their belts, the Mounties traveled to Mooresville, and the first "big

KM Downs Lincolnton 14-7; Shares SWC Crown

Five KM Players To Be In Lions Bowl Next Week

Five members of the co-champion Kings Mountain Mountaineers have accepted invitations to play in the annual Lions Bowl which will be held at Bryan Harrell Stadium, East Rutherford high school, Saturday, November 23 at 2:00.

The bowl game consists of 25 seniors from the North and Southwest conferences, and Kings Mountain will send five players to the 7th annual bowl game; Jimmy Medlin, guard; Jimmy Owens, tackle; Fred Dixon, guard; Warren (Bo) Goforth, and Mike Huffstickler, halfbacks. These five Mountaineer seniors were the backbone of Kings Mountain's first undefeated season since 1955. Huffstickler led the team in rushing yardage, while Goforth provided a big threat throughout the season with his timely blocking and excellent defensive work. Medlin, Dixon, and Owens, anchored the hard charging Mountaineer line which allowed no more than one touchdown to be scored upon it in any one game during the season.

Lincolnton will be the most represented school in the conference with 6. Kings Mountain has 5, East and Central 4 each, and Belmont, Chase and Cherryville two each.

The south team will be coached by Lincolnton head coach Von Ray Harris, assisted by Bob Setzer, East Rutherford's head coach.

Shelby and Wilkes Central will not have any players participating because of the conference playoff game between the two schools which is set for Friday night at Blanton Memorial Stadium.

KINGS MOUNTAIN: Jimmy Medlin, Fred Dixon, Jimmy Owens, Warren Goforth, and Mike Huffstickler.

LINCOLNTON: Mike Richards and John Dellinger, guards; Steve Warren, center; Gary Warren, end; Don Cagle, halfback; (Dennis Byrd was not selected because of his acceptance to the Shrine Bowl)

CHASE: Michael Robertson, quarterback; and Jerry Harris, end.

CHERRYVILLE: Alfred Blackwelder, end; and Ralph Gibson, end.

EAST RUTHERFORD: Jerry Willis, tackle; James Byrd, center; David Matheny, quarterback; and Cary Grant, guard.

CENTRAL: Larry Bailey, center; James Maynor, tackle; Robert Bailey, end; and Eddie Fisher, fullback.

Frank Barger's Hickory's head coach, and Ted Freeman of Marion will coach the Northwest Conference team. Barger has selected seven from his team, six from Marion, five from Morganton, three from Hudson, two from Newton-Conover, and two from Valdese.

Northwest Conference Squad

NEWTON - CONOVER: David Sims, end; and Nicholas Gilbert, guard.

HUDSON: Walter Estes and Joel Carroll, ends; and Larry Parsons, tackle.

VALDESE: Gary Buff, end; and Truett Martin, quarterback; MORGANTON: David Biggers, tackle; Johnny Giles and Johnny Powell, guards; Arnold Phillips, fullback; and David Riggs, halfback.

MARION: Terry Seagle and Jif Bradley, tackles; Jerry McKinney and Jerry Iscacs, halfbacks; and Jack Honeycutt, center.

HICKORY: Steve White, end; Vic Landis, guard; Charlie Edwards, quarterback; Ronald Jones, fullback; Leland Hanna and Steve Hudson, halfbacks; and Tony Pope, center.

test" for the Mounties was passed with flying colors as KM downed a good Mooresville team, 14-0.

With an impressive 6-0 record, the scene was set for the Shelby contest. Both teams were undefeated with identical records. There is no use to elaborate on this one because everyone knows the results. A 7-7 tie was reeled off, and Shelby won the playoff 6-3 to earn the right to represent the conference.

Next on the agenda was a meeting with Rutherford, and KM showed signs of being "flat" after the Shelby game a week before, as they squeezed by with a 6-0 win to remain undefeated.

The ninth game was played at City Stadium in two inches of mud, but the Mountaineer slipped, slid, and glided to a 20-0 win over Belmont.

The final game of the season is covered in detail in a separate article on this page.



CONFERENCE CO-CHAMPIONS — Pictured above are the co-champion Kings Mountain Mountaineers for 1963. Kings Mountain and Shelby reign as conference co-champions, each having won 6 lost 0 and tied one during the season. Front Row (l. to r.) Kenneth Parker, David Clippard, Mgrs., Danny Finger, Steve Bumgardner, Jackie Rhea, Tommy Black, Gene Allen, Lewis Stewart, Ben Grimes, Tony Ware, Danny Kiser, Pete Putnam, Mike Huffstickler, and Ronnie Dover. Second Row (l. to r.) Terry Leonard, Warren Goforth, Ronnie Gillespie, Bill Mullinax, Steve Baker, Pat Murphy, Calvin Lockridge, Steve Goforth, Eddie Leftwich, Mike Tignor, Glen Lovelace, Dennis Patterson, and Dennis Floyd. Third Row (l. to r.) LeCompt Hill, trainer, Paul Reynolds, Richard Gold, Charles Putnam, Presley Anderson, Steve Marlowe, Jimmy Medlin, Chip Bridges, Jimmy Cloninger, Sid Carpenter, Fred Dixon, Rodney Smith, Lewis Cook, Gerald Carrigan, and Steve Grigg. Fourth Row (l. to r.) Pete Houser, statistician, Jim Wells, mgr., Jay Powell, Charles Ramsey, Pat Hord, Hubert McGinnis, Richard White, Robby Suber, Ken Bolin, Lyn Cheshire, Fred Wright, Dale Putnam, George Plonk, and Jimmy Owens.

KM Midget All Stars Host Greenville In Turkey Bowl

The second annual Turkey Bowl will be played at City Stadium Saturday night at 7:00 between the Kings Mountain Midget All - Stars, and the All - Stars from Greenville, S. C. The bowl game is being sponsored by the Optimist Club and admission will be 75 cents for adults, and 35 cents for children.

Last year was the first time a midget bowl game had been played in Kings Mountain, and the Union, S. C. All-Stars downed the Kings Mountain All-Stars, 7-6 in a rugged battle.

Charles Smith, head coach of the East team, will direct the Kings Mountain All-Stars, assisted by Vernon Smith, North coach, and Bill Grisson, West. "The Greenville All - Stars should be a real good club," commented Smith, who elaborated by saying that the visiting team is composed of the All - Stars from the Greenville midget league.

Bob Garrison, coach of the Greenville All - Stars, has been coaching midget football for the past twelve years, and has produced several bowl competing teams.

The players which will participate in the bowl game were selected by the four coaches from the entries in the City league this year which includes players from East, North, West, and Grover.

Name	Pos.	WT.	Tm.
Pat Cheshire	LE	127	No.
Joe Bennett	LT	130	Ea.
Bruce Bridges	LG	124	Ea.
Glen Perkins	C	103	Ea.
Steve Phillips	RG	115	Ea.
Jim Hall	RT	119	Ea.
Stanley Laughter	RE	121	We.
Wayne Mullinax	LH	125	Ye.
Chip Christ	FB	130	Gro.
Joe Cornwell	RH	103	Ea.
Rocky Martin	QB	125	No.
Frank Philbeck	LE	120	Gro.
Mike Graham	LT	120	We.
Gene Putnam	LG	85	We.
Bruce Jones	RG	125	No.
Bill Herndon	C	117	Gro.
Carly Leigh	FB	116	Ea.
Rocky Grahl	LH	106	We.
Dennis Goforth	LH	107	No.
Clark Mauney	QB	109	Ea.
Doug Mercer	QB	109	Ea.
Frank Little	RH	115	Gro.
Darrell Alexander	LE	102	No.
Darrell Morrison	RT	110	No.
Mike Rippy	LH	115	No.
Vick Lockridge	RG	115	No.

Name	WT.	Age
David Van Gieson	120	14
Dean McCollum	122	13
Earl Morgon	128	13
Steve Ballard	115	13
Danny Lyons	110	13
Skipper Carter	119	13
Butch Bryant	122	14
Lewis Moss	110	13
Carey Bonds	130	13
Gerry Canady	110	13
Ronnie Miller	110	12
Doug Wynn	115	13
Ricky Humphries	100	13
Russel Canady	90	13
Jimmy VanHollen	85	11
Danny Ballard	95	10
Dean Canady	95	11
Doug Booth	87	11

Boyce Ware led the fast moving Tignor & Russell team to a 4 to 0 shutout of McGinnis Furniture with a single game high score of 130 and a line set score of 322, both scores being high for the match. Al Tignor led the losers scoring with a single game high of 115 coupled with a three game line set score of 307.

The Bob Herndon team increased its league lead to 14 games with a 3 to 1 victory over Polnk Oil. Charles Culbertson and Richard Culbertson tied for the single game high scoring honors with 127 each, and Charles capped line set scoring with a 351. Clarence Plonk led the faltering Polnk Oil team scoring with a single game high of 137, which was high for the match, and a line set score of 357, which was also high for the one-sided match.

Dilling Heating allowed Dye Construction only one victory in their four game match as John Dilling, with a single game high of 149, and a line set score of an impressive 374, led his team to a 3 to 1 victory. M. H. Biser and Boyer Murray rolled identical single game highs of 125, and Furman Wilson's line set score of 341 was high for the losers.

STANDINGS	W	L	T
Bob Herndon	38	14	.730
Tignor & Russell	24	28	.461
Plonk Oil	24	28	.461
McGinnis Furn.	23	29	.442
Dilling Heating	23	29	.442
Dye Const.	23	29	.442

"Powder Puff" Game Tonight

The girls are taking over where the boys left off, and the fairer sex is out to prove that they can play football too, as the girls from the 12th and 9th grades take on the 10th and 11th graders in a "Powder Puff" football game Thursday night at 7:00 in City Stadium.

The girls will be decked out in shoulder pads, jerseys, and football pants, and will play flag football, with the backs and ends having flags tucked in the backs of their football pants, and the opposition must pull out the flag before the offensive player is declared "down."

The game is being sponsored by the high school Monogram Club. Admission is 50c for adults and 25c for students.

Turkey Shoot Set For Saturday

The annual Policeman's Club sponsored Turkey Shoot will be held Saturday, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and continuing until 5:00 p.m. at the Policeman's Club, which is located near the new city lake.

Guns and ammunition for the festive occasion will be furnished by the club, and all one needs is a good eye, steady nerves, and money. Turkey's will be awarded the winner of each contest, and there is no limit as to the number of Turkeys that can be won.

Groups of 10 - 12 shooters will contest each other, and the shooter who gets closest to the center of his individual target will be given a ticket, which can be presented at the Winn - Dixie, in return for a Thanksgiving turkey.

Coffee and sandwiches will be served, and the proceeds from the shoot will go to the Policeman's Club, so come on out and match your shooting skills with those of your friends, and enjoy a day's relaxation. Skeet shooting is on the agenda in addition to the turkey shoots.

Tickets On Sale For Playoff Game

Shelby meets Wilkes Central Friday night at 8:00 in Shelby's Blanton Memorial Stadium. The two teams will be playing for the Western Conference championship, while Asheville meets Monroe at Kannapolis for the Piedmont Conference Championship. The two winners will play at either Kannapolis or Asheville November 22 at 8:00, depending upon which team wins the first round playoffs in the Piedmont Conference.

Tickets for Friday night's game at Shelby are on sale now at the high school, and the Kings Mountain Drug Store. Prices for the playoff tickets are \$1.50 for adults, and 75c for students.

Kings Mountain, having tied Shelby for the conference championship, will share equally with Shelby in the gate receipts, and all Kings Mountain fans are urged to attend the game and support the conference representative.

Advance tickets should be secured before Friday night as an overflow crowd is expected to be on hand.

Total man days lost in the United States including those of temporary working population are estimated at 72 million, says the North Carolina Heart Association.

Lincs Mistakes Aid Mountaineers Ninth Victory

Kings Mountain was held to only three first downs and 43 yards rushing Friday night, but capitalized on two Lincolnton mistakes to down the visiting Wolves 14-7, and remain undefeated with a 9-0-1 mark, 6-0-1 in the conference, good enough for a share of the Southwest Conference title with Shelby, which finished the season with an 8-0-2 mark, 6-0-1 in the conference. This year's undefeated team is the first Kings Mountain team to go through the season undefeated since 1955.

Lincolnton's defense haidcuffed the Mountaineer offense throughout the entire game, and Kings Mountain was on offense for only twelve plays in the first half, while Lincolnton dominated play with a devastating ground attack.

Kings Mountain won the pre-game toss and elected to receive Mike Hollifield, Lincolnton tackle, kicked-off, and Steve Baker returned 17 yards to the KM 37. Huffstickler tried a right end sweep but the Lincolnton defense refused to give ground, and Huffstickler gained only 1 yard. Pat Murphy, KM quarterback, passed 3 yards to flanking end Glenn Lovelace for three yards, and at third and 6 Huffstickler was stopped for no gain as he tried to penetrate the big Lincolnton line. Jimmie Cloninger punted 40 yards to the Lincolnton 28 where Terry Talbert, Lincolnton quarterback, received and returned 35 yards to the Mountaineer 35, but the Wolves were charged with clipping at the Lincolnton 28, and a 15 yard penalty pushed Lincolnton back to the 13.

Lincolnton was unable to move the ball with running plays, and at fourth and nine from the Lincolnton 14, Don Cagle punted 33 yards to the Lincolnton 47. Again the Lincolnton defense held the heretofore powerful Mountaineer offense, and at fourth down, 7 Cloninger punted into the endzone, and the ball was brought out to the Lincolnton 20.

Lincolnton found the ground gaining combination as Dennis Byrd, 215 pound fullback, gained 8 yards and added three more with two line plunges to give Lincolnton its first first down of the night at the KM 31. Steve Warren, Lincolnton halfback, and quarterback Talbert gained 10 yards and another first down at the Lincolnton 42. Gary Warren took over for the Wolves, and with three running plays gained 12 yards and moved into KM territory at the Mountaineer 42 as the first quarter ended.

Lincolnton continued to move with machine-like precision as Talbert ran the option play with professional-like accuracy to move the ball to the KM 19. Steve Brackett, speedy Lincolnton halfback, gained 12 big yards, and Talbert added 6, as the Wolves moved to the Mountaineer 1, first and goal. From the 1, Warren cracked off tackle for the score which climaxed the 80 yard drive. Hollifield kicked the extra point of being a repeat performance of 7-0, and the game showed signs of being a repeat performance of the Shelby game.

The exact situation prevailed as in the Shelby game as Hollifield kicked off to KM. Richard Gold, KM safety-man, took Hollifield's kick at the KM 15 and headed upfield. The Mountaineer blocking formed the screen for Gold, as he crossed midfield, he broke into the open and raced down the sidelines for the Mountaineer score. The play netted 85 yards, and seconds later Hubert McGinnis split the uprights with

About 52 million man days are lost yearly in the United States by the usually-working population because of cardiovascular diseases, says the North Carolina Heart Association.

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