

Steve Goforth Hurls Two-Hitter Against Shelby



Herald Sports

By GARY STEWART

Snyder To Play For Boston Celtics?

Davidson College All-America Dick Snyder expressed hopes of playing with the Boston Celtics while speaking at the first annual Kings Mountain Kiwanis Club Basketball Banquet Thursday night.

Snyder, a 6-5 senior from North Canton, Ohio, said that he has narrowed his choice down to Boston and one other NBA team, but, he added, "since I don't have my choice, I'll just wait and see if I get drafted."

Snyder was named to every All-America team in the country, however, he received a first place rating on only two of the A-A teams. He was a first team forward on both The Sporting News and Look Magazine teams.

But his name appeared on the second team of the major A-A teams, such as the Associated Press and United Press International, etc.

Snyder was, however, recognized as one of the greatest college players in the nation this past season. He stayed around the top five in scoring during the entire season and was tapped as the best all-around defensive player in the college ranks.

He almost single-handedly led Coach Lefty Driesell's Wildcats to the Southern Conference and Southern Conference Tournament Championships and was named All-SC for the second year in a row. He was named the league's "player-of-the-year" as well as the Most Valuable Player in the conference tournament in Charlotte.

Snyder was very impressive to the KMHS basketball players and Kiwanis Club guests as a speaker. Dick added laughter and seriousness while keeping the attention of the audience throughout his speech.

When program chairman Charles Neisler asked if there were any questions to be addressed to the three Davidson seniors — Snyder was accompanied by Ronnie Stone and Phil Squier — just about every question was thrown at Snyder.

Vacendak, Marin Fiercest Competitors

One question asked Snyder was that of "who was the fiercest competitor you faced or played with during your college career?"

Snyder then gave praise to a couple of Duke men and one of his teammates at Davidson.

While Snyder played against Duke only twice during his varsity college career, he played with some Duke players in post-season all-star games this year.

He quickly gave praise to Duke seniors Steve Vacendak and Jack Marin. Snyder also gave praise to Davidson sophomore Bobby Lane as being one of the toughest competitors in the college ranks.

"Vacendak is one of the toughest there is," Dick said. He added, "he never gives up. He plays hard every minute of the game."

Marin, a first-team All-Atlantic Coast Conference pick, was listed along with Snyder on the Look A-A team and received many second-team A-A spots, along with some honorable mentions.

Snyder also threw some praise toward Dave Schell-hase of Purdue, the nation's leading scorer. "Until I played with him, I thought that he was only a good shooter and outstanding scorer," Snyder said. "But when I saw him play, I noticed that he was a good defensive player and rebounder, also. And he never gives up," Dick added.

Lane, a guard on the Davidson team, comes from New Orleans, La., where he was all-state his senior year in high school. "His senior year, Bobby was recognized as one of the best high school players to ever play in Louisiana," Dick related to the audience.

Star Couldn't Find Time For Baseball

Since his sophomore year at Davidson, Dick has also been noted as one of the best baseball players to attend the small school of 1,000.

But this season Dick decided not to go out for the sport because of his love for basketball and because he simply didn't have time.

"I want to play pro basketball and I've had plenty of offers to speak at banquets such as this one," said Dick, "so I decided not to play baseball. I'm also planning a vacation trip with some other boys, and besides, this is the first spring that I've had any free time since I got to college."

Should Dick not get into the pro basketball ranks, he could easily turn his future toward baseball or even football. He was All-America in football his senior year in high school and is also great at outdoor sports such as track, golf, swimming, etc.

Dick will certainly remain popular in this area for many years to come. During his three-year varsity basketball career at Davidson, he scored over 1,600 points and carried a remarkable 22-plus scoring average.

He is second only to Fred Hetzel in all-time scoring but ask anyone who has seen the two play. They'll tell you that Snyder is the better. Dick's scoring ability, plus his defensive play and rebounding earned him the number one slot in the hearts of Davidson fans.

David Neill, former Kings Mountain high school player, was responsible for getting the three Davidson stars to the historical city for the Kiwanis Club's inaugural event. Neill, a trust executive of First Union National Bank in Charlotte, is a Davidson graduate.

My Hat's Off To The Kiwanis Club

My hat is off to the Kiwanis Club for sponsoring a banquet for the KMHS basketball teams.

Kings Mountain high school has long been noted as having good basketball teams and it's a very good thing that the Kiwanians have done in order of showing appreciation to the players and coaches.

Although the two teams didn't fare too well this past season, last year Coach Don Parker's Mountaineers won the Southwest Conference title with a 13-1 conference mark and advanced to the finals of the bi-conference tournaments before losing out to Hickory.

Congratulations are also in order to Sharon Gold and Neal Cooper, winners of the basketball most valuable player awards. Both Sharon and Neal worked hard throughout the season and certainly deserved the awards.



TROPHY WINNERS — Coaches Bob Hussey (left) and Don Parker (right) pose with KMHS most valuable basketball players Sharon Gold and Neal Cooper at the first annual Kiwanis Club Banquet Thursday night.

Sharon Gold, Neal Cooper Receive Basketball Awards

Cage Standouts Initial Winners Of MVP Awards

By GARY STEWART

Sophomore Sharon Gold and senior Neal Cooper were recognized as Most Valuable Players of the Kings Mountain high school varsity basketball teams at the first annual Kiwanis Club Banquet Thursday night.

The B. M. Ormand Award was presented to Sharon by Mountaineer Coach Don Parker.

Guest speakers for the event were Davidson All-American Dick Snyder and Wildcat seniors Ronnie Stone and Phil Squier. Other speakers included Kiwanis Club President Glee Edwin Bridges, program chairman Charles Neisler and David Neill, trust executive of First Union National Bank in Charlotte.

The three Davidson seniors spoke briefly to the cagers, coaches, Kiwanians and guests. The three centered their talks around academics in athletics, sacrifices for athletics, and personal rewards of athletics.

Stone, from Kennesville, N. C., spoke in the leadoff position. He made it plain that in order for one to be a good athlete, "You have to be a good scholar, too."

He added that Davidson Coach Lefty Driesell throws away a boy's athletic enrollment card if his average grade is lower than a "B."

Squier, talking in the number two slot, spoke on the sacrifices that one must make in order to play college sports.

Snyder, the third and most popular speaker, spoke of the personal rewards of the game. He said that "it's not the suitcase and other things that make a fellow feel proud but the feeling inside when you accomplish a goal that you wanted so badly."

Snyder said that his most cherished moment at Davidson came when the Wildcats defeated West Virginia in the Southern Conference Tournament Championship.

The three players were addressed with several questions from the audience and, following the program, were flanked by autograph seekers, mostly girl basketball players.

Presentation of the trophies were made near the close of the program with the Ormand Award being given first.

Both Gold and Cooper were outstanding for the two KMHS teams this season. Gold, named to the All-SWC girls' team, was the leading scorer in the conference with 304 points and a 16.9 scoring average.

Former Kings Mountain Legion Baseball star Beattie Leonard hurled the Tar Heels of UNC to a 3-0 win over Georgia Tech Monday afternoon.

Leonard, a southpaw, allowed the Georgians only three hits. The UNC senior also had a run-scoring single to his credit.

Mountaineers Lose Third To East Rutherford, 3-1

Mounties Visit Belmont Friday For Night Game

Kings Mountain's Mountaineers begin playing under the lights Friday night at Belmont when they take on the Red Raiders.

Mountaineer senior fireballer Steve Goforth is scheduled to start for the locals with ace right-hander Eddie Barnhill pitching for the Raiders.

Goforth is undefeated in conference play with his only loss of the season coming to the hands of York in the first game of the year. Goforth is 2-0 against league foes and has allowed only two earned runs and nine hits in 18 innings while proving to be one of the league's toughest hurlers.

The Mountaineers will be on the road again Tuesday night. They travel to Cherryville to take on the winless Ironmen of CIS. KM then returns home for its first home night game against Chase Friday.

Sophomore Darrell Whetstone (0-1) will probably receive the starting nod at Cherryville and duties will swing back on either Steve or Tommy Goforth (1-1) for next Friday's game.

In games Tuesday, Shelby jumped back on the winning track with a 4-1 win at R-S Central, Lincolnton defeated Cherryville 2-0 and East Rutherford downed Kings Mountain 3-1.

Belmont and Chase were scheduled to play at Belmont Wednesday afternoon.

East Rutherford leads the league with a perfect 5-0 record with Lincolnton in second place with a 4-1 mark, Shelby and R-S Central are deadlocked for third with 3-2 records, Belmont is fifth at 2-2, KM sixth at 2-3, Chase seventh at 0-4 and Cherryville in the cellar with an 0-5 mark.

Through seven games this year, Tommy Goforth has proven to be the Mounties' toughest hitter as he carries a .429 batting average with three hits in seven trips to the plate.

Freshman Mike Smith leads all players in hitting with a .299 batting mark with Nelson Connor and Chucky Gladden at .277 and .222 respectively. All other Mountaineer hitters are under the .200 mark.

Coach Bill Bates is expected to make some defensive changes before Friday's game. Sophomore Paul Gaffney will be back at his catching post with some outfield positions subject to change.

In other games Friday, Cherryville is at Chase and R-S Central at East Rutherford for afternoon games and Lincolnton's at Shelby for a night contest.

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BOXSCORE table for Kings Mountain vs East Rutherford game, showing statistics for AB, R, H, B, I for both teams.

Ace Righthander Puts Down First 16 To Face Him

By GARY STEWART

Steve Goforth tossed a two-hitter and struck out eight batters to pave the way for a 4-1 Mountaineer victory over Shelby Wednesday afternoon.

The senior righthander retired the first 16 Shelby batters and at one time had five strikeouts in a row.

Goforth's stay-cool pitching style and pinpoint control was literally too much for Coach Gene Kirkpatrick's Lions. The loss was the second in a row for Shelby, which won its first two conference games.

Coach Bill Bates of the Mountaineers got good play out of his infielders, also. The Mountaineers, aside from their usual game of poor fielding, did not make an error and also used the stick.

Kings Mountain jumped on Shelby starter Phil Peeler from the word go, and, with two out and two runners on in the third, senior ace Mitchell Self came in from first base to take over the pitching duties.

Mountaineer leadoff man Tony Leigh got on by a passed ball after he swung and missed a third strike from Peeler. Nelson Connor sacrificed Leigh with a bunt and Wayne Mullinax got on by an infield hit.

Leigh scored on a single by centerfielder Charles Carroll and after Chucky Gladden loaded the bases by getting on by error, Mullinax came home on a sacrifice fly by catcher Paul Gaffney.

With two outs in the second, Leigh reached base on an infield single, stole second, and came home when shortstop Nelson Connor singled to rightfield.

Carroll walked to lead off the Mountaineer third, stole second, and came here one out later when Gaffney singled. Jerry Mitchem, running for Gaffney, was thrown out trying to steal second. Second baseman Mike Smith doubled but was stranded on second when Bill Bridges fanned.

Self retired 12 KM batters in order after coming on with one out in the third. After giving up the double to Smith, he struck out Bridges and then got the Mounties three up, three down in the fourth, fifth and sixth frames. Self retired the first two two KM batters in the seventh.

Good fielding on the part of Connor and Smith nailed several Shelby batters and it wasn't until one out in the sixth that a Lion finally reached base.

Goforth issued a walk to Dickie Grier and with two outs walked Chris McDaniel. Shelby catcher Ted Whitworth got the first hit off Goforth, an infield single which loaded the bases.

Max Jones hit a sharp ground-ball through the middle but Connor scooped it up from behind second base and flipped to Smith to force Whitworth at second and retire the sides.

After taking a called strike in the bottom of the seventh, Shelby shortstop Mike McDaniel blasted a home run over the left-centerfield wall for the only real hit off Goforth.

Mountaineer Coach Bates praised Goforth, along with Connor and Gaffney on well-played games. "Steve did a real good job," said Bates. "If it hadn't been for his own mental error, he might have pitched a perfect game."

The mental error by Goforth came when Whitworth got his infield single. Whitworth hit a high hopper between first and second which was fielded by first baseman Chucky Gladden. But Goforth failed to cover first base and Gladden could not get back in time to get the runner.

"That was the first game that we didn't make an error," added Bates. "There's the difference between winning and losing."

"Paul Gaffney did a good job behind the plate and Nelson Connor played a good game at shortstop," added Bates.

Connor turned in five assists, made one unassisted put-out and turned in a double play in the final inning. Gaffney made two assists and did a good job of calling signals for ace Goforth.

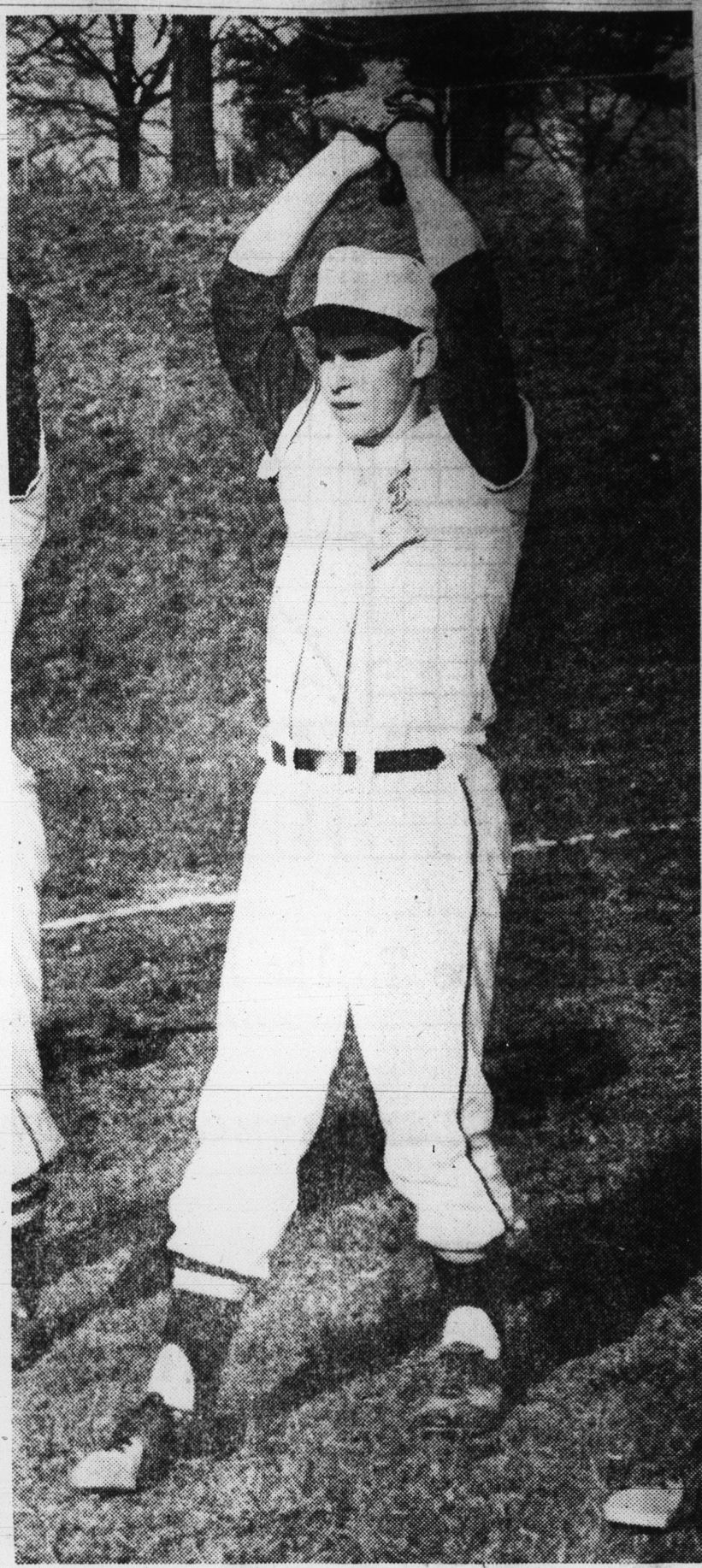
Kings Mountain collected seven hits off Peeler and Self with Connor leading the way with a 2-for-3 performance. Smith's double was the Mountaineers' only extra base blow.

Gaffney batted in two of the four runs with a sacrifice fly and a single and the other two runs were driven in by Connor and Carroll.

The Mountaineers got five hits off Peeler and managed two off Self. Peeler fanned two while Self sent five back to the bench with the bats on their shoulders.

BOXXSCORE

BOXXSCORE table for Kings Mountain vs Shelby game, showing statistics for AB, R, H, B, I for both teams.



TWO-HITTER — Steve Goforth (above) retired the first 16 Shelby batters he faced Wednesday afternoon and then cruised to a 4-1 two-hit win over the arch-rivals for his second straight conference win of the season.

Plonk Oil Takes Men's Keg Title

Mullinax's 391 Set Leads Plonk Team To 4-0 Win

Plonk Oil Co. defeated sixth-place Morrison Loan Co. four games to none Monday night to win the second half and league championship of the men's duck-pin bowling league.

The Plonk team went into the final night's action trailing Clyde Culbertson by two games but the Culbertson five lost a 3-1 decision to Griffin Drug Co. to finish one game behind Plonk Oil.

City Paint Store won four games off Dilling Heating to move into third place in the final standings. Griffin Drug's 3-1 win over Culbertson earned it a tie for fourth in the final tally.

Bill Mullinax gained night scoring honors with single games of 146, 99 and 146 for a 391 set to lead the Plonk Oil Co. victory.

Team captain Clarence Plonk and Richard Bridges added 372 and 350 sets respectively. Tom Gamble's 121 set were high marks for the losers.

Plonk Oil had a team set of 1744 compared to a 1590 total by S. Goforth, p.

FINAL STANDINGS

Table showing final standings for Plonk Oil Co., Morrison Loan Co., City Paint Store, Dilling Heating, Griffin Drug Co., and Morrison Loan Co. with columns for Team, W, L, Pct.

Jayvees Beat Lincs For First Victory

Kings Mountain high school's junior varsity baseballers defeated Lincolnton 10-7 Friday for their first win of the season against two losses.

Lincolnton beat KM 18-3 here Wednesday afternoon.

Coach Mike Ware's Jayvees collected 13 hits off the Lincolnton hurlers with Johnny Reynolds and Eddie Black leading the way with three apiece, however, it was a bases-loaded triple by Mike Hoyle in the top of the seventh that broke a 7-7 deadlock and sent the eventual winners ahead by the final score.

Southpaw Rocky Goforth pitched up the victory. His record now stands at 1-0.

The Jayvees host R-S Central Thursday afternoon at the Turner League Park.

Table showing pitching statistics for Peeler, M. McDaniel, SAC, Connor, SF, Gaffney, DP, Connor, and Gladden, SB, Leigh, with columns for IP, H, R, ER, BB, SO.