

Herald Sports

By GARY STEWART

And A Merry Christmas To You, Too

A Merry Christmas from me to the following:

Coaches Bill Bates, Bob Hussey, Bill Cashion and Don Parker of Kings Mountain high school and the many boys and girls who participate in athletics at KMHS . . .

And, to the boys and girls who serve the KMHS Athletic Department as managers, trainers, scorekeepers, timers, etc. . . .

To City Recreation Director Elmer Ross, Roy Pearson, and other members of the Recreation Dept. who have done so well in supplying recreation the year-round to the kids and adults of the community . . .

To the men who have served the Recreation Dept. as coaches of baseball, softball, and football teams, and the other divisions of the Recreation program. . . .

To the boys who participated this past year in the various divisions of the Recreation Dept. . . .

To the loyal fans who never miss a KMHS football, basketball or baseball game and to the officials who try their best to keep up with the action from start to finish. . . .

To Carl Wilson who did a great job with the American Legion baseball program the five years he served as athletic officer. . . .

To Coaches Warren Goforth, Bob Moore and Roy Pearson and the players on the Teener League baseball team which represented Kings Mountain and North Carolina so well in the Teener Baseball World Series this summer in Hershey, Pa. . . .

To the 50 or so persons who followed the Teener team and backed it all the way in the National Tournament. . . .

To Robby Moore and Durham White who served as scorekeepers for the Teener team and to Russ Bergmann of Gastonia who is the Teener League's Area IV Commissioner, who helped Kings Mountain get started in the program. . . .

To the boys who participated in the annual City Singles and Doubles Tennis Tournament. . . .

To all the businesses and clubs in town that sponsored teams in the various athletic leagues during the past year and to the ones that are currently sponsoring teams in the Recreation Basketball League. . . .

To the Lions Club, Kiwanis Club and Rotary Club for giving banquets in honor of the KMHS football, basketball and baseball teams and to the men who give trophies to the outstanding players. . . .

To the men on the program committee of these banquets who get some of the top names in college sports to speak to the prep athletes. . . .

To C. H. (Cat) Houser, manager of Mountain Lanes Bowling Center, and to the men and women who participate in the three bowling leagues at Mt. Lanes. . . .

To Coach Jack Parker of Bessemer City who is always calm and acts like a gentleman although his team may be getting a raw deal. . . .

To former KMHS athletes who are now playing college sports, or who now may be in the service or at a job. . . .

To the men who participated in the Kings Mountain Country Club Golf Tournament and to Jake Cooper who called in the results of the matches. . . .

To the boys in the physical education classes at KMHS who always help Coach Bates get the football field ready for an upcoming game. . . .

To the boys and girls in various KMHS clubs who sell tickets and run the concession stands at athletic events. . . .

To the KMHS cheerleaders who always brighten up any athletic event and to the members of the band who perform so well at football games. . . .

To KMHS Band Director Joe Hedden who works so hard in preparing the halftime shows for football games. . . .

To the KMHS students who don't participate in sports but are always at the games backing the team and to the members of the cannon crew. . . .

To men like Pete Heavner and Charlie Carpenter who, seldom, if ever, miss a football game or practice session. . . .

To the parents who come to the school house after every game to congratulate the coaches and players, even if they did lose. . . .

To Mike Ware, now an assistant football coach at Ft. Mill, S. C., who helped out the KMHS coaching staff while he was teaching in Kings Mountain. . . .

To Ralph Schuessler, coach of the KMHS tennis team, and to Mrs. Glenda O'Shields, girls' physical education teacher and coach of the girls' junior varsity basketball team and the team of girls who represent KMHS every year at "WNCHSAA PLAYDAY". . . .

To Gene Turner and Bill McDaniel, basketball officials, who help the KMHS coaches during scrimmages. . . .

To the men who serve the City Recreation Dept. as officials in baseball, football, basketball, etc. . . .

To the boys and girls who serve the Recreation Dept. as lifeguards during the summer and the boys who help Elmer Ross keep the baseball and softball fields in good condition. . . .

To K. E. (Red) Morrison, who lines up trips to baseball and football games for the Legion and who is always ready to offer information about the local bowling leagues. . . .

To Ronald Kiger of Cherryville who always adds laughter during coverage of an athletic event. . . .

To members of the sports departments of nearby newspapers who will fill one in should he happen to miss a ballgame. . . .

To Paul Lemmons and Roddy Dodson of Shelby who come over to take pictures and to Lem Lynch, another photographer from Shelby, who is now on a tour with the U. S. Army. . . .

To KMHS photographers Phillip Cash and Chris Pressley who throw in a picture or two now and then if our photographers get tied up and cannot work a ball game. . . .

And last, but by far from least, to you readers. . . .

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Gold Scores 33 To Lead KM Girls To 55-28 Win Over BC

By GARY STEWART

Sharon Gold scored a career high of 33 points Friday night to lead the Kings Mountain high school girls to a whopping 55-28 victory over Bessemer City in a non-conference basketball game.

In the nightcap, the Bessemer City boys tried to halt the KMHS girls by playing a slow-down type game, but the Mountaineers found a counter-attack for it and swept to their fourth straight win, 53-29.

Gold tallied 17 points in the first half and added 16 in the final two periods. The All-Conference junior scored on 71.7 percent of her field goals with 15-of-23. Second in scoring was Linda Childers with nine points and Hilda Lowery added eight. High scorer for the losers was Gwyn Yarborough with nine points.

The Mountaineers, now 2-2 on the season, never trailed. Gold put them ahead 2-0 with 6:35 left in the first period and Bessemer was never able to get into the game. The Mountaineers hit on 39.3 percent of their field goals with 22-of-56.

The girls jumped to a 7-0 lead and it wasn't until the 3:45 mark that Yarborough connected on a three-point play to give Bessemer its first markers.

Kings Mountain led by five, 10-5, at the end of the first quarter and stretched that lead to

18, 29-11, at halftime.

Bessemer City couldn't defense the fired-up Mountaineers as the locals increased their lead to 24 points, 42-18, at the end of three periods.

Mountaineer Coach Bob Hussey began to substitute freely during the final seven minutes but Bessemer still couldn't manage to decrease the lead.

The Mountaineers reached their biggest lead, 32 points, with 1:22 left in the game when sophomore Linda Childers bucketed a field goal.

The win was the second of the year for the KM girls over Bessemer City. The contest with Bessemer was the Mountaineers' final pre-season game. The girls will have a three-week break before opening conference play on Jan. 13 at Lincolnton.

Coach Jack Parker of Bessemer City tried a new approach to attempt to stop the KM boys but the Mountaineers rode the strong outside shooting of sophomore Ken Mitchem as a counter-attack and, after the first two periods, cruised to their fourth straight non-conference win.

Mitchem hit on seven-of-eleven field goal attempts for 14 points, however, high scorer for the Mounties, for the fourth straight game, was junior center George Adams with 16 markers.

Adams, shooting mostly from under the basket and using fade-away jump shots, hit on seven-of-twelve from the floor and added two-of-five from the free throw line for 16 points, which is his season's average. Jody Long was high scorer for Bessemer with 16 points.

The boys found the going a little rough during the first half but managed to lead the entire ballgame. The Mountaineers led 5-4 after one period and 19-9 at halftime.

The Mountaineers hit on 23-of-53 shots from the floor for a 43.4 average.

Kings Mountain controlled the opening tip-off and Mitchem scored on a quick goal to make it 2-0 with 7:12 left. Bessemer immediately went into its freeze and it wasn't until the 2:25 mark that Adams hit on a three-point play to make it 5-0.

Long scored a field goal and two free throws to make it 5-4 at the end of the first period.

Mountaineer guard Steve Spencer took a pass from Mitchem on the second period tip-off and went in for a lay-up to make the score 7-4. Bessemer began to speed up the contest a little as Long came down and hit a quick basket to make it 7-6 with 7:05 left in the half.

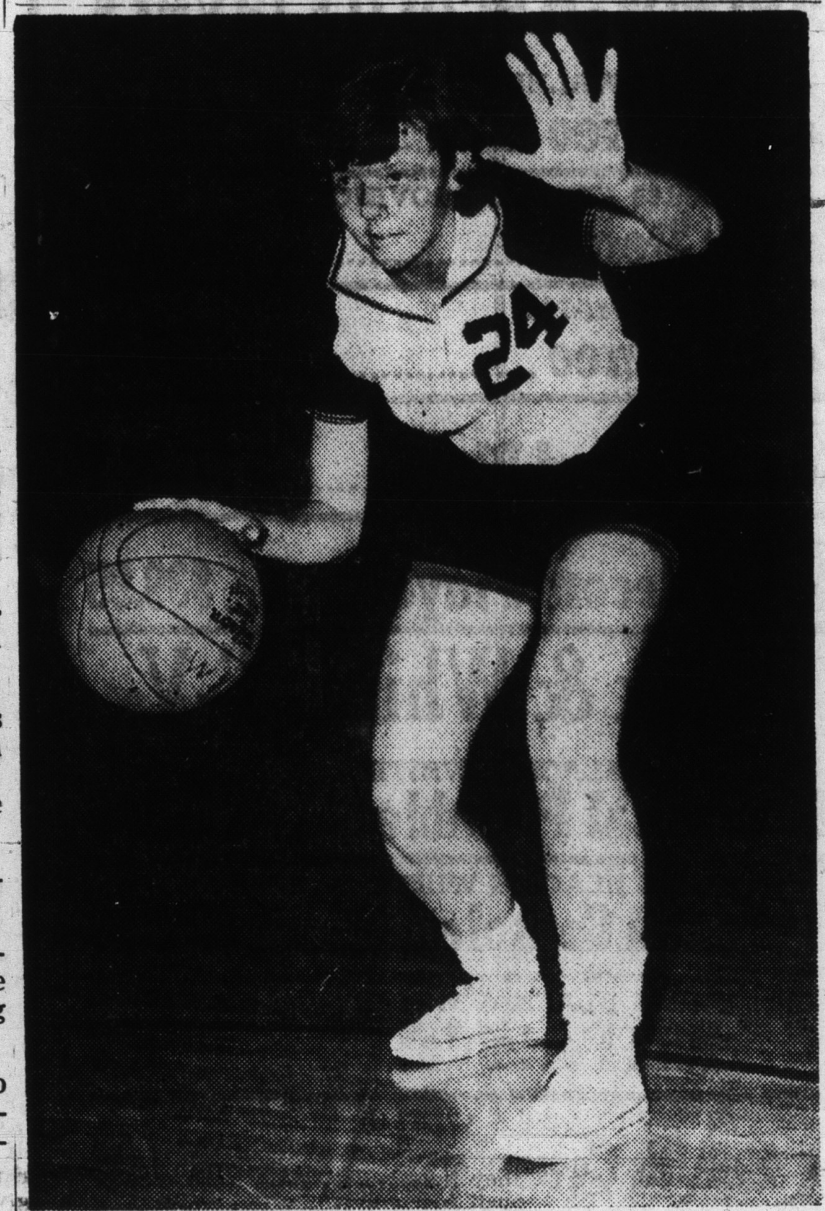
A field goal by Adams at the 6:45 mark and another by Mitchem with 6:10 left made it 11-6 before Long managed to hit again with 4:50 left to make it 11-8. The Mountaineer lead then jumped to 17-8 with 1:39 left before Donnie Kincaid hit a charity toss to make it 17-9 with 38 seconds left.

With five seconds left, Adams bucketed another field goal to give the Mountaineers their 19-9 halftime lead.

Bessemer City started the second half with their slow-down approach, however, the Mountaineers began to intercept passes and steal the ball and gradually started increasing their lead.

At the end of the third period, the score read, 34-22, and it was obvious to B. C. Coach Parker that his freezing attempt had failed. With 3:01 left and the Mountaineers leading 48-26, KM Coach Don Parker put his reserves in.

The Mountaineer reserves outscored the Yellow Jackets 4-3 during the final three minutes with forward Stanley Laughter getting all four KMHS markers.



LEADS MOUNTAINETTE WIN—Pictured above is Mountaineer forward Sharon Gold who scored a career high of 33 points Friday night to lead Kings Mountain's girls to a 55-28 win over Bessemer City. The 33 markers increased Sharon's season scoring average to 22.8 points per game. The Mountaineers closed out exhibition play with a 2-2 record. They open conference play on Jan. 13.

Sharon Gold, George Adams Top Scorers After Four Cage Tilts

Through the first four games, individual statistics show Sharon Gold and George Adams leading the two Kings Mountain high school basketball teams in scoring.

Sharon, a junior who was All-Conference last year while leading the Southwest Conference in scoring, has to date tallied 91 points for a 22.8 scoring average. Sharon has connected on 41 field goals and nine free throws. Her highest single game output was 33 points against Bessemer City Friday night.

Adams, the Mountaineers' junior center and leading rebounder, has hit on 28 field goals and eight free throws for 64 points and a 16.0 average. Second in scoring for the Mounties and the only other player hitting double figures, is sophomore forward Ken Mitchem. Mitchem has tallied 56 points for a 14.0 average.

The Mountaineers have swept through four straight non-conference games relating it to the Nativity sport a 2-2 record. The Mounties are averaging 57.3 points per game while the Mountaineers are hitting 38.3 points per game. Second in scoring for the Mountaineers is senior Hilda Lowery with 25 points and a 6.3 average while third is sophomore Linda Childers with 19 points and a 4.8 average.

Following is the complete summary of individual scoring through the first four games:

GIRLS					
Player	G	FG	FT	TP	Avg.
Gold	4	41	9	91	22.8
Lowery	4	7	11	25	6.3
Childers	4	4	11	19	4.8
K. Plunk	4	3	4	10	2.5
Turner	4	1	1	3	.8
Tedder	4	0	3	3	.8
Reynolds	4	0	1	1	.3
Blanton	3	0	1	1	.3
Totals	4	56	41	153	38.3

BOYS					
Player	G	FG	FT	TP	Avg.
Adams	4	28	8	64	16.0
Mitchem	4	25	6	56	14.0
Burton	4	10	8	28	7.0
Spencer	4	9	5	23	5.8
Connor	4	9	4	22	5.5
Putnam	4	3	3	9	2.3
Smith	4	3	2	8	2.0
Laughter	4	3	1	7	1.8
Finger	4	1	5	7	1.8
Wilson	4	0	3	3	.8
Morgan	3	1	0	2	.7
Shank	3	1	0	2	.7
Totals	4	93	45	231	57.8

KMHS Boys' Teams Playing in York

The tallest player on this year's Dike freshman basketball team is 6-7. He's Bob Chase, a center from Port Jefferson, N. Y.

Duke varsity reserve forward Steve Vandenberg of Cresaptown, Md., led the freshman team in scoring in seven of 16 games last season.

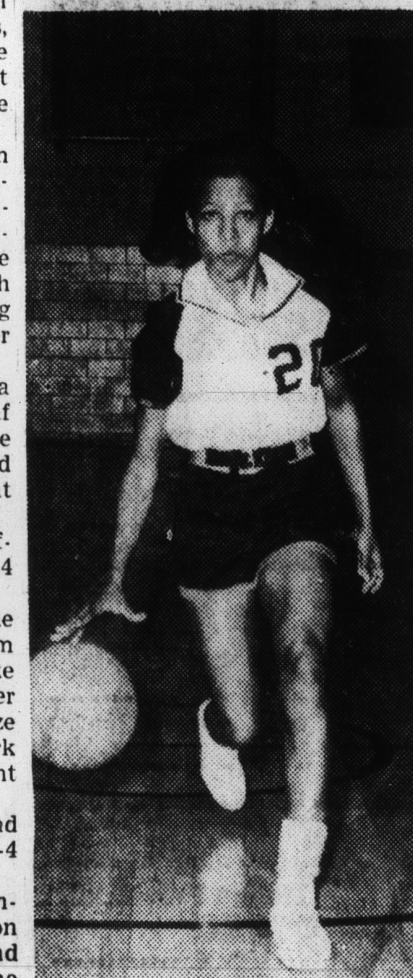
Duke Athletic Director Eddie Cameron was once an assistant coach at Washington & Lee where he was graduated as an economics instructor in the 1920s.

Bucky Allen holds the Duke single game record for the most free throws scored. He canned 20 against N. C. State in 1957.

Record for the best single game free throw average at Duke is held by baseball star Dick Groat, who hit 17 straight against Davidson during the 1951 season.

The two boys' teams, however host York on Jan. 3.

The results of Tuesday's York-KM doubleheader will appear in the Dec. 29th issue of the Herald as will the results of Tuesday's ladies bowling action which was also not complete at press-time.



STANDOUTS—Pictured above are Kings Mountain high school sophomores Ken Mitchem (top) and Linda Childers who played outstanding games Friday night against Bessemer City. Mitchem, second highest scorer on the boys' team, tallied 14 points in the Mountaineers' 53-29 win while Linda tallied nine markers to help the girls sweep to a 55-28 victory.

Cash Grocery, Meat Cutters, Tied For Lead

The Meat Cutters defeated Optimist-Timms 66-65 Thursday night to move into a tie for first place in the City Recreation Basketball League standings with Cash Grocery.

Cash Grocery defeated the All-Stars on opening night for its only win of the season. Until Thursday, Cash Grocery and Fulton's Dept Store were tied for the league lead, however, Fulton's lost an 82-62 decision to the All-Stars in Thursday's nightcap.

Cash Grocery was scheduled to meet Optimist-Timms in Tuesday night's opener while the Meat Cutters were to go against Lithium in the nightcap.

Mike Hughes, Robert Sims and Joe Cornwall scored 19, 15 and 13 respectively to lead the Meat Cutters' win over Optimist-Timms. Bob Haden had 15 and Vernon Carson and Jimmy Cloninger added 11 each for the losers.

The Meat Cutters led by eight, 39-27, at halftime. With Haden and Perry Champion hitting eight points each, Optimist-Timms came back strong during the second half but fell one point shy of victory.

Robert Owens and Roosevelt Adams tallied 26 and 21 respectively to lead the All-Stars to their first win in the nightcap. Jim Davis chipped in 13 points for the winners while Roy Whitaker and Tom Richie scored 14 and 12 respectively for Fulton's. The All-Stars led 44-33 at halftime.

STANDINGS			
Team	W	L	Pct.
Cash Grocery	1	0	1.000
Meat Cutters	1	0	1.000
All-Stars	1	1	.500
Fulton's	1	1	.500
Lithium	0	1	.000
Optimist-Timms	0	1	.000

Culbertson Wins Men's Keg Title

Culbertson Wins First Half Trophy

John Dilling and Richard Culbertson will be awarded trophies at the annual Men's Duckpin Bowling League Banquet as a result of outstanding performances during the first half of league play.

Dilling, who bowls with the Dilling Heating team, which finished sixth in the final first half standings, will be awarded the first half high line award as his 165 game was tops for the first 17 weeks.

Culbertson, captain of the Richard Culbertson team which defeated Ranny Blanton in a best-of-three series for the first half championship, will receive the high set trophy for his 426 he roled three weeks ago.

All five members of the Culbertson team will be given individual trophies. The same awards, plus team trophies, will be awarded for second half play.

Mullinax Leading Mixed Bowling Loop

Jenny Oates rolled a 140 line and Johnny Belk added a 337 set to lead the Bill Mullinax team to a 4-0 win over Ronnie Culbertson Thursday night. The win pushed the Mullinax team into first place in the loop standings.

All four members of the winning team posted 300-plus sets. John Dilling had a 122 line and Ronnie Culbertson added a 320 for the losers.

Lib Gault moved to third place after taking a 3-1 decision over Bob Herndon. Bill Gault led the winners in scoring with a 143 line and a 343 set while Lib added a 332 and Jim Everhart chipped in a 324. Bob Herndon had a 140 line and a 367 set for the losers.

Clyde Culbertson tallied on a 128 line and a 362 set to lead his team to a 3-1 win over Ranny Blanton. Blanton was high for the losers with a 128 line and a 352 set.

STANDINGS

Team	W	L	Pct.
Bill Mullinax	24	16	.600
Bob Herndon	23	17	.575
Lib Gault	20	20	.500
Ranny Blanton	18	22	.450
Clyde Culbertson	18	22	.450
Ronnie Culbertson	17	23	.425

Two Bulldogs All-Tournament

Webb College's victorious Bulldogs placed two men on the All-Holiday Tournament team here this weekend and also had their star guard, Lawrence (Sonny) Johnson, chosen as the "Most Valuable Player" in the tourney.

The Bulldogs eased by Brevton Parker of Mount Vernon, Ga., 79-71 to get into the finals and then pounded Cumberland College of Lebanon, Tenn., for the title in this first, and successful, holiday cage tourney. An estimated 2,000 area fans attended the two night events and chairman, Bill Elliott, stated that financially the program was a success.

Johnson, who scored 31 points in two games and sparked the G-W squad in both games, was named All-Tournament and also "Most Valuable". Rudy Reeves, a 6-2 Canton youth, poured in 19 points in the final half of the championship game for the Bulldogs and earned a berth on the All-Tournament squad. Reeves' two night total was 36.

Johnson is a 6-1 180 pound freshman guard from New York City, N. Y.

Others named All-Tournament were Jerry Venable of Ferrum College, third place winner, who scored 41 points in two games; Joe Lowery of Cumberland College with a 26 point total and Wally Walker of Brevton-Parker College who hit for 36 points.

The Bulldogs now are 10-0 for the season but have a rugged second half season facing them as they take on the frosh of Davidson, Furman and Wake Forest Colleges, as well as some of the powers in the Western Carolinas Conference.

A complete surprise to fans, this bunch of freshmen and 1965-66 bench warmers have upended all foes with some ease and are blazing away at a 85.6 points per game clip. Coach Eddie Holbrook had ventured a guess in pre-season talks that his team would be playing around 300 ball at Christmas.

Duke's best basketball season offensively was the 1964 campaign when the Blue Devils tallied 2,607 points in 31 games.

The best shooter in Duke history, according to shooting percentage, is Jay Buckley, who made good on 60 percent of his shots during the 1963 season.

Culbertson Wins Best-Of-Three Over R. Blanton

By GARY STEWART

Some clutch bowling by Richard Culbertson gave the Culbertson team a 2-1 win over Ranny Blanton Monday night at Mountain Lanes Bowling Center in a play-off battle for the first half championship of the men's duckpin bowling league.

After the Culbertson team had lost the first match, Richard scored a spare in the final frame of the second game and got five-out to give his team a five-pin win and square the series at 1-1.

In the final game, the Blanton team led by one pin as Blanton and Richard squared off in the 10th frame. Blanton, who had tallied a strike in the sixth, and spares in the seventh, eighth and ninth frames, got seven-out. Culbertson came along with a spare, and got two-out to win by three pins.

The first match saw the Blanton team, which led the league most of the first half, take a 552-538 win. All five members of the team posted 100-plus lines with Blanton's 140 leading the pack. Ranny Culbertson had a 135 line to top the Culbertson team scoring in that match.

Blanton's team led by 11, 315-304 after the first three bowlers from each team finished their matches. Ronnie Culbertson, bowling against Furman Wilson, spared in the 10th and got seven-out to beat his opponent by 28 pins and push his team ahead, 435-418.

Blanton went into the final frame with an 18-pin lead over Richard but Richard spared in the 10th and got five-out to give his team a five-pin edge.

K. E. (Red) Morrison pushed the Culbertson team into an early run-away through the first five frames of the third game, however, when he slacked off, it was nip and tuck the rest of the way.

Morrison, after getting 10-out in the first frame, got spares in the second, third, fourth and fifth boxes and had an 89 after six frames.

Culbertson's five led by 20, 324-304, after six frames of the final match. Then Blanton started to work. Ranny struck in the sixth, and got consecutive spares in the seventh, eighth and ninth. Blanton got three-out on his ninth frame spare and finished with a 133 game.

It was then all up to Richard Culbertson. Not bowling up to par, Richard had a 92 after nine frames. But he spared the 10th to push his team ahead by one. He then punched two-out but it didn't matter, as the final score read, 517-514.

Morrison finished the final match with a 132 line and Richard's 104 was good enough for second place on the winner's side. Furman Wilson had a 108 to finish runner-up to Blanton's 133.

The three-game roll-off brought to an end a 17-week first half of the 1966-67 edition of the men's league. The six teams will have a week off before beginning second half play on Monday, Jan. 2.

In the 1963 basketball campaign, Duke's Blue Devils made good on 51.1 percent of their shots, a season record.

The last Duke player to make first team All-America was Jeff Mullins during the 1964 season.

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