

Mounties Lead Conference After Beating Shelby



Herald Sports

By GARY STEWART

KM Tall—Understatement Of The Year

I'd like to pass on to you readers something I found in the Lincoln Times-News last week.

Headlines on the sports page read "Kings Mountain Wins Two."

The writer, Gary Abernathy, started the story by saying: "The Lincolnton Wolfpacks opened their conference season at home Friday and fell to a much larger Kings Mountain."

It went on to say that "both games were highlighted by a number of fouls. It seemed as though the Wolves were not able to take a deep breath without having a foul called on them."

Abernathy stated that Lincolnton's statistician Danny Ledbetter pointed out the fact that the Wolves and Kings Mountain had the same number of field goals (17) but Kings Mountain won by 14 points (52-38) on the strength of free throws alone.

He then went into the details of the girls game and then moved into the boys' contest. His description of the boys' game, looked to me like something he wanted the Lincolnton fans to believe rather than the exact facts.

It started: "To say that the Kings Mountain boys were taller than the Wolves would be the understatement of the year. One Mountie starter was six feet six, another was six feet five, and another was six feet four. The tallest Wolf is 6'2" Bill Cash. However, as easy as it would be to say that height is all they have, they had more than any foe seen so far. Still it is hard to believe that they could have defeated the Wolves had they been shorter."

You Ain't Seen Nothing, Yet

Ever heard the expression, "you ain't seen nothing, yet?" Or, "that ain't the half of it?"

The write-up went on to tell about the first, second and third quarters, all marred by fouls.

Then, the final period began: "In the fourth quarter the Mounties stretched their lead to 21 points. Then Paul Lawing was fouled by a Kings Mountain player and had to be helped off the court."

Now, that's what gets me.

For the first part, Lawing wasn't fouled by a Kings Mountain player because Lawing is the one who committed the foul. Persons present at the game know, but for you fans who weren't there, Lawing and KM's Ken Mitchem were both attempting to catch a high Lincolnton pass.

Lawing, jumped over Mitchem's back and hit the floor, and pretty hard at that. That's when he had to be helped from the court. Mitchem came to the KM charity line and sank the free throw.

Now, getting back to the understatement. If Kings Mountain has three giants starting for them, I'd like to see them. Senior forward Larry Burton is about 6'5", and George Adams is around 6'4", But Mitchem is no more than 6'1", if that tall.

And, Abernathy didn't mention the size of KM's two guards, 5'5" Nelson Connor and 5'8" Steve Spencer.

I could say that Abernathy's a poor loser, but I won't. Everybody should be a poor loser. But, I will say that he's making up some poor excuses.

He did give Kings Mountain a little plug. He said that the Mounties were tougher than any foe Lincolnton had faced. And, I'll give the Wolves a plug, when the two teams played, Lincolnton was the best that Kings Mountain had faced.

Kings Mountain's not the best team in the state, not by a long shot. The way I look at it, when you lose, that's yesterday. Start getting ready for the next game. If you have to make up excuses, throw off on your own team, not the one that beat you.

Abernathy's statement, "It seemed as though the Wolves were not able to breath without having a foul called on them" puts into the minds of his readers that the officials were calling fouls only on the Wolves. Kings Mountain's boys certainly didn't say, "Come on man, foul me", and the officials weren't calling any fouls that didn't occur. Several fouls weren't called, but that's normal. After all, it's pretty hard for two men to keep their eyes on 10 boys and call everything right.

And his statement, "Then Paul Lawing was fouled by a Kings Mountain player and had to be helped off the court" puts into the minds of his readers that the KM players were purposely trying to hurt Lincolnton players. On that particular play, though, it was Lawing doing the fouling.

No More Overtimes, Please

The 1967 basketball season is still young, but I've already had to sit through two overtimes while following Kings Mountain. There was one thing good about it, though. Both times, the outcome was in KM's favor.

The girls won a 34-24 victory over Lincolnton in an overtime in the first conference game of the season and then Coach Don Parker's Mountaineers beat R-S Central by three points in a triple-overtime Friday night.

It's rough having to sit through those kind, though.

You have to give both teams a lot of credit, and you also have to give a lot of credit to both coaches. Every boy on each team played hard throughout the contest.

You'll not see any two high school teams more evenly matched.

Jenny Oates Leads Mixed Bowling Win

Jenny Oates rolled a 377 set to lead the Bill Mullinax team to a 3-1 win over Lib Gault in mixed bowling league action Thursday night.

Jenny combined lines of 135, 102 and 140 for her total. Lib was high for her team with a 128 line and a 307 set.

Clyde Culbertson gained high scoring honors for the night with a 146 line and a 388 set but his team a 3-1 decision to Ronnie Culbertson. Gerald Hipps had a 348 set for the losers, Ronnie Culbertson had a 152 line and a

358 set for the winners, while Boyer Murray added a 138 line and a 346 set.

Bob Herndon moved into second place in the league standings, six games off the leading pace, winning four games off Ranny Blanton. Herndon had a 128 line and a 368 set for the winners while M. Bowen had a 108 line and a 298 set for the losers.

STANDINGS				
Team	W	L	Pct	
Bill Mullinax	37	23	.617	
Bob Herndon	31	29	.517	
Ronnie Culbertson	30	30	.500	
Clyde Culbertson	29	31	.483	
Ranny Blanton	27	33	.450	
Lib Gault	26	34	.433	

KM Beats Central In Triple-Overtime

BY GARY STEWART

Nelson Connor sank two straight foul shots with 42 seconds left in a third overtime period, then added two more with 22 seconds left to lift Kings Mountain's Mountaineers past R-S Central, 62-59, Friday night.

Connor's initial two overtime free throws brought the Mountaineers from a 59-58 deficit into a 60-59 lead and his final two iced the victory.

The Mountaineers and R-S Central both went into the game undefeated in Southwest Conference play, and both teams fought hard to the finish. In fact, R-S Central's six-point lead (12-6) at the end of the first period was the biggest lead either team enjoyed.

Until junior center George Adams fouled out the game with 13 seconds left in the second overtime, the contest had been mostly a battle between Adams and big center Joe Hill of Central, who leads the conference in scoring.

Both boys finished the game with 26 points, and both players were the backbones of their team's defensive unit.

R-S Central led the entire first half. Hill put the Hilltoppers ahead, 2-0, at the 7:04 mark and then a basket by Thomas Burnette with 6:15 remaining increased the lead to 4-0. Burnette, a Negro guard, tallied six points in the first quarter, keeping the Mountaineer defense stunned with an outstanding display of outside shooting.

Steve Spencer brought the ball downcourt for the Mounties and attempted to drive in for a lay-up but was fouled. Spencer went to the line for two shots and only four seconds showing on the

Kings Mountain tied the game for the first time with 1:32 left in the half when sophomore forward Ken Mitchem hit a free throw to make the score 20-all.

However, Burnette hit a basket with 54 seconds left to make it 22-20, before Mitchem connected on another charity toss to make it 22-21 with 40 seconds remaining. Burnette bucketed a 20-footer with a second left to give the Hilltoppers a 24-21 lead at halftime.

The Mountaineers took their first lead 25-24, with 6:30 left in the third quarter when Adams hit a field goal with 7:19 left. After Connor had bucketed a basket to cut Central's lead to one, 24-23.

Kings Mountain jumped to a three-point advantage 31-28, with 4:41 left when Adams added another two-pointer. The Mounties led by three, 37-34, heading into the fourth quarter.

Hill scored on a free throw to tie the game at 37-all with 6:51 left. The two teams then played neck and neck until the Hilltoppers opened up a four-point lead, 45-41, on a basket by Hill at the 2:56 mark. Kings Mountain fought from behind to tie the score at 45-all but Hill hit another basket with 10 seconds left to put the visitors ahead, 47-45.

Steve Spencer brought the ball downcourt for the Mounties and attempted to drive in for a lay-up but was fouled. Spencer went to the line for two shots and only four seconds showing on the

clock. He sank both shots and Central threw the ball in bounds and immediately called time out.

The Hilltopper throw-in from the North side of the court, went into the KM bleachers and the Mounties had a chance with two seconds left. The Mounties attempted to feed the ball to Adams, but the horn sounded before they could work it into him, and regulation play ended at 47-all.

Adams bucketed a field goal with 2:36 left in the first overtime to push KM into a 49-47 lead. Bill Luckadoo connected for a three-point play with 2:21 left to put the visitors ahead, 50-49. Warren Goforth added a free throw with 39 seconds left to make it 51-49.

Adams added another basket with 19 seconds remaining to tie it again, 51-51. Spencer drew his fifth foul with six seconds left, sending Burnette to the line for two shots. He missed both, Hill rebounded but missed a final shot, forcing a second overtime period.

Burnette hit a field goal at the 2:46 mark to push Central ahead 53-51 before Adams added two points with 2:30 left to knot the score at 53-all. Hill hit a free throw with 2:07 left to push Central back into the lead by one, but Connor came downcourt and scored to give KMHS a 55-54 lead with 1:54 left.

Hill made it 56-55 (Central) with a field goal at the 1:14 mark. With 13 seconds left, Adams drew his fifth foul and

Hill hit the charity toss to push the visitors ahead by two, 57-55. The Mountaineers drove downcourt, Mitchem shot, and missed, before Larry Burton tied the score at 57-all as the horn sounded, ending the second overtime.

With Spencer and Adams sitting on the bench with five personal fouls, it seemed doubtful that the Mounties could win the game, but the basket by Burton apparently stole the Hilltoppers' morale.

Burton hit a free throw with 1:42 left to put KM ahead 58-57 before Tommy Lane hit a field goal to push the Hilltoppers back ahead 59-58 with 52 seconds remaining.

Then Connor sank two free throws with 42 seconds remaining to put the Mounties back in to the lead, 60-59. The little senior guard then calmly sank two more with 22 seconds left to make it 62-59.

Hill attempted a field goal with 11 seconds left, and missed, but drew a foul from Morgan. He missed the free throw, though, and Mitchem snatched the rebound and held on to the ball until the horn sounded.

For the game, R-S Central hit on 40 percent of its field goals with 24 of 60 of their field goals with 24 of 60 and 48 percent of their field goals with 23 of 61. The Mounties hit on 38 percent of their field goals and 48 percent of their free throws.

Diane Daniel scored 20 points to lead the R-S Central girls to

a 33-25 win in the opener.

The Hilltoppers led the entire game, enjoying a 19-9 lead after the initial two periods.

The Mountaineettes stayed close during the first quarter, trailing by 7-5 after the first seven minutes.

For Kings Mountain, Sharon Gold, who saw spot action because of a knee injury, and Linda Childers scored eight points while Kathy Plonk added seven.

Kings Mountain fought to within two points, 24-22 with 5:50 left in the game when Plonk connected with a floor shot, but R-S Central then scored seven straight points to ice the win.

The Mountaineettes missed 17 of 22 free throws.

BOXSCORES
GIRLS' GAME
Kings Mountain (25)
F—Lowery 0
F—Reynolds 2
F—Childers 8
G—Plonk 7
G—Tedder 0
G—Roberts 0
Subs—Gold 8.

R-S Central (33)
F—Daniel 20
F—Merchant 6
F—Harrison 0
G—Lovelace 2
G—Price 1
G—Bowers 0
Subs—Turner 3, Melton 1.

BOYS GAME
Kings Mountain (62)
F—Mitchem 9
F—Burton 5
C—Adams 26
G—Connor 12
G—Spencer 10
R-S Central (59)
F—Davis 6
F—Luckadoo 5
C—Hill 26
G—Burnette 19
G—Lane 2
Subs Scoring: Goforth 1.

Halftime Score: R-S Central 24, Kings Mountain 21.
Regulation Score: R-S Central 47, Kings Mountain 47.

Little Mounties Defeat Shelby And R-S Central

Odus Cole sank two free throws with three seconds left Monday night to give Coach Bill Bates' junior varsity boys a 50-49 win over county rival Shelby.

The win left the Little Mountaineers with a 9-0 record heading into a match today (Thursday) at Belmont. The Little Mountaineers begin second round play Monday at Cherryville.

The Little Mountaineers, now in sole possession of first place in the Southwest Conference Junior Varsity race, defeated R-S Central 34-2 Friday afternoon.

Shelby led most of the way Monday night. The Lions led, 12-11 after the first quarter, 24-20 at halftime and 33-31 heading into the final period.

Cole was high scorer for the Little Mountaineers with 19 points, followed by guard Alan Hambricht with 11. Mull and McDowell had 19 and 14 respectively for Shelby.

In the game against R-S Central the Little Mountaineers built up a 16-1 halftime lead, then cruised to victory.

Every member of the KM team saw action. Cole and Hambricht led the Little Mountaineer scoring with eight and seven points respectively.

Coach Glenda O'Shields' girls lost to both R-S Central and Shelby. The girls do not play this week.

KM-Shelby Box Scores

GIRLS GAME
Kings Mountain (30)
F—Lowery 5
F—Childers 1
F—Gold 16
G—Plonk 7
G—Tedder 0
G—Roberts 0
Subs Scoring: Reynolds 1.
Shelby (41)
F—Green 17
F—Williams 5
F—Keeter 9
G—Christopher 4
G—Blanton 0
G—Dayberry 2
Subs Scoring: Poston 4.
Halftime Score: Shelby 20, Kings Mountain 19.

BOYS GAME
Kings Mountain (62)
F—Mitchem 13
F—Burton 26
C—Adams 6
G—Connor 9
G—Spencer 6
Shelby (58)
F—McNeely 15
F—B. Lutz 12
C—E. Lutz 12
G—McDaniel 17
G—Short 4
Subs Scoring: Mack 4, Homesley 1, Wright 2, Corn 2.
Halftime Score: Kings Mountain 32, Shelby 25.

Cash Grocery Takes Over Lead In Recreation

Cash Grocery leads the City Recreation Basketball League race by a half-game this week after winning a 77-49 victory over Fulton's Dept. Store Thursday night.

Cash Grocery went into Thursday's action tied for first place with the All-Stars. The All-Stars, however, lost to Optimist-Timms in Thursday's nightcap by a 66-55 margin.

Tommy Barrett scored 17 points, and Ken Cash, Terry Lavender and Lawrence Bolin

Adams Scores 26 In 62-58 Victory Over Lions

By GARY STEWART

Kings Mountain's Mountaineers took over sole possession of first place in the Southwest Conference basketball standings Tuesday night after winning a 62-58 decision over Shelby.

The Mountaineers built up a 12-point lead, 52-40, heading into the final period. However, in the fourth quarter, the Mountaineers committed 11 turnovers as the hosting Lions came to within four points.

Shelby scored six points in the final 10 seconds.

Kings Mountain's girls gave the Shelby lassies the scare of their lives in the opener, but fell for the third time in four conference outings, 41-30.

George Adams scored a game high of 26 points to lead the Mountaineer win. Besides being the game's high scorer, Big George hauled in 28 rebounds and blocked eight shots. Mike McDaniel was high for Shelby with 17 points.

With Shelby double-teaming Adams, the Mountaineers had to rely on the shooting of Ken Mitchem in the first quarter. Mitchem came through with six first period points, as the Mounties jumped to a 16-11 lead after the first eight minutes.

Kings Mountain led throughout most of the ballgame. Shelby took early leads of 2-0, 3-2, and 5-4, but after guard Nelson Connor bucketed a field goal with five minutes remaining in the first period to put the Mountaineers ahead, 6-5, it was all Kings Mountain.

The Mountaineers hit 53.9 percent of their field goal attempts during the first period with seven of 13. In the second quarter, the Mounties hit six of 12 to increase their lead to seven points, 32-25, at halftime.

Kings Mountain reached its biggest lead, 14 points, with 4:04 left in the third quarter when Mitchem hit two foul shots to make the score 46-32. The Mountaineers led by 12, 52-40, heading into the final stanza.

Shelby began using a full-court press in the fourth quarter and came to within four points, 52-48, with 4:09 left when Jim Corn bucketed two free throws.

The Mountaineers began to pull back into the lead, but on a field goal by McDaniel, the Lions came to within four again, 56-52. The Mounties then tallied six straight points to make the score 62-52, before Shelby stole the ball three straight times in the final 10 seconds to make the final count 62-58.

For the game, the Mountaineers hit on 43.9 percent of their field goal attempts with 25 of 57. The Lions hit on 24 of 69 attempts for a 34.8 percentage. The Mountaineers hit only 10 of 22 foul shots while the Lions made good on eight of 15.

Kings Mountain's girls stayed right with Shelby's undefeated Lady Lions for three periods but couldn't connect during the final seven minutes as lost by 11, 41-30.

Sharon Gold, still unable to move, scored 16 points to lead the Mountaineettes while Susie Green of Shelby gained high scoring honors for the game with 17.

Scoring was nip and tuck during the entire first half as the lead changed hands seven times. Kings Mountain's biggest lead was three points, 15-12.

Shelby led by two, 12-10 after the first quarter, but led by only one, 20-19, at halftime. The Mountaineettes hit a cold spell during the late stages of the third quarter and Shelby opened up a five point lead, 30-25 heading into the final period.

Shelby's strong rebounding was entirely too much for the KM lassies during the fourth period and the Lady Lions began to pull away. KM guard Libby Tedder sustained a knee injury during the first half and had to sit out the final two periods.

It was the fourth straight conference win for the Shelby girls and left their overall record at 9-1. Kings Mountain is now 1-3 in the conference and 4-6 overall.

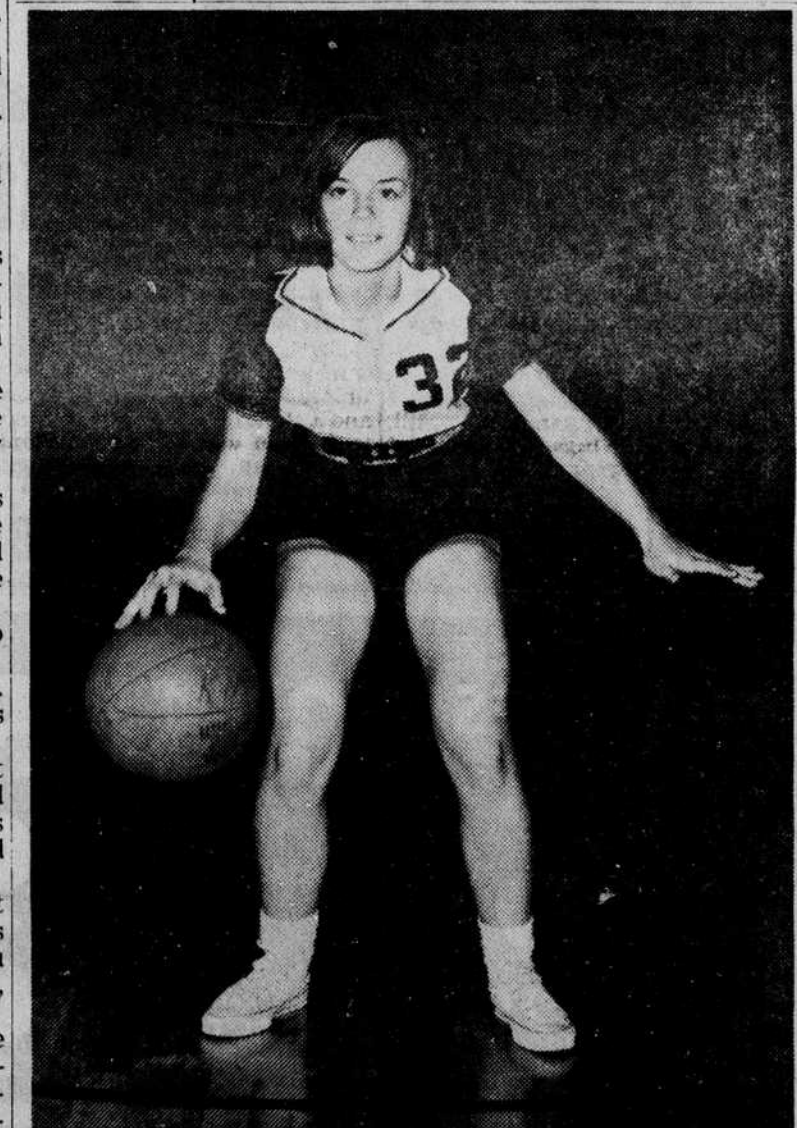
added 16, 13 and 10 respectively to lead Cash's win over Fulton's. Tom Richie scored 15 points for the losers.

Bob Haden and Richard Little scored 24 and 22 points respectively to lead Optimist-Timms' 66-55 win over the All-Stars. Bill Owens and Roosevelt Adams tallied 16 and 14 respectively for the losers.

The All-Stars placed five men in double figures in Tuesday's opener, and captured an easy 84-47 win over the Meat Cutters. Hood led the way for the All-Stars with 18, while Carl Burris had 20 for the losers. The All-Stars led at halftime, 31-25.

Fulton's, with Roy Whitaker leading the way with 25 points, scored an 87-56 win over Optimist-Timms in Thursday's nightcap by a 66-55 margin.

Tommy Barrett scored 17 points, and Ken Cash, Terry Lavender and Lawrence Bolin



MOUNTAINETTE STANDOUT — Pictured above is junior Kathy Plonk, who has been a defensive standout for the local girls' basketball team this season. Kathy will be in the starting lineup Friday night when the Mountaineettes seek to break a three-game losing streak against Belmont.

Red Heads Here February 10

That colorful, sensational, and very exciting ALL AMERICAN RED HEADS basketball team is slated to be Kings Mountain Feb. 10, at 7:30, in Kings Mountain high school gymnasium.

The RED HEADS, Queens of big time basketball and undisputed world champion women's basketball team will be appearing through the sponsorship of the Kings Mountain Lions Club.

The "RED HEADS", a truly great basketball attraction will meet all-star men's team. The game will be played by regulation men rules. Last season the RED HEADS played 197 games, all against men teams. The RED HEADS won 135 of these games.

The RED HEADS feature top girl basketball talent found anywhere and "Living it up on the court" has been their trade mark and "How Thmey Play the Game" has become their way of life.

The ALL AMERICAN RED HEADS "Magic at the Gate" makes this attraction great and as always the Red Heads are drawing them through turnstiles in tremendous numbers. Lion President Hal Plonk, said that his organization was most pleased at being able to get this much sought after attraction to appear in Kings Mountain.

Admission prices will be \$1.00 for students and \$1.50 for adults. Tickets are on sale at Kings Mountain Drug, Griffin Drug and Willie's Jewelry.

Blanton Leading Men's Loop By Six

Ranny Blanton stretched his men's bowling league lead to three games Monday night by taking a 3-1 decision over Plonk Oil Co.

Bill Gault was high scorer for the match with a 134 line and a 348 set Blanton added a 341 set for the winners while team captain Clarence Plonk was high for Plonk Oil with a 1244 line and a 338 set.

John Dilling rolled a 139 line and Bob Herndon added a 352 set as Dilling Heating defeated Albert Brackett three game to one. The win moved the Dilling Heating into a three-way tie for third place in the six-team standings.

Dilling finished the match with a 346 set. Tom Gamble's 122 line and Albert Brackett's 333 set were high marks for the losers.

Richard Culbertson gained high scoring honors for the night with a 155 line and a 364 set which led his team to a 2-2 split with Clyde Culbertson. All five members of Richard's team rolled 300 plus sets with Ronnie Culbertson finishing second with a 340.

Bill Westmoreland had a 130 line and a 352 set for Clyde's team while Boyer Murray added a 327.

STANDINGS				
Team	W	L	Pct	
Ranny Blanton	13	3	.813	
Richard Culbertson	10	6	.625	
Clyde Culbertson	7	9	.438	
Dilling Heating	7	9	.438	
Plonk Oil Co	7	9	.438	
Albert Brackett	4	12	.250	

Mounties Host Belmont Friday

Kings Mountain's Mountaineers will go after their 11th straight win at home Friday night against Belmont while Coach Bob Hussey's Mountaineettes will be trying to end a three-game losing streak.

The Mountaineers lead the Southwest Conference boys division with a perfect 4-0 record after winning a 62-58 decision over Shelby Tuesday night.

Kings Mountain's girls are 1-3 in conference play, heading into the match with the Raiderettes, who are 3-1. Belmont's girls swept a 22-16 victory over Lincolnton Tuesday night.

Belmont's boys are winless in conference play, having lost their fourth straight Tuesday at Lincolnton, 54-50. The Raiders are 3-7 overall.

Center Henry Robinson and guard Tommy Tate have been Belmont's two big scorers so far. They're joined in the starting lineup by Frank Elmore, Steve Wilhelm and Grier.

Nancy Lowdermilk and Clay Breeland have been the top scorers for the Belmont girls so far while Nancy Breeland has been a standout on defense.

The Kings Mountain boys will probably go with the same starting lineup. However, the girls' lineup will be changed since Libby Tedder, a junior guard, and senior forward Hilda Lowery were both injured Tuesday against Shelby.

Tedder sustained a knee injury during the first half, and had to sit out the entire second half. Lowery suffered an ankle injury. Coach Bob Hussey said Wednesday that neither girl would see action Friday night.

Hussey said that sophomore Nancy Reynolds will start Friday in Lowery's place, but said that he's not sure of a starter for Tedder. The remainder of the lineup will be Sharon Gold, Kathy Plonk, Linda Childers, and Joy Roberts.

Gold still leads the conference in scoring. To date, she has tallied 180 points and has an 18.0 scoring average. Her average has dropped 4.2 points since her knee injury three weeks ago.