

Kings Mtn. Sports Fete Set For Saturday Night

The Third Annual Kings Mountain Sports Banquet will be held this Saturday night at the Kings Mountain American Legion Building beginning at 7 p.m.

A guest sports personality is to be secured for the event, but as of press time, confirmation could not be reached on the speaker. Planners for the banquet say that the speaker will be one whom all in attendance will enjoy.

The events will begin at 7 p.m. with dinner being served to all in attendance. After the meal, the guest speaker will make a speech to the gathering. After his speech, the teams which participated in the summer sports program will be introduced and trophies will be presented to the champions in each league.

Mayor John Henry Moss, who will be in attendance at the Banquet, feels that this will be one of the best the city has had.

"This is a good thing for the young people who have taken part in the program this year. We are glad to recognize them," said Moss.

The Mayor was speaking of such people as Roy Pearson who gave much of his time so that boys would have a program such as the one afforded them to enjoy their summer hours.

He was also speaking of the numerous coaches who helped in the sports program in all leagues—from the little league to the softball league.

And last but not least, he was speaking of the participants in the leagues. The boys who represented the fine city of Kings Mountain in each league they participated in.

This is a banquet which should be made big. It should reward those who have represented Kings Mountain well this year.

A large crowd is expected for the event. All players and coaches who participated in the summer recreation program are invited to attend. Any parents who wish to attend the event will be charged \$1.75.



KMHS Assistant Coach Bill Cashion (with cap and glasses) is shown above getting quite involved in pre-season drills held last week. Ronnie Burton is shown plowing into Steve Lovelace as Coach Cashion is showing them the correct way to execute the shoulder first football maneuver. Behind Cashion is Larry Rayfield (left) and Wendell Bunch (right).

KM Plonk Oil Softball Team Eliminated In State Tourney

BURLINGTON — The Plonk Oil Softball team of Kings Mountain were eliminated from the N. C. State Softball tournament in Burlington last week. But, the local squad certainly has nothing to be ashamed of.

Kings Mountain won their first encounter in Burlington by a score of 8-3 over Spring Mills. But, when they went back to do battle, the roof caved in.

The Mounties lost two contests by the score of 6-5. The first loss came at the hands of Edgewood Baptist Church. Dean Smith hurled for the locals, but, according to Kings Mountain players, the umpiring is what beat them.

It happened that Kings Mountain had two runs to score in this game which were called back by the umpire. These two

runs would have won the game. Dean Smith pitched for Kings Mountain in both games. The local softballers picked up 18 hits in the first game which was good for only five runs.

Likewise, in the second game, the Plonk Oil team connected for 17 safeties. This produced only five runs however and a loss to Hardin Oil Company.



STEVE SPENCER ... looking good



DAVID ADAMS

Adams Asked To S. E. Tourney

David Adams, a resident of Kings Mountain, has been asked to referee and give demonstrations in the 1967 Southeastern Karate Team Championships to be held in Greenville, S. C., on Sept. 9.

Adams, who operates the Adams School of Karate on Highway 74 in Kings Mountain, is a First Degree Black Belt and one of the most respected karatekas in this area.

The invitation for Adams to take part in the tournament came from Billy Hong, a Korean who is staging the tournament. Hong is a Fourth Degree Black Belt and Honorary Fifth Degree. He is considered one of the masters.

Adams explained that the team tournament would consist of teams made up of one Black Belt and two Brown Belts. But, due to the youth of Adams' school, there are none which have yet reached the Brown Belt category. Therefore, he will be an honorary guest and referee. He will also give special demonstrations in board breaking.

This tournament is the first Korean military combat style championship to be held in the United States. Only the best three man team from each karate school in the U. S. will participate.

The tournament will be held on Saturday, Sept. 9 at 8 p.m. in the Greenville Memorial Auditorium. Tickets or application forms may be secured from David Adams in Kings Mountain or by writing Billy Hong, 135 East Ave., Greenville, S. C.

KM Invitational Softball Tourney Hampered By Inclement Weather

The Kings Mountain Invitational Softball Tournament has been hampered by inclement weather for the second time this season.

The tournament was scheduled earlier in the summer but had to be postponed due to rain. It was rescheduled for this week and it looks as if the rain may wash away most of the games.

Thus far seven games have been played and the remainder will be played later this week if weather permits.

Two teams are undefeated in the tournament so far. The Kings Mountain All-Star squad and the Teamsters Local No. 71 from Charlotte haven't dropped a contest yet.

Kings Mountain has won two games. They defeated Clover 7-4 behind the pitching of Dean Smith and hitting of Gerald Hipps and Gene Stone. Both Hipps and Stone picked up three hits in three times at bat.

The Mounties slaughtered Shamrock 22-8 with Dean Smith

ment in baseball.

This came about through his own efforts. With help, he could continue and build it even more. Without any help, the program may lie dormant for years until someone with Roy Pearson's integrity and desire comes around again to revive it.

Two Weeks To Go And Plenty Of Work To Be Done --- Bates

Slowly But Surely



Above is a picture which may become familiar to Kings Mountain football fans in the months to come. Wayne Mullinax, who is one of the candidates for quarterback on the KMHS football squad is shown handing off the ball to Clark Mauney in pre-season drills last week.

Mountaineers Open 1967 Football Season At Thomasville, Sept. 8

"My biggest worry for the coming football season is a lack of depth," said KMHS head coach, Bill Bates Tuesday.

The opening of the 1967 gridiron season is a little over two weeks away and Coach Bates feels his squad will be ready for the opening kickoff against Thomasville on Sept. 8.

"We are progressing slowly," said Bates. "But, that's what we want to do. We have an extra week due to the new conditioning rule and that gives us plenty of time to get ready."

Coach Bates feels his squad will be ready to defend themselves against any foe when the time comes. But, his big worry is the consequences a couple of injuries might bring to bear on his team.

"With our starting team, I think we will be o.k. But, if we lose a couple of first string men, we could be in serious trouble," said Bates.

The Mountaineer squad is still a relatively young one. But, most of the players have had experience as attested by the 14 returning lettermen.

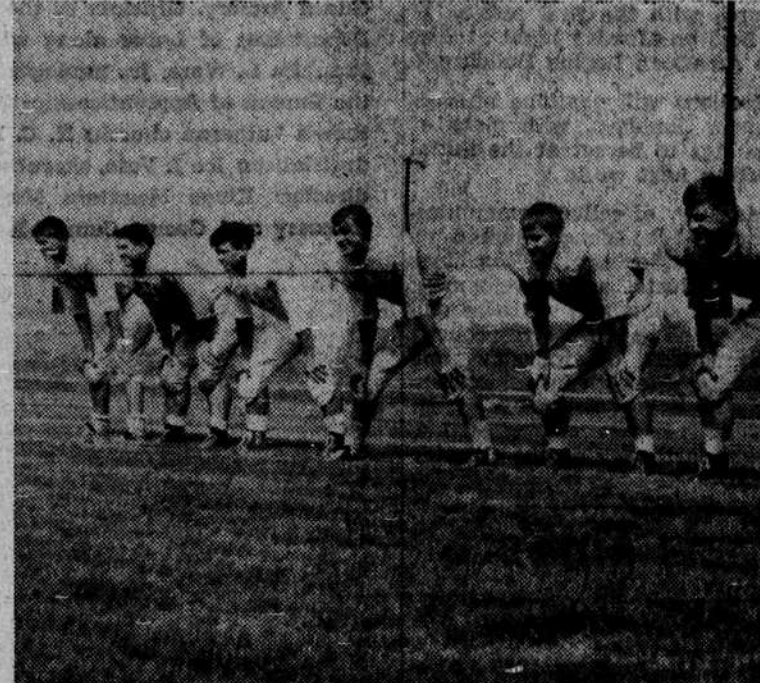
Thus far in pre-season practice, Bates is impressed with Stanley Brown and Clarence Green, both lettermen from last year's squad. "In fact, tackle is our strong point. The entire interior line is looking good thus far," said Bates.

Bates is expecting to have a good defensive unit if he can come up with two good defensive ends. Ross Springer, Clarence Ashe, Rink Springer and Stan Laughter are all trying out for that position now. "But, if we find someone else who can do the job, we won't hesitate to use him at defensive end," Bates added.

Bates has a strong backfield going at this time, but is quick to reiterate that an injury could do damage to the local squad.

Steve Spencer has been looking good at the halfback position in practice thus far, according to Bates. Also in the backfield, Bates has Bert Smith, Wayne Mullinax, Dennis Smith, Chuck Easley and Joe Cornwell who have looked good in practice thus far.

The quarterback position is a toss-up between Chuck Easley and Wayne Mullinax at this time.



Pictured above is the KMHS front line which is practicing as the first unit team now. From left to right, they are: Rick Finger, Stanley Brown, J. C. Wright, Joe Dover, Paul Gaffney, Charles Greene, and Ross Springer.

THE REST OF THE SWC

"I'm looking for a real interesting year in the SWC," said Coach Bates thoughtfully. "I feel the whole conference should be fairly well balanced. It should be one of the best races in quite a while."

Bates is looking for strong opposition from Chase, Shelby and Lincolnton. Cherrysville is supposed to have a much improved squad this season.

East Rutherford and R-S Central kick the season off early. They will play each other Friday night, Aug. 25 at R-S Central. "The outcome of this game should tell us quite a bit about these two clubs," said Bates.

The entire 1967 Southwest Conference schedule (as follows):

- SOUTHWESTERN CONFERENCE**
- *Denotes Non-Conference Games
 - All games start at 8:00 P. M.
 - AUGUST 25**
 - East Rutherford at Rutherford-ton*
 - SEPTEMBER 1**
 - Chase at Salem*
 - Crest at Cherrysville*
 - Morganton at East Rutherford*
 - Rutherfordton at Marion*
 - SEPTEMBER 8**
 - Chase at Rutherfordton
 - Dallas at Cherrysville*
 - Kings Mountain at Thomasville*
 - Lincolnton at Independence*
 - Hunter Huss at Shelby*
 - Burns at Belmont*
 - East Rutherford at Pickens, S.C.*
 - SEPTEMBER 15**
 - Lincolnton at Belmont
 - Kings Mountain at Cherrysville
 - East Rutherford at Rutherfordton
 - Chase at Dallas*
 - West Mecklenburg at Shelby*
 - SEPTEMBER 22**
 - Belmont at Rutherfordton
 - Kings Mountain at Chase
 - Cherrysville at East Rutherford
 - Shelby at Lincolnton
 - SEPTEMBER 29**
 - Cherrysville at Belmont
 - East Rutherford at Kings Mtn.
 - Rutherfordton at Shelby
 - Newton at Lincolnton*
 - OCTOBER 6**
 - Belmont at Chase
 - Lincolnton at East Rutherford
 - Bessemer City at Kings Mtn.*
 - Lenoir at Shelby*
 - OCTOBER 13**
 - Shelby at Cherrysville
 - Rutherfordton at Lincolnton
 - Belmont at Crest*
 - Lowell at Chase*
 - Concord at Kings Mountain*
 - OCTOBER 20**
 - East Rutherford at Belmont
 - Lincolnton at Chase
 - Rutherfordton at Cherrysville
 - Shelby at Kings Mountain
 - OCTOBER 27**
 - Shelby at Belmont
 - Chase at East Rutherford
 - Cherrysville at Lincolnton
 - Kings Mountain at Rutherfordton
 - NOVEMBER 3**
 - Belmont at Kings Mountain
 - Chase at Shelby
 - Cherrysville at Mt. Holly*
 - Rutherfordton at Dallas*
 - Boydton at Lincolnton*
 - NOVEMBER 10**
 - Cherrysville at Chase
 - Shelby at East Rutherford
 - Lincolnton at Kings Mountain
 - Dallas at Belmont*

Plenty Of Big Races Remain

CHARLOTTE, N. C. — Prior to 1960 the running of the famed Southern 500 at Darlington, S. C.'s historic speedway marked the final major race of the NASCAR grand national season. Now the race, known as the grand daddy of stock car racing, marks the beginning of a series of big money, long distance races during the final two months of the NASCAR year.

Starting with the historic 500 miler on Labor Day there are now a series of major events, including three 500-milers, before the 1967 season takes its final checkered flag at the end of October.

Included in the races are the Darlington 500 miler worth \$100,445 in posted awards, the \$100,800 National 500 miler race at Charlotte Motor Speedway on October 15 and the third annual American 500 miler at North Carolina Motor Speedway near Rockingham two weeks after the Charlotte event. Both the National 500 at Charlotte and the America 500 at Rockingham carry the full F.I.A. international sanction which permits the Indianapolis drivers to compete against the NASCAR stars.

In the nine races on the schedule from Darlington through Rockingham there will be 2,550 miles of racing with over a third of a million dollars in posted awards at stake. The largest amount of prize money has been posted for the National 500.

Beside the three 500 mile races, there are also a pair of 250 mile events—the Old Dominion 500 at Martinsville, Va., on Sept. 24 and the Wilkes 400 set Oct. 1 at North Wilkesboro's Speedway in North Carolina. The 500 and 400 in the race names refer to the number of laps in each event.

The final two months of the NASCAR season also list a trio of 150 mile contests for the touring grand national professionals. The Capital City 300 is slated at Richmond, Va., on Sept. 10 followed on Sept. 15 at Beltsville, Md., with another 300 lapper at that half mile oval. The final 150 mile race of the 1967 season is set for Orange Speedway at Hillsborough, N. C. on Sept. 17. Of the three events the Richmond race is the richest with \$13,775 at stake of the competitors. Richmond and Hillsborough will be the final events of the season on dirt tracks.

Even though the season is moving into its final 60 days there is still a lot of racing left for fans of the high speed sport. There is also over \$358,000 in posted awards yet to be won. The combination of these two ingredients spells a rousing finish to the grand national season of 1967.

KM Invitational Softball Tourney Hampered By Inclement Weather

The Kings Mountain Invitational Softball Tournament has been hampered by inclement weather for the second time this season.

The tournament was scheduled earlier in the summer but had to be postponed due to rain. It was rescheduled for this week and it looks as if the rain may wash away most of the games.

Thus far seven games have been played and the remainder will be played later this week if weather permits.

Two teams are undefeated in the tournament so far. The Kings Mountain All-Star squad and the Teamsters Local No. 71 from Charlotte haven't dropped a contest yet.

Kings Mountain has won two games. They defeated Clover 7-4 behind the pitching of Dean Smith and hitting of Gerald Hipps and Gene Stone. Both Hipps and Stone picked up three hits in three times at bat.

The Mounties slaughtered Shamrock 22-8 with Dean Smith

KM Golf Tourney Begins Sept. 2

The Kings Mountain Country Club Golf Championships will begin Sept. 2 at the Country Club Course.

All persons who are interested in playing in the tournament must play 36 holes in order to qualify before Aug. 31. The first round of the tournament, to be held Sept. 2-9, will determine which flight each player will be placed in.

After the qualifying rounds, the low 16 golfers will form the championship and first flight. The next 16 will form the second and third flight and so on.

One week will be allotted for each match. No player will be eliminated in the first match, but eliminations will begin in the second week of play.

The finals will be held on Oct. 7 with trophies being awarded to the winners and runners up in each flight. The tourney champion will be awarded the Presidents Cup.

All matches except the finals will be 18 hole affairs over the 9 hole-18 tee course. The championship match will be decided on 36 holes.

About That Name Blue Devil

The name for the Duke athletic teams was derived from the French Blue Devils, a crack Alpine corps which wore a striking blue uniform with a blue beret.

The adoption of the name for Duke athletic teams goes back to the early 1920's when there were a lot of war veterans at Trinity, particularly among upper classmen. Many, therefore, either through actual contacts in France or from reading and hearing about it, knew that a Blue Devil was a French soldier or a highly specialized outfit.

Herald Sports

By DALE GIBSON
Herald Sports Editor

Dark Cloud Over K. C.

A few weeks ago, I stuck my neck out in this column and defended the owner of the Kansas City Athletics, Charles O. Finley, in his proposed move out of Kansas City.

Well, I'm only human. But, that's not what bothers me. It is hard to remember when such incident as the one involving the Kansas City A's and their owner, Mr. Finley, has occurred before. It is bad for baseball and it's bad for the Athletics.

First of all, Mr. Finley stepped out of line when he personally fined one of his pitchers, Lew Krausse, for "shenanigans" on an airplane flight. This should be the manager's job. Alvin Dark was on the plane and defended Krausse.

After the incident, Dark made the following statement about Krausse's firing: "I disagreed with Mr. Finley about the Krausse fine. This was a case of singling out one ball player and making him look bad. It was also a reflection of the entire team. I realize that Krausse later said Mr. Finley was justified in taking the action he did, but I believe circumstances forced Krausse to do this."

"Circumstances" could not keep the A's cleanup hitter quiet, however. Ken Harrelson spoke up when he heard that the A's likable manager Alvin Dark had been fired. He called Dark "the finest man I ever played for." About Finley, Harrelson was quoted as saying, "He made a big mistake. He's a menace to baseball." This statement put Mr. Harrelson on the chopping block and he is now looking for a job.

Alvin Dark's firing did not shock the baseball world nearly as much as Harrelson's "unconditional release." But, why was Dark fired? It is very seldom that a baseball owner or general manager chooses between giving his manager a two year contract or firing him. This was Finley's position.

As attested by the fact that Finley was considering giving Dark a new contract, he respected him as a man knowledgeable in the game of baseball—even Charles Finley, one of the most tactless men in the game recognized this fact.

So, the only answer possible to Dark's firing is that he wasn't a "yes man" when Mr. Finley wanted a yes from him. Dark stuck up for his team after they had issued a statement which Dark termed "the most courageous thing I have ever seen."

When the players would not retract the statement and when Dark would not defend Mr. Finley, the axe fell. The repercussions of this incident will be far reaching and won't be fully known for some time now.

As for Mr. Dark, he shouldn't have any trouble finding a new job. The Atlanta Braves badly need a manager who knows more about the game than Billy Hitchcock. Alvin Dark is one of the most respected managers in the game and certainly deserves this recognition.

Ken Harrelson shouldn't have any trouble finding another American League team to play for. The White Sox, Red Sox, Angels, Twins and Tigers are fighting it out for the pennant in the Junior Circuit now. Any of these teams would like to have Ken Harrelson for the stretch.

But, the big problem lies in Kansas City. This team, young and impressionable, will have trouble recovering from the blow their illustrious owner struck them. They have always been an underdog, but under Dark's leadership were beginning to improve and look for the day when they would be in the pennant fight.

It seems that the best answer to the whole problem would be if somehow, Mr. Charles O. Finley could get his "unconditional release" from baseball.

A Plea To Citizens

When some people leave their position in the sports world, it is praised and many people are glad to see them go. But, when some others leave, it is a sad happening.

Therefore, it is with sadness that I ponder a statement made to me earlier in the summer by Mr. Roy Pearson, who coordinates the baseball and softball programs at the City Park. "I doubt that I'll do this job next year," said Mr. Pearson. "It's just too much work for one man. I need more help."

Mr. Pearson worked many hard and long hours this summer for little personal gain. His main objective was trying to find a place for boys to spend their energies and have a good time doing it in a pleasant environment.

He has had little help in doing this job and deserves more help in the future if he is to be expected to carry on. So, here is a plea to the good citizens of Kings Mountain to rally around Mr. Pearson and give him the help he deserves. His loss to the Athletic Program in the city would almost certainly mean the loss of a good sound program.

If Mr. Pearson could get some help, he could make the Kings Mountain recreation program into one of the best in the state. He has already brought it up to a position which qualified it for various district and one state tourna-