



RETURNING STARTER — Infielder Mike Smith returns for his fourth year as a starter for the KMHS baseball team. Smith hit .240 as a freshman, .317 as a sophomore and .300 last year in helping lead the Mountaineers to winning records. He'll be a prime candidate for All-Conference honors this season.

Baseballers Open At Dallas--Maybe

Kings Mountain's baseball team is scheduled to open 1969 play Tuesday afternoon in Dallas but, as of right now, opening date is a question mark.

It all depends on how far the current Mountaineer baseball team advances in the post-season playoffs.

Should the Mountaineers reach the bi-conference playoffs, slated for Tuesday and Wednesday at Avery County, then Tuesday's opener will be cancelled.

Should the Mountaineers gain a berth in the association finals, slated for next Friday night at Lenoir Rhyne College, the return bout with Dallas here on Friday March 13 will be cancelled.

"Right now, the weather isn't decent enough to play baseball anyway," said Coach Bob Hussey, "so we'll just have to wait and see. Baseball practice hasn't even started yet, except for the pitchers and catchers working out inside."

The Mountaineers have four starters returning from last year's team which tied Lincolnton and Cherryville for the divisional title. However, this year, the conference is not split.

Returning are southpaw pitcher Rocky Goforth, catcher Clarence Ashe and infielder Mike Smith, all seniors, and infielder Jack Bell, a junior. Hussey said outfielders Wayne Mullinax, last year's leading hitter, and Charles Barnes, a current member of the basketball team, have not indicated as to whether or not they'll play.

Lost from last year's club is pitching ace Darrell Whetstone, All-Conference catcher Paul Gaffney, infielders Rick Finger and Gene Putnam and outfielder Charles Jones.

Gaffney hit .355 and was the team's most valuable player last season. Mullinax led the Southwestern Conference with a .375 batting mark and joined Gaffney on the All-Cleveland County team.

If the Mountaineers lose out in the conference basketball tournament, the baseball opener Tuesday will go on as scheduled, with Goforth the likely pitching choice against strong righthander Dale Bates of Dallas.

Bates hurled for the Gastonia Teeners in 1965 when Kings Mountain went to the national finals. So he won't be a stranger to Mountaineers like Goforth, Smith, Bell and Ashe who batted against him in the state tournament in Greenville, N. C.

Tuesday's game, if it's played, will get underway at 4 p.m. at the Dallas Prison Camp field. If next Friday's game is played, it will be at City Stadium here, at 4 p.m.

Outside the returning starters from last year's team, Coach Hussey said he knows nothing about the material on this year's squad, but it's expected to be lean as the Mountaineers won the Southwestern Conference championship year before last and tied for the divisional title last season.

Hussey said Ken Mitchem, a senior who recently made All-Conference for the Mountaineer basketball squad, will probably be out for the baseball team, as a first baseman.

The Mountaineers are scheduled to open conference play at home on March 18 against defending champion Rutherfordton-Spindola. Shelby comes in on March 21 and the Mountaineers play their first league game on the road March 25 at Burns.

Kings Mountain is the only team in the conference with night games scheduled. Under the lights, the Mounties host Burns on April 25, Belmont on April 29, Crest on May 9 and Cherryville on May 13.

The Mountaineers finish up regular season play on May 16 at Chase.

Only the Conference champion will gain a berth in post-season playoffs.

Mountaineers Blast Chargers, Play Shelby

KM Possibly Will Play For Title Tonight

Kings Mountain's Mountaineers were playing Shelby in the semi-finals of the Southwest 3-A Conference basketball tournament last night and no score was available at press time.

If the Mountaineers defeated the Golden Lions, they'll play the winner of Tuesday night's Burns-Cherryville game for the tournament championship tonight at 8:30 in the Crest High Gym.

A victory tonight would send the Mountaineers to Newland Tuesday night for the bi-conference playoffs. The Mounties would then have to win two games there (on Tuesday and Wednesday) to get another crack at the Western North Carolina High Schools Activities Association championship.

Should the Mountaineers go up against Burns tonight, they'd have to win in order to gain a berth in the bi-conference playoffs, scheduled for the Avery County gym.

However, should the Mounties go up against Cherryville, they would go to the bi-conference event regardless of how they come out.

The Mountaineers advanced Monday night by defeated host Crest 68-42 behind the hot-shooting Otis Cole, who hit on 12 of 16 shots from the floor and scored a tournament-high 28 points. Shelby advanced by bouncing Lincolnton's Wolves 63-31 Monday afternoon.

The Mountaineers are eager for another crack at Cherryville's league champions. In regular season play, the Ironmen turned back the Mountaineers 69-62 and 35-58.

Those two teams completely dominated the All-Conference selections, each team being represented by three players.

Curtis, Shelton Resign As Coaches

Two Southwestern Conference football coaches have resigned to take higher positions.

Steve Curtis, former Shelby High griddier who turned out back-to-back conference championships at East Rutherford in 1965 and '66, has resigned as head coach of the Cavaliers to become an assistant at the University of North Carolina.

Ray Shelton has resigned as head coach and athletic director of Belmont High School to take a job with the Gaston County school system.

The football coaching jobs at both schools is still vacant.

Gilmore, Adams Lead Bulldogs To Championship

BOILING SPRINGS, N. C. — The Gardner-Webb College Bulldogs, after winning their third consecutive Western Carolinas Conference Tournament, are preparing to go to their fifth Region 10 Tournament. The region tournament is played at the recreation center in Lenoir, N. C., with the winner representing the region in the National tournament at Hutchinson, Kan. Gardner-Webb is the defending champion in the region.

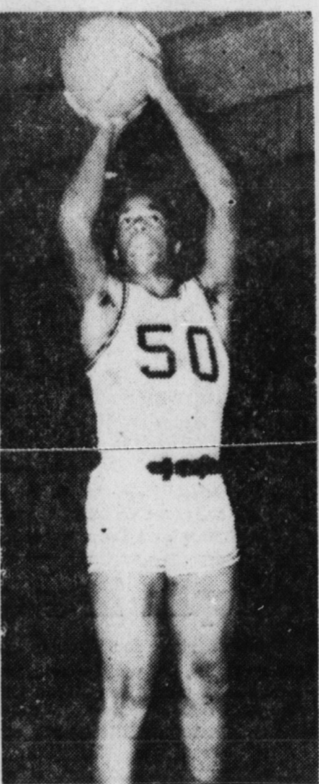
The Bulldogs were impressive in their conference tournament wins beating Lees-McRae in a slowed down game 52-35, and rolling over second place Spartanburg 100-75 in the finals. Artis Gilmore collected his second straight Most Valuable Player award for his play in the tournament. Gilmore scored 48 points and pulled down 36 rebounds in the two tournament games while intimidating the opponents on defense. George Adams received All Tournament honors, along with Gilmore, for his play in the tournament. The Bulldogs received outstanding efforts from other players who weren't named to the All Tournament team. Tony Spagnola was tenacious on defense in both games causing numerous turnovers. Steve Kebeck, Ernie Fleming, Kevin Cantwell, and Alan Land turned in fine performances in the Bulldogs' victories.

Gardner-Webb will carry a 101 point scoring average in the region tournament to face such opponents as Ferrum, Va., Louisburg College, Isothermal College, Spartanburg College, and Kittrell College for the region championship. Isothermal of Rutherford County is the Community College entry, Kittrell of near Raleigh is the at-large team, Louisburg and Ferrum are from the Virginia-Carolina Conference. Gardner-Webb and Spartanburg represent the Western Carolinas Conference to round out the six teams in the region tournament.

In their last year as a junior college Gardner-Webb will be trying to return to the national finals in Hutchinson, Kan. and a chance at the national crown.



ALL-CONFERENCE — The four Kings Mountain High cagers pictured above have been voted to the All-Southwestern Conference basketball teams for the 1968-69 season. Left to right are Linda



Childers, high scorer for the Mountaineettes, Otis Cole, Ken Mitchem and Charles "Bad News" Barnes, who rank 1-2-3 in scoring for the Mountaineers. Cole and Barnes will return next season.

Four KM Cagers On All-Conference

Kings Mountain High School placed four players on the 1968-69 All-Conference basketball teams.

The Mountaineers, who finished second in the Southwestern Conference with a 16-4 regular season record, landed senior Ken Mitchem and juniors Otis Cole and Charles Barnes.

The Mountaineettes, who finished sixth in the girls division with a 8-11 regular season mark, were represented by their scoring leader, senior Linda Childers.

Conference champion Cherryville placed three players on the boys All-Conference team, seniors Roger Beck, Al Graves and Melvin Littlejohn.

For Cole and Mitchem, it was their second time for making All-Conference. Mitchem made it as

a sophomore but failed to repeat last season.

Cole topped the Mountaineers in scoring during regular season play with 412 points and a 20.6 average. Mitchem finished second with 319 points and a 15.9 scoring average and Barnes was third with 306 points and a 15.3 figure.

Cole was All-Conference last season when he helped lead the Mountaineers to a 25-1 record and the Northwest-Southwest Conference championship. The Mounties advanced to the finals of the association playoffs before being eliminated by Kannapolis, 63-58.

Being billed as probably the second best player in KMHS history, Cole is being scouted by several college teams. In fact, he has already visited at least one college campus.

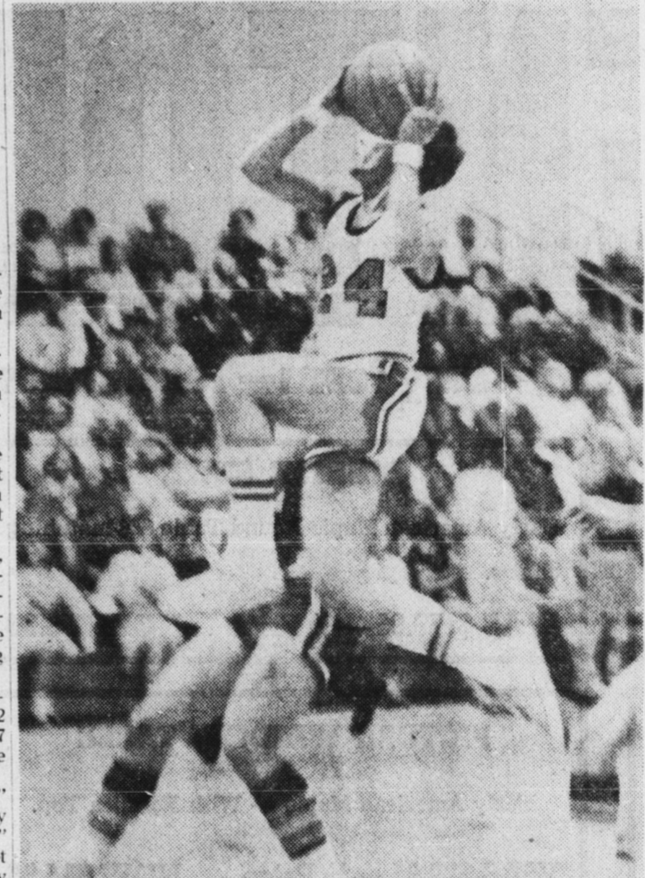
Mitchem is a four-year starter at KMHS. In that span, he has been on only one losing team, that his freshman season when the Mounties finished 5-15.

Barnes is in his first year as a varsity starter.

Childers, also, is a four-year starter at KMHS. In regular season play this year, she tallied 259 points in 19 games for a 13.6 scoring average, fourth best in the conference.

The complete All-Conference rosters follow:

GIRLS TEAM		
POS.	PLAYER	SCHOOL
F	Patricia Hopper	Burns
F	Gail Newton	Burns
F	Paulette Smith	Linc.
F	Kaye Merchant	RSC
F	Patricia Logan	Burns
F	Cathy Washburn	Crest
F	Pam Eaker	Cherryville
F	LINDA CHILDERS	KMHS
RG	Lynn Bridges	Crest
RG	Linda Harrill	East
F	Kathy Ware	Crest
F	Jane Davis	East
F	Faylene Barger	Cherryville
G	Joan Davis	RSC
BOYS TEAM		
F	OTIS COLE	KMHS
F	KEN MITCHEM	KMHS
F	Roger Beck	Cherryville
F	David Thompson	Crest
C	Al Graves	Cherryville
C	Stacy Lail	RSC
G	Jerry Mull	Shelby
C	CHARLES BARNES	KMHS
G	Melvin Littlejohn	Cherryville
G	Robert Michelove	East
G	Herbert Finger	Linc.



HAMBRIGHT SAILS — Kings Mountain's Alan Hambright goes in for two of 13 points in Monday night's tournament victory over Crest. The senior guard helped lead the Mounties into the semi-finals with a 68-42 victory. (Photo by I. G. Alexander).

Wilson Heads Legion Program

Carl Wilson has been re-appointed as athletic officer for the Otis D. Greene Post 155 American Legion baseball team.

The announcement was made at a legion meeting Monday night.

Wilson said he intends to get the program rolling the first week in April.

"Right now, we're in the process of appointing the committee," said Wilson. "And we have two coaches in mind but nothing is definite at this time."

Wilson served as athletic officer of the local post from 1962 through '66, but resigned in '67 because of personal matters. He rejoined the team last summer.

"We should have a good team," said Wilson, "and we're very anxious for summer to get here."

Among returnees from last year's team are pitchers Rocky Goforth and Darrell Whetstone, infielders Ken Mitchem, Gary McNair, Mike Smith and Wayne Mullinax, outfielder Gene Putnam and catcher Clarence Ashe.

"We're high on several of these players," said Wilson, "and all of them are fine young men and a pleasure to work with."

Wilson said season tickets for all home games will go on sale April 1.

Plonk Oil Ends Regular Season With 13-0 Mark

Regular season action in the City Recreation Basketball League came to a close Tuesday night with Plonk Oil Co. closing out unbeaten with a 13-0 record.

Plonk Oil defeated second place KM Gulf 54-48 as Tommy Barrett and Lawrence Bolin scored 18 points each. Bobby Peterson had 11 for the losers.

In Monday's nightcap, Dennis Freeman scored 28 points and Steve Bowers added 16 as Bessemer City romped past Fashion Cleaners 73-59. Robert Sims topped the losers with 16 points.

Thursday night, Bessemer City whipped Fultons 58-35 as Steve Bowers scored 16 points. Robert Adams scored 16 for the losers.

In Thursday's other contest, Fashion Cleaners whipped Gastonia 60-54. Robert Sims scored 19 and Rick Davis 16 for the winners while Benny Gibby had 15 for the losers.

FINAL STANDINGS			
Teams	Won	Lost	Pct.
Plonk Oil	13	0	1.000
KM Gulf	10	4	.714
Gastonia	6	5	.545
Bessemer City	6	10	.375
Fashion Cleaners	6	10	.375
Fultons	1	13	.077

Brackett Leads Men's League; Oates Shell Tops In Ladies' Loop

Albert Brackett has opened up a four-game lead in the men's bowling league.

Monday night, Brackett's team won three games off Dilling Heating as Winfred Bowen rolled a 141 line and 364 set. Furman Wilson's 139-350 topped the losers.

Ronnie Culbertson gained scoring honors for the week, rolling a 141 line and 394 set to lead Clyde Culbertson's team to a 4-0 victory over Plonk Oil Co.

Bucky Vincent added a 365 for the winners while Ranny Blanton scored a 127 line and Robert Ramsey added a 350 set for the losers.

Richard Culbertson had a 147 line and 385 set to lead his team to a 3-1 win over Bob Herndon. Muel Ramsey had a 134 line and 368 set for the losers.

Oates Shell stretched its lead in the ladies league to six games Tuesday night by winning four off Plonk Bros. Jenny Oates led 'the way with a 122 line and 355 set. Dessie Loftin had a 100-283 set for the losers.

Karen Moss and Lib Gault scored 133 lines and Lib added a 293 set to lead the American Legion team to a 3-1 win over Patterson Auto Parts. Becky Barnett had a 125-326 for the losers.

Edna Bowen led the losers with a 118-315.

In mixed league play Thursday night, first place John Dilling continued hot with a 4-0 win over Bob Herndon as Jenny Oates tallied a 133 line and 371 series. Herndon's 124 line and Aud Tignor's 347 set led the losers.

Richard Culbertson won three off Ronnie Culbertson as Mull Ramsey scored a 143-371. Charles Fite led the losers with a 133-332.

Ranny Blanton's 145 line and 375 set led his team to a 4-0 win over Clyde Culbertson. Lib Gault's 125-327 led the losers.

STANDINGS (Mixed League)			
Teams	W	L	Pct.
John Dilling	25	7	.781
Richard Culbertson	20	14	.588
Ranny Blanton	19	13	.594
Bob Herndon	16	16	.500
Clyde Culbertson	9	23	.281
Ron Culbertson	7	25	.219
(Ladies League)			
Oates Shell	25	7	.781
American Legion	19	13	.588
Patterson Auto	16	16	.500
Plonk Bros.	14	18	.438
Phillips 66	12	20	.375
Drews Tax	9	23	.281
(Men's League)			
Albert Brackett	24	16	.600
Richard Culbertson	20	20	.500
Bob Herndon	20	20	.500
Dilling Heating	20	20	.500
Plonk Oil	18	22	.450
C. Culbertson	17	23	.426

The World Of Self-Defense

By DAVID ADAMS

The question has been asked of me, "Does Korea have a style of Self-Defense, different from the Japanese?"

Yes and No. The Korean people have their own form of rather style of Karate, but it is still the same art of self-defense called Karate. Each Country may feel that their leaders of yesterday started Karate, but to show actual proof, this would be hard to determine.

The style is called Tang Soo Do. Translated literally, Tang Soo Do means, "Art of the knife hand." It is more than just that, however. It is the scientific use of the body in methods of Self-Defense. A body that gained the ultimate use of its faculties through intensive physical and mental training. It is an art of self-defense that has no equal in power or technique. The mastery of its secrets cannot be bought at any price other than serious and rigorous training. It is an art tested and tempered on the laws of Buddhist monasteries against the steel of wandering bandits or on the fields of combat, and its history is a long and honorable one.

Approximately 2000 years ago in the Southern part of the Korean peninsula there was a small kingdom constantly under invasion and harassment from its two more powerful northern neighbors. To preserve themselves, the young aristocrats of the country formed a young offi-

cer warriors corps called Hwa Rang Dan. This was in the reign of Chin Heun, 214th king of Shil La. The warrior corps trained themselves by practicing mental and physical disciplines throughout the year in the wild mountains and along the rugged seashore. They trained and drove themselves unmercifully to prepare themselves for their task.

To guide themselves and give purpose to their knighthood, they incorporated a five point code of conduct set forth by their country's greatest Buddhist monk, Won Kang.

1. Beloyal to your King.
2. Be obedient to your parents.
3. Be honorable to your friends.
4. Make a sensible kill.
5. Never retreat in battle.

The Hwa Rang Dan became known for their courage and skill in battle, gaining respect from even their bitterest foes. The strength they derived from their respect to their code enabled them to attain feats of valor that became legendary. Many died on fields of battle in the threshold of their youth, most as young as 14 or 15 years of age. Through their feats, however, they inspired the people of Shil La to rise and unite and eventually conquer the two kingdoms.

From the victory of Shil La, the Korean peninsula became united for the first time in its history.

During the time of the Hwa Rang Dan, the original primitive art of self-defense called Soo

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Cole Scores 28 In 68-42 Win; Girls Lose 30-29

Kings Mountain's Mountaineers passed their opening test in the Southwestern Conference basketball tournament Monday night at Boiling Springs, whipping host Crest 68-42.

Junior sensation Otis Cole scored a tournament-high 28 points to lead the way for Coach Bob Hussey's charges as they moved into a semi-finals meeting against county-rival Shelby. Cole, in leading the Mounties to their third win of the season over the Chargers, connected on 12 of 16 shots from the floor, four of five from the foul line, hauled in a game-high 15 rebounds and handed out five assists.

The Mountaineers jumped to an early lead but Crest fought back to go ahead 8-7. From there the Mountaineers moved into a 13-10 lead after the first period and by halftime the spread had reached 10 points, 28-18.

Behind Cole and senior guard Alan Hambright, who finished with 13 markers, the Mountaineers began to break the game open late in the third period. The Mountaineer lead reached 30 points before Coach Hussey went to the bench.

Joining Cole and Hambright in double figures for the Mountaineers was junior guard Charles "Bad News" Barnes with 13 points. Ken Mitchem scored only six points but garnered 11 rebounds.

Although Cole enjoyed a great game, Coach Hussey was pleased with his team's overall effort.

"We played fairly well in spurts," commented Hussey, "but at times we didn't play well at all. We didn't shoot well and we didn't handle the ball well."

"We're capable of playing much better basketball," said Hussey, "and we'll have to play a lot better in order to beat Shelby."

The Mountaineettes were eliminated in an afternoon game as R-S Central used a last-second overtime shot to defeat KM, 30-29.

Kings Mountain had forced the contest into an overtime as Nancy Reynolds hit on a pair of free throws with 15 seconds remaining to make the score 24-41.

With 50 seconds remaining in the overtime, Linda Childers hit a foul shot to put KM ahead by 29-24.

But with five seconds left, a jump ball was called at the R-S Central free throw circle. With three seconds left, the ball fell loose on the floor, Whitesides picked it up and scored as the buzzer sounded.

Reynolds finished as the game's top scorer with 13 points. Whitesides tallied 12 for the Lady Hilltoppers.

Tourney Boxscores		
GIRLS GAME		
Kings Mountain	(29)	
F. Childers	9	
F. Reynolds	13	
F. Turner		
G. Wilson		
G-D. Plonk	3	
G. Atkinson		
R-S Central	(30)	
F. Merchant	2	
F. Price	8	
F. Whitesides	12	
G. Daniels	6	
G. Shehan		
G. Shehan		
Subs: Byrd 2		

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