

# HERALD SPORTS

By GARY STEWART

## All-Conference?

I hit the ceiling every time I open my mail and find an All-Conference athletic team.

Of course, it's impossible to put everybody on the team and it's hard to choose the 22 best players (in case of football) in the league. But, sometimes, I get the notion that coaches are voting for schools and fellow coaches and not for football players.

I am sure the players voted to this year's All-Southwestern Conference team (shown elsewhere on this page) are the best in the league, I'd hate to see the worst.

And, this thing of choosing the conference coach of the year and player of the year is unreal. It never fails that the coach of the first place team is named the coach of the year, even if his team was the pre-season pick to romp over everybody.

And, the player of the year is always a back who scored a bushel of points and gained a lot of yards and never a lineman who made it possible for him to gain those yards.

This column is bound to make a lot of people mad... especially coaches. So go ahead and get mad and call me all those bad names. But, there are a few things I have to say.

First off, the coaches made a good choice in naming Scott Crawford as player of the year. I agree he's one of the top backs in the state and he deserved the honor.

Tommy London of Shelby and Eddie McKinney of Chase finished second and third in player of the year voting. I'm not saying they aren't the second and third best players in the SWC. But let me ask the coaches this, if Chase's McKinney is the third best player in the SWC, why wasn't he good enough to earn a berth on your All-Conference team?

And, how about your coach of the year? I agree that Jim Biggerstaff of South Point has done a great job building the Raiders' football program. But wasn't his team the pre-season choice to win the Southwestern Conference?

A coach of the year is someone who has done the best coaching job with what material he has. South Point had the best material in the conference.

A coach of the year, in my opinion, is someone like Jerry Carpenter of Cherryville or Max Beam of Crest. Those two teams were picked to finish near the bottom... and in Cherryville's case, on the bottom. The Ironmen won three games, which was three more than they were supposed to, and Crest won the Division One title.

I have to praise the coaches in the South Piedmont Conference and the Northwestern Conference for recognizing the worth of linemen.

In the South Piedmont, the coaches selected Concord's Andy Troxler, a center-linebacker, as their player of the year. In the Northwestern conference, the coaches voted Lenoir's Lee Boddie, a tackle, as the second best player in the league.

## South Point-Newton

Let's get away from the All-Conference teams and look to this week's bi-conference playoff battle between South Point of the SWC and Newton-Conover of the Northwestern Conference.

South Point should rate the edge, but only because of its defense. Newton-Conover's offense is similar to South Point's and the teams are pretty evenly matched in that department.

While the Raiders depend largely on the running of Scott Crawford, the Red Devils, who have a 10-1 record compared to South Point's 11-0 mark, have two fine halfbacks in juniors Greg Corpening (player of the year in the NWC) and Willie Williams. The Red Devils also have one of the state's finest linebackers in Marcus Trivette, who returned a fumble 51 yards last week to beat Alexander Central, 15-7.

South Point, which beat Lincolnton 34-20 last week, could have one small offensive edge in passing. Newton-Conover sticks almost entirely to the ground, but the Raiders' Bill Hannon has been known to go to the air.

The two teams have played only one common foe, Lincolnton. Newton-Conover thrashed the Wolves 42-13 in an early-season non-conference game. South Point blanked the Wolves 42-0 in an early-season contest, then spanked the Wolfpack again last week in the playoffs, 34-20.

I saw Newton-Conover whip Alexander Central last Friday and was impressed with its offense. Its defense, however, didn't look that tough and I'll have to go with South Point.

## KM Pee Wees Defeat Glen Alpine 22-0 In Mountaineer Bowl Event

Kings Mountain's pee wee football team evened its season record at 4-1 Saturday by defeating Glen Alpine 22-0 in the final game of the second annual Mountaineer Bowl at John Gamble Stadium.

Kings Mountain's Mighty Mite team fought Glen Alpine to a 0-0 tie in an earlier contest.

Other scores included Morganton 21, Evening Optimist of Gastonia 0 in a mighty mite game; Evening Optimist 29, Morganton 0 in a pee wee game; Lowell 38, Salem 6 in a pee wee game.

Kings Mountain's pee wees struck early for a 6-0 lead and led by 14-0 at halftime. Jimmy Littlejohn and Charles Eurn's team stretched the lead to 22-0 in the third quarter before Glen Alpine scored the gas with two fourth quarter touchdowns.

Peter Brown returned the opening kickoff to the Glen Alpine 20 to set up KM's first touchdown. Billy Garner ran it in from that point for a 6-0 lead.

A blocked punt by Ted Webster and Tracey Cook set up KM's second touchdown in the second period. Two plays after



TALKING NEW RULE — Elaine Froneberger, left, Kings Mountain High's girls basketball coach, talks with seniors Diane Cornwell center, and Carolyn Mitchem. The Mountainettes will be playing boys rules this winter but Froneberger expects his club to be strong in the Southwestern Conference.

## KMHS Cagers Eye 1971-72 Season

### Dixen Drilling 15 Prospects, Nine Returnees

Kings Mountain high boys basketball coach Allen Dixen is drilling 15 players in preparation for the 1971-72 basketball season.

Dixen, in his second year as Mountaineer mentor, says he expects a much better club than the one that won only four of 20 games last year.

Nine players return from last year's squad and seven of them started at one time or another. The Mountaineers lost only three players, Geep Howard, Chuck Carpenter and Bill Loutin.

Of the 15 players on this year's team, there are nine seniors, five juniors and one sophomore.

Dixen, who has been working with his club since October 18, says better depth will be the big difference between last year's team and this year's squad.

"Last year," he explained, "we had very little depth. We had no one to go to when we got in trouble. But this year we have quite

a few good players and we'll be better off because of it."

The Mountaineers open their season at home on November 29 against 2-A Bessemer City.

One of Bessemer City's stars of a year ago, Randy Wings, will be playing for the Mountaineers this year. The 6-1 junior is expected to add to KM's inside strength.

Returning starters include Vernon Crocker, John Grier, Jeff Hedden, Al White, Jim Jolly and Mike Thombs. Others seeking a starting spot are Marshall Logan, Tim Hunter, Danny Rhodes, Mike Baty, Wendell Dawkins, Harlee Davis and Butch Blacklock. Blacklock is the only sophomore on the team.

"No positions are settled yet," says Dixen. "Everything's wide open."

Dixen says he's been pleased thus far with the progress shown by Thombs, Brown, Crocker, Hedden, Blacklock and Jolly. Jolly, a 6-5 junior, will be counted on to shoulder most of the Mountaineer rebounding load but Crocker, a 6-3 senior, improved in that department toward the end of last season.

Coach Dixen points to Crest, South Point and Shelby as the teams to beat in the Southwestern Conference. Looking at his own team's chances, he commented, "we'll be much stronger but so will everyone else. Just about every team in the conference has everybody back."

**MOUNTAINEER SCHEDULE**

**NOVEMBER**

30—Bessemer City

**DECEMBER**

3—Burns Tipoff Tournament

8—at Bessemer City

10—South Point

14—at Crest

17—at East Rutherford

**JANUARY**

4—Lincolnton

7—Burns

11—at Cherryville

14—Shelby

18—RS Central

21—at Chase

25—at South Point

28—Crest

**FEBRUARY**

1—East Rutherford

4—at Lincolnton

8—at Burns

11—Cherryville

15—at Shelby

19—at RS Central

22—Chase

## Mountainettes Will Be Playing By Boys Rules

Under old conditions, Kings Mountain High girls' basketball coach Elaine Froneberger would rate his 1971-72 team as a contender for the Southwestern Conference championship.

But under the new rule which allows girls to play boys rules, Froneberger says he has no idea how his team will fare.

"We have eight girls returning from last year's 11-9 team," says Froneberger, "and I'd have to say we'll be a contender. But I don't know how this new rule is going to affect us or the other teams in the conference."

Pritchett, a native of Blacksburg, Va., hit on 59 per cent of his field goal attempts last year in leading the Mighty Falcons to a 9-0 record under Jesse Clements. Heartley, who has a coaching record of 328 victories against only 75 defeats, expects that record to be much improved this year.

St. Augustine returns one other starter in senior William Flemings, also a candidate for post-season honors. Fleming, a 6-4 forward, averaged 16.2 points and 6.1 rebounds per game last season. Fleming, like Pritchett, made All-Conference last season.

Lloyd Merriman, Wendell Sport and Lacy Flintall, three seniors who saw considerable action last year, are expected to round out St. Augustine's starting unit.

St. Augustine's starting unit starts with a 6-3 guard from Brooklyn, N. Y., who is a good shooter and will be a strong candidate for post-season honors.

One of St. Augustine's top reserves will be 6-4 freshman guard Farley McGill of Gastonia.

McGill helped lead the Hunter Huss basketball team to its first winning season in history last year.

The Mighty Falcons will hold their annual Blue-White game on November 29, then open their regular season on December 1 against Saint Paul. The game will be part of the Capital City doubleheader at Dorton arena in Raleigh.

The other game there will be at Shaw University against North Carolina Central.

St. Augustine is highly favored over Saint Paul and will probably bring a 1-0 record into its opening game in Kings Mountain.

Tickets for the KM Invitational are now on sale at KM's Mountain Drug and Herman Block Grocery. Admission is \$2.00 for adults and \$1.50 for students.

## N. C. TURKEYS

North Carolina farmers have a big stake in the "big holiday eating season" of November and December. It's at this time of the year that turkey is most frequently a main meat dish, and Tar Heel farmers produce a lot of turkeys. Gross income from this farm commodity in 1970, for example, was over \$38 million.

## Grier Only Mountie On All-Conference Team

For the second straight year, John Grier is Kings Mountain High School's only representative on the All-Southwestern Conference football team.

Grier, a 195-pound senior, was named to the team as an offensive fullback and defensive linebacker. He was selected as a linebacker on last year's team.

Grier playing his first season in the backfield, was the leading rusher and scorer as the Mountaineers finished 4-4 under first-year mentor, Bobby Jones. Grier scored eight touchdowns for 48 points.

This marked the seventh straight year that KMHS has had only one representative on the all-conference team, which is selected by the 10 head coaches in the Southwestern Conference.

Conference champion South Point had four players on the offensive team and five on the defensive unit. The Raiders also furnished the Conference Coach of the Year, Jim Biggerstaff, and the Player of the Year, Scott Crawford.

Second in the Coach of the Year balloting was Jerry Carpenter of Cherryville. Carpenter coached the Ironmen to a 3-7 record in his first year there. Cherryville was winless in 10 games last fall.

Max Beam, who coached Crest to the Division One title and Ed Eash of Chase tied for third in the Coach of the Year voting.

Junior Tommy London of Shelby, who made the All-SWC team as a linebacker, finished second to Crawford in Player of the Year voting. Eddie McKinney of Chase was third but did not receive a berth on the All-SWC team.

## Gardner-Webb Bulldogs in National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Preseason Poll

Gardner-Webb College, one of the small college basketball powers, will play host December 6 to the Australian Olympic Team which is on a 17-game tour of the United States.

Gardner-Webb has been ranked fifth in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics preseason poll. The Bulldogs had a 20-4 record last year and closed out the season with a seventh place rating in the national NAIA poll.

Coach Eddie Holbrook lost only one man, Guard Jack McGill, Statesville, from his squad and he has recruited several top notch first year men.

The Australians will be one of the most powerful teams to enter play in the Physical Education Building on the college's campus.

In the Olympics in 1964 the Australians finished ninth and all indications point to an even higher finish in the games in Munich next Fall. There are six members of the present team which have previously played in World or Olympic competition.

While in this country the team will play such teams as Northwestern, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio State, Michigan State, Minnesota, Indiana State, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Providence, Davidson, and Yale as well as Gardner-Webb.

The team is not exceptionally tall as the average height is 6-4 with the two tallest players, 6-9 and 6-7. However, it is a very experienced team and the average age is 24. Most of the players have completed their college eligibility.

The Bulldogs will open their season Nov. 23 with Piedmont of Greensboro, Ga., at 7:30 in East Gymnasium.

## Bulldogs Beat Georgetown

BOILING SPRINGS. — Gardner-Webb's Bulldogs will be out for win number 10 for the 1971 season and a new senior college win record for Coach George Litton's men when they tangle with the Maryville College Scots of Maryville, Tenn., on Saturday afternoon in Maryville.

The Bulldogs won their third game of the season Saturday afternoon whipping Georgetown College 34-13. This brings the 1971 mark to 3-6.

Last year, the first year as a senior college, Gardner-Webb won two and lost eight.

In this past Saturday's game the offense came to life as it has at no other time this season. The total offense netted 394 yards including 270 yards on the ground and 124 in the air.

Dennis Dukes, freshman running back from Spindale, gained 133 yards in 17 carries to set a Gardner-Webb rushing record as a senior college. Dukes has now gained 424 yards in eight games and a 5.9 yard per carry average in the Georgetown game.

He also ran once for 41 yards against Georgetown, the best offensive run of the season for the Bulldogs.

# Falcons And Sabres Tough

## ABA Draft Pick Pritchett Leads St. Augustine

If Harvey Heartley's basketball coaching success of past years rubs off on his St. Augustine's College team, the Mighty Falcons will be hard to handle in the first annual Kings Mountain Invitational set for Friday and Saturday, Dec. 3-4, at Kings Mountain Community Center.

The Clayton native, older brother of former N. C. State basketball coach Al Heartley, won no less than 10 championships as a high school mentor in Gatesville, N. C., Clayton, N. C. and Raleigh. He's won five Coach of the Year awards and his 1966-67 Raleigh Ligon team won the state 4-A championship.

Heartley, who won All-American honors as a basketball player at North Carolina College in Durham in 1955, is in his first year as coach of the Mighty Falcons and he looks for a good year.

Heartley, whose team plays Gardner-Webb's Bulldogs in the December 3's 9 o'clock contest, is highly optimistic about his team's chances of winning the Kings Mountain event.

The Mighty Falcons own one of the nation's finest small college players in 6-5 forward Curtis Pritchett. Pritchett, who averaged 20.9 points and 15 rebounds per game last year, was selected in this year's ABA draft and is a definite pro prospect.

Pritchett, a native of Blacksburg, Va., hit on 59 per cent of his field goal attempts last year in leading the Mighty Falcons to a 9-0 record under Jesse Clements. Heartley, who has a coaching record of 328 victories against only 75 defeats, expects that record to be much improved this year.

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CHAMPION — Bob Boyd received the trophy as the Shelby Skeet club champion at the annual banquet at Hager restaurant recently. Boyd, auto mechanic at Wade Ford, shot a perfect round, 50 targets, in the recent shoot-off held in Shelby.

## Gardner-Webb Cagers To Host Olympic Team

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## Gastonia Boys Bynum, Garvin Lead B-Scotia

Looking for a darkhorse in the Kings Mountain Invitational? Look no further than Concord and Barber-Scotia College.

The Sabres, who have accomplished great strides the past few years under Coach Al Coffield, could be hard to handle in the first annual Kings Mountain Invitational set for Friday and Saturday, December 3-4, at Kings Mountain Community Center.

Barber-Scotia will open the tournament on December 3 at 7 p.m. against Elon. Christian University's Elon is ranked 10th in the nation among NAIA schools.

Gardner-Webb's Bulldogs, the fifth-ranked NAIA team in the land, will play St. Augustine's at 9 o'clock December 3. The two losers play for the consolation game at 7 o'clock on December 4 and the two winners play for the championship December 4 at 9 p.m.

Tickets for the event are now on sale at Kings Mountain Drug and Herman Block Grocery. Adult admission will be \$3.00 and students will be admitted for \$1.50.

Barber-Scotia had its best season ever in basketball last year and the Sabres are looking for even greater things in 1971-72 since all of their starters return.

Two Gastonia products, Larry Garvin and Eric Bynum, are the leaders of the Concord school and both were key factors in the Sabres' 88-83 upset of Gardner-Webb last year.

Bynum, a 6-4 sophomore forward, and Garvin, a 6-0 sophomore guard, both played their high school basketball at Gastonia Ashley. Their last two years there they helped lead the Green Wave to the state 4-A tournament.

Both will face tough opposition opening night here. Garvin will be going against one of the finest guards in college basketball in Elon's 6-3 All-American Tommy Cole. Cole made two All-American squad last season and is being scouted by several pro teams.

Bynum will be matched up against Elon's 6-7 All-Carolinas Conference standout, Larry Trautwein. Trautwein averaged 15 points per game last year in helping lead the Fighting Christians to the Carolinas Conference regular season and tournament championships and he's also being pushed for All-American honors.

Barber-Scotia is a young team with only three seniors on the roster. Also included on the roster are one junior, five sophomores and five freshmen.

But, don't let that youth fool you. Coach Coffield is quick to tell you that his youngsters are very talented, and that's obvious since they defeated Gardner-Webb, a team which finished last season with a 20-4 record and ranked seventh in the nation.

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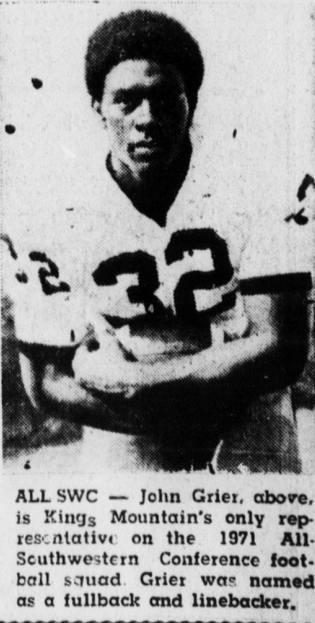
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The complete All-SWC team follows:

POS.	PLAYER	SCHOOL
<b>OFFENSE</b>		
E	Mike McWhirter	S. Point
E	Robert Lipscomb	Chase
T	Ben Roach	E. Ruth.
T	Tony Beale	S. Point
G	Ray Crocker	Cherryville
C	Harold Parrish	Crest
C	Bill Stone	S. Point
QB	John Lawing	Lincolnton
HB	Scott Crawford	S. Point
HB	Rred Dalrymple	Lincolnton
FB	John Grier	K. Mountain
<b>DEFENSE</b>		
E	Mike McWhirter	S. Point
E	Doug Benfield	Lincolnton
E	Vigil Petty	Shelby
T	Tony Beale	S. Point
T	Stacy Parrott	Shelby
T	Bruce Watkins	Chase
LB	John Grier	K. Mountain
LB	Tommy London	Shelby
LB	Robert Harris	Chase
LB	Dean Ivester	S. Point
LB	David Roberts	Shelby
LB	Curtis Moss	S. Point



ALL-SWC — John Grier, above, is Kings Mountain's only representative on the 1971 All-Southwestern Conference football squad. Grier was named as a fullback and linebacker.