

# South Point Lassies Stop KM Streak, Boys Win 57-56

Kings Mountain High's girls basketball team dropped out of a tie for the Southwestern Conference lead Tuesday night, losing a 50-31 decision to South Point, which regained the top spot. Kings Mountain's boys upset the Red Raiders, handing them their third straight loss, 57-56.

The loss by the Mountaineers broke an eight-game winning streak. It was South Point's second victory of the year over Coach Blaine Froneberger's squad.

"Kings Mountain has a fine girls team but we always seem to play our best against them," commented South Point Coach Earl Langatfeldt. "We had to play our best game of the year to beat them because they've been beating the heck out of everybody in the league."

Shirley Hart, the SWC's leading scorer, was the key factor in the

Raiderette victory. She scored 20 points and Beth Bealy played the best game of her career, adding 14. Carolyn Mitchem was high for the Kings Mountain girls with 12.

South Point was in command all the way, running up a 24-14 halftime advantage and staying ahead by 10 or more throughout the final two quarters.

Squadmate Ruth Blalock scored a field goal with nine seconds remaining to give the Mountaineers their fifth conference victory against five defeats. The one-point Mountaineer victory avenged an earlier one-point loss to the Red Raiders.

Kings Mountain, which trailed 36-32 at intermission, held a 55-49 lead with just over a minute back for a 56-55 edge. The Red Raiders had a chance to change the decision with 30 seconds remaining when Bill Hannon went to the line for two foul shots. He missed both, however, and the Mountaineers grabbed the rebound. Coach Allen Dixon's strategy played for the last shot and Blalock made it under the hoop.



**TOP SCORER**—Carolyn Mitchem is one of the main reasons Kings Mountain girls basketball team is in the running for the Southwestern Conference title. She's averaging 11 points per game and is high for her second straight A-Conf season.

# A Star That Has Lost Its Twinkle

By GARY STEWART  
Herald Sports Editor

ATLANTA, Ga. — During his three years of varsity play at Kings Mountain High School and his freshman season at Florida State University, Otis Cole was the star—number one—always the leading scorer and the man the team went to in a pinch.

Now a sophomore on Florida State's nationally tenth-ranked basketball team, the former prep All-American is just another star. He's spending most of his time in an unusual place, on the bench.

"I average playing maybe 17 minutes a game and am averaging seven points," said Cole in the lobby of Atlanta's Regency Motel prior to departing for Alexander Memorial Coliseum for a recent game with Georgia Tech. Later at the coliseum, the Seminoles had a harder-than-expected fight, nipping the lowly Yellow Jackets by 71-69. Cole played the last seven minutes of the first half and scored five points.

Cole can't be happy with the situation at FSU. "But," he says, "I'm playing behind an All-American (Ron King) so I guess getting in 17 minutes a game isn't really all that bad."

Cole is playing a wing position and when he does get into a game his job is not to score points but to work the ball inside to the Seminoles' two big men, 6-10 Reggie Royals and 6-11 Lawrence McCray. Florida State Coach Hugh Durham could convert Cole into a point man but the 6-8-year Seminoles mentor chooses rather to go with his experienced playmakers, 5-8 Greg Samuel and 5-7 Otto Petty.

Even though Cole saw only limited action against Tech, he made his presence felt. During his seven minutes of play, he turned in a key assist, collected two rebounds and scored a bucket at the first half buzzer which gave the Seminoles a two-point lead they never relinquished.

Cole broke all the Frosh scoring records at FSU last year but when practice rolled around this fall he found himself lost in the shuffle. He was battling against last year's leading scorer and All-American Ron King and Coach Durham chose not to move Cole to the point, where he could have easily cracked the starting unit.

In fact, only one member of last year's crackerjack freshman team was able to crack the starting unit, and size was the main reason he was able to do it. That performer is McCray, a 6-11, 210-pounder from Pensacola, Fla.

The Seminoles are a young team, with only three seniors on the squad. Next year, Cole could step into a starting wing position which will be vacated by Rowland Garrett, a 6-6 senior from Canton, Miss. Garrett's backup man Ron Harris, is also a senior.

This year, however, it appears Cole will have to be content with 17 minutes a game. And, as he says, that's not bad when you're playing on one of the 10 best teams in the nation.

Even though Cole hasn't been the big gun for the Seminoles this year, he has experienced trips to Hawaii and to the Astoria, so his season's not a total loss.

And, you can be sure, before his college days come to an end, he'll regain his old status as a star.

## HERALD SPORTS

By GARY STEWART

### Sisk At USC

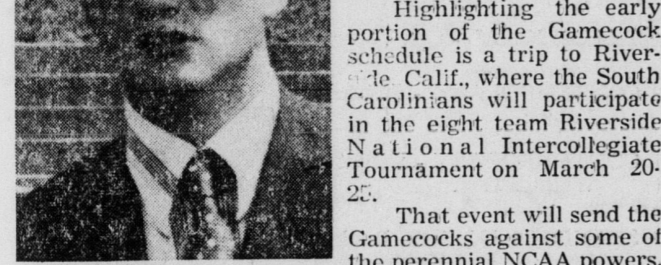
Mike Sisk, formerly of Kings Mountain and now of Columbia, S. C., will be a freshman member of the University of South Carolina basketball team this spring.

Sisk, a 185-pounder who was a little league great here several years ago, is listed on the Gamecock roster as a third baseman.

Former New York Yankee great, Bobby Richardson, South Carolina's head coach, says he expects great things from Sisk and his power will certainly be a boost to the Gamecocks as they face a tough 47-game schedule.

Sisk will have a tough time cracking the starting unit since Richardson has last year's hot corner man, Bruce Pudlock, back. Pudlock's been the starting third sacker for two years and was a key reason the Gamecocks compiled a 19-13 record last spring.

Highlighting the early portion of the Gamecock schedule is a trip to Riverside Calif., where the South Carolinians will participate in the eight team Riverside National Intercollegiate Tournament on March 20-25.



MIKE SISK

ford, Arizona State has won several national titles and has sent more players to the major leagues than any other school in the country.

The Gamecocks open season play on March 3 against C. State. The independent Gamecocks play only seven games against Atlantic Coast Conference clubs, facing State twice, Duke twice and Clemson three times.

### Sports Shorts

**BOOK-ON BARNES:** Former Kings Mountain High basketball star Charles Barnes, a sophomore member of Appalachian's Mountaineers, is averaging 8.9 points per game through ASU's first nine contests. That mark ties him for third on the team point parade with former Avery County star Bobby Tate. Stan Davis, Barnes' running mate at guard on the ASU freshman team last winter, is the team's leading scorer with an 18.8 average. Barnes is second on the team in assists with 27, an average of three per game.

**MORE ON COLE:** Florida State's basketball brochure says Otis Cole is the best all-round player on the Seminole squad. Yet, the sophomore from Kings Mountain is seeing very little action. Cole's high game was 13 points against Stetson in the Seminole's third game of the season.

Western Carolina's basketball team has taken its lickings during the early going but the Catamounts should be ready to move since former Guilford All-American David Smith is now eligible. Smith helped lead Guilford to a number two spot in the NAIA national tournament two years ago and he's listed as one of the top five pro prospects in the two Carolinas. Others in the top five are Kings Mountain's George Adams of Gardner-Webb, South Carolina's Tom Riker, and North Carolina's Bill Chamberlain and Dennis Wuyelk.

Belmont Abbey's Crusaders, coached by former KMHS mentor Bobby Hussey, are making believers out of a lot of people. The Crusaders, 8-7 heading into Monday's game against Elon, shocked nationally 15th ranked Catawba Saturday night, 69-68.

Dave Roberts, former football star at Western Carolina, has been named an assistant grid coach at Davidson College. Roberts signed with the Atlanta Falcons after he graduated from Western but was forced to retire due to knee and shoulder injuries.

Clemson has inked one of North Carolina's top football prospects, Dave Hughston of Varinger High in Charlotte. He was All-Mecklenburg County and will be a member of the West team in the annual East-West All-Star game in Greensboro this summer. . . . Incidentally, the head coach for the West in the Greensboro classic will be Don Saine of nearby Hunter Huss.

The annual Gastonia Chamber of Commerce Sports Banquet, always a big affair, is on tap for next Tuesday at 7 o'clock at the Gastonia YMCA. Bart Starr, veteran quarterback of the Green Bay Packers, will be guest speaker. Highlight of the night will be the presentation of the Gastonia Hall of Fame Award. Former KMHS football coach Shu Carlton is a former winner of the trophy.

Gardner-Webb and Barber Scotia will play a "rubber" match February 5 at Gardner-Webb. The two clubs have split their first two games this year, the Bulldogs winning over the Sabres in the finals of the Kings Mountain Invitational and Barber Scotia winning in a game at Concord.

Tony Cloninger, Cincinnati Reds pitcher from Lincoln County, has signed his 1972 contract. Another Reds performer, former Clemson star Ty Cline, has been given his release.

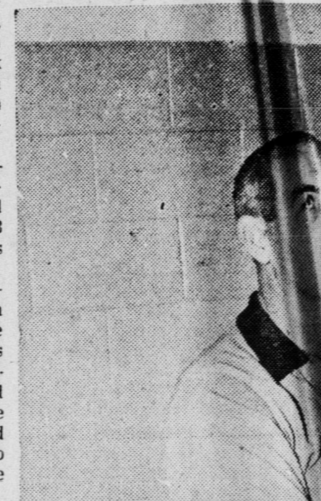
## Coach Froneberger's Not Surprised Over Mountaineers' Fine Showing

By GARY STEWART  
Herald Sports Editor

A lot of folks might be surprised that Kings Mountain girls' basketball team is in the running for the Southwestern Conference title. But not

Mountaineer coach, Blaine Froneberger.

"I expected a good record this year," says Froneberger, whose club went 2-0 Tuesday night's game at South Point tied for the SWC lead. "We have four start-



NOT SURPRISED — Mountaineer Coach Blaine Froneberger says he's not a bit surprised over his team's fine showing in the Southwestern Conference. He says his club has experience and should be winning basketball games.

South Point placed three players in double figures. Doug Froneberger led the way with 14 points, Jimmy Stowe added 13 and David Stowe 10. Hannon was held to seven, his season's low.

South Point coach Mike Huddock, whose team was tied with East Rutherford for first place until last week, said that "Kings Mountain outlasted us and deserved to win." Huddock benched his entire starting unit but the five players he started scored only six points and he had to bring his first line players off the bench.

**GIRLS GAME**  
South Point (50) — Hart 20, Surant 9, Brannon 4, Beaty 14, Hoover 2, Campbell 1.  
Kings Mountain (34) — Crockett 8, Cornwell 2, Mitchem 12, Cash 3, Lee 5, Lovelace 4.

**BOYS GAME**  
South Point (56) — Setzer 2, B. Stowe 1, Bowens 1, Adams 6, Froneberger 14, Hannon 7, D. Stowe 10, J. Stowe 13, Clarke 2.  
Kings Mountain (57) — Dawkins 2, Crocker 6, Brown 8, Thombs 12, Wingo 6, Jolly 9, Wilite 5, Blalock 9.

ers who have been playing together for three years, so they should be winners."

This year's Mountaineer squad should be a fine one, says Froneberger. The team's best player was the 19-33 team which finished 1-3 and third in the SWC behind Chase and Shelby.

"Experience has been the key to our success," adds Froneberger. "That, plus the fact that our club has adjusted real well to playing under boys rules. They like the new rules a lot better than the old ones."

Froneberger's club has been held to under 40 points on three times this season. And in two of those contests, the Mountaineers won.

"We've played only one real bad game," said Froneberger prior to Tuesday's contest at Belmont. "And that, of course, was in our first meeting with South Point. That was our first conference game and we didn't do well at all and lost by 22 points. But I still believe we'll be fighting them all the way."

Carolyn Mitchem, who was All-Conference last year, Deborah Crockett and Diane Cornwell are the leaders of the Mountaineers. Mitchem and Crockett are both averaging 11 points per game and Cornwell is averaging 10 points.

"They're our top scorers," says Froneberger, "but we have a well-balanced team. Our defense has been a key factor in recent wins, especially against Curryville, Shelby and RS Central. We didn't play well against those teams but we managed to win. There's where our experience paid off for us."

The Mountaineers are averaging well over 40 points per game while opponents are averaging just 30. Froneberger's girls scored a season's high of 52 in a victory over Lincolnton.

"That's the most points a team of mine has ever scored," says Froneberger. "We've had several chances to run the score up but I feel like we need to play as many girls as possible to give them experience."

Froneberger averages playing eight girls. He has only 11 players on his team, eight seniors, two juniors and one sophomore.

"Playing under boys rules, you need to play a lot of girls. And our substitutes have come through real well."

Froneberger says he, like his players, favors the new rules over the rover system. "Playing Continued on Page Four

## Mounties Seek Fourth In Row Against Crest

Kings Mountain High's eagles return home Friday night to host Crest in a Southwestern conference twinbill.

The Mountaineers of Coach Blaine Froneberger will be trying to snap back from a 50-36 loss to South Point while Coach Allen Dixon's Mountaineers will be gunning for their fourth straight victory.

Kings Mountain's girls will take an 8-2 conference record and 10-2 overall mark into the contest. The Mountaineers had been tied for the SWC lead until

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## KMHS Sweeps Chase In Twinbill, Girls Win 40-28 And Boys 74-64

Kings Mountain High's eagles swept Chase in a Southwestern conference twin bill Friday night on the Trojans' floor, the Mountaineers winning 40-28 and the boys 74-64.

It marked only the fourth time this season that the KMHS eagles had won both ends of a double bill.

Neither KMHS squad had to work up a big sweat in claiming the victories. The girls cruised home after a 211-halftime bulge and the boys stayed ahead of the Trojans after building a 33-25 halftime lead.

Balanced scoring was the key to victory for both clubs. Deborah Crockett scored 16 points and Diane Cornwell and Carolyn Mitchem added eight apiece for the girls.

Four players scored in double figures for the Mountaineers, led by Ben Brown's 20 markers. It was Brown's best showing of the year. Mike Thombs, the Mountaineers' leading scorer, added 18 points and sub Jim Jolly and Alfred White added 13 apiece. Ricky Harris of the Trojans was the game's top scorer with 27 points.

**GIRLS GAME**  
Kings Mountain (40) — Mitchem 8, Crockett 16, Cornwell 8, Lovelace 1, Cash 2, Lee 3.  
Chase (28) — Stone 8, Bridges 3, Cromer 12, Hines 5, Bush 5.

**BOYS GAME**  
Kings Mountain (74) — Dawkins 20, Crocker 2, Wingo 22, Brown 10, Thombs 13, Jolly 13, White 13, Blalock 2.  
Chase (64) — Hannon 14, Crockett 4, Cornwell 2, Hannon 27, Henderson 13, Robinson 2, Barrill 7.

**Mixed League**  
Ronnie Culbertson won scoring honors in mixed league action Tuesday, bowling a 134 line and

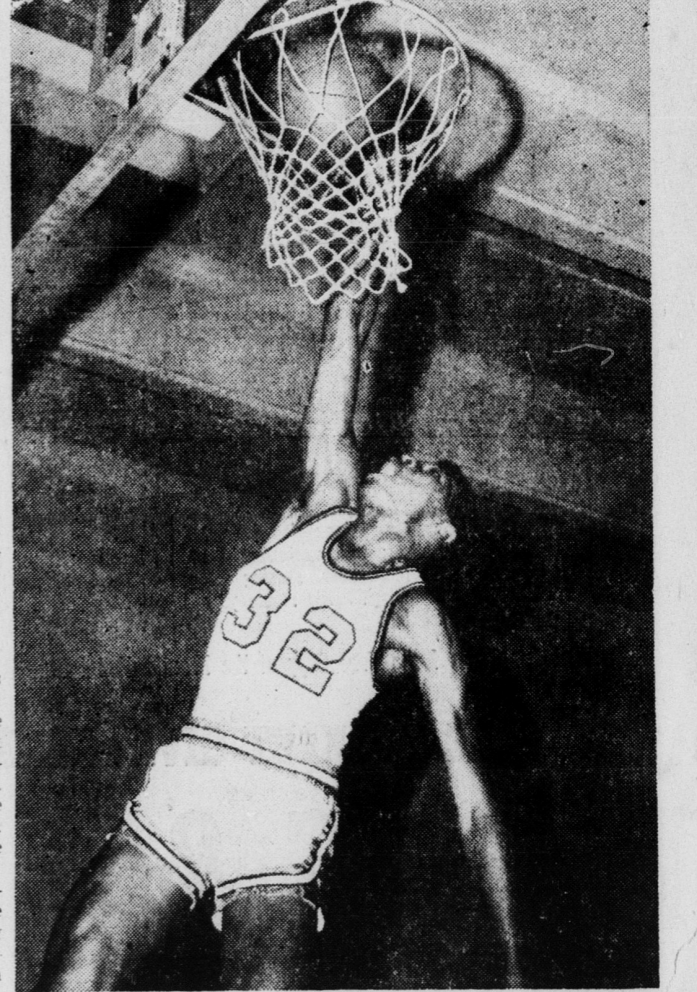
371 set in Mull Ramsey's three game loss to Ranny Blanton. Betty Wells had a 127 line and Ranny Blanton added a 346 set for the winners.

John Dilling's 120 line and 311 set led Dilling Heating to three wins over Bob Herndon. Herndon led his club with a 123 line and 340 set.

**Ladies League**  
Jenny Gates won scoring honors in women's league action Tuesday. She tallied a 123 line and 338 set to lead Oates Shell to a four-game sweep of Cleveland Radiator. Becky Bennett led the losers with a 99 line and 233 set.

Barbara Miller scored a 120 line and 311 set to lead American Legion to a three game win over Dresses Tax. Louise Dover had a 305 line and Betty Fite added a 295 set for the losers.

Plonk Brothers won three games over West End American as Karen Moss scored a 114 line and 312 set. Pat Herndon's 112 line and Doris Ware's 96 set led the losers.



IN SUB ROLE — Former Kings Mountain High basketball sensation Otis Cole is playing in a reserve role this season at Florida State. Cole's not complaining too much, though. The Seminoles are 15-2 and ranked 10th in the nation.

## South Point Stars Crawford And McWhirter Ink With Lenoir Rhyne

**HECKORY.** — High school All-stars to be the best prep run-American Scott Crawford, thener in North Carolina last season premier running back from Belson, said he selected Lenoir Rhyne's South Point High school Rhyne "because it close to home, and teammate Mike McWhirter and I will get the opportunity a star end, have signed grants to play early in my college careers, in aid to play football at Lenoir Rhyne."

Crawford, felt by many observers, is certainly one of the most

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ON THE DOTTED LINE — Scott Crawford and Mike McWhirter, former Kings Mountain stars, signed contracts to play football at Lenoir Rhyne College. Crawford, a former All-American, and McWhirter, a former state champion, will be teammates on the Rhyne football team. Crawford is a running back and McWhirter is a quarterback. (Coach Rhyne Photo)