## Former KM Players Big In G-W Future

Short cuts from the world of sports: Clemson's new head football coach, Charley Pell, is looking to a former Southwestern Conference standout to help bring the Tigers back to their winning ways in 1977. Sophomore wide receiver Eric Young, who helped lead Chase to the SWC title in '75, is looking good in spring drills and may be the one to replace Joey Walters at flanker

Gardner-Webb baseball coach Jerry Bryson will be counting heavily on three former Kings Mountain High standouts when the Bulldogs open their season next Wednesday at Francis Marion. Freshman pitcher Richard Gillespie could develop into the ace of the pitching staff, Robbie Moore returns for his senior season at second base and outfielder Darrell Van Dyke is one of the fastest men on the squad . . . .

JOE ROUNTREE

Gardner-Webb's 10th annual Basketball School will be held June 12-17 and June 19-24 for boys and June 26-July 1 for girls. Those interested may contact Coach Eddie Holbrook at the G-W athletic office .

The all-conference basketball teams will be announced soon and at the same time players and coaches of the year will be told. Those honors usually go to coaches and players from championship teams. But the girls coach of the year in the Southwestern Conference this season

couldn't be anyone else but Tommy Pruett of Burns. Pruett lost his leading scorer midway through the season, but kept his team together and led them to a second place finish, then knocked off the state's top-ranked team, North Gaston, for the tournament championship . . .

And, speaking of good coaching jobs, several basketball coaches in the KM school system did a marvelous job this season and deserve some recognition. At the junior high, the jayvee girls coach, Becky Summitt, led her team to its second



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GARY STEWART

straight league title and the varsity boys mentor, Ken Napier, did the same. The same players that won the championship for Napier had a losing record (4-9) last year as jayvees. Danny Mc-Dowell took over as jayvee coach and led the Little Pats to an 8-3 season and second place. At the high school, first year Coach Joe Rountree led the jayvee girls to the SWC title, Dennis Dukes turned the boys jayvee program around, and Kathy Brooks led the varsity girls to their best record in nine years .

Heading into Saturday's game against Duke, North Carolina's Tom Zaliagiris had hit 14 of his last 15 field goal attempts. . . . The Superbowl of Motorcross, which has played to millions of fans around the world, comes to Atlanta Stadium on Sat., March 5. Those interested in ordering tickets, which are going gast, may write Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium, P. O. Box 4064, Atlanta,

Gardner-Webb's Dave Bormann and Lew Young have been named to the District 26 all-star team and Coach Eddie Holbrook has been honored as District 26 coach of the year . . .

The Mini-Pro Trail bass fishing tournaments begin with the Lake Murray Invitational at Johnson's Marina, Ballentrine, S. C. this weekend. Other tournaments scheduled by Carolina Bass Tournaments for '77 include Lake Norman April 2-3, Santee-Cooper May 14-15, Lake Wateree June 11-12, Lake Hartwell Sept. 10-11 and the final event Oct. 8-9 at a lake to be selected by the participants. The annual Super-Cast will be held Nov. 5-6 at a mystery lake. For information call (803) 252-3931, or write Carolina Bass, Inc., P. O. Box 21604, Columbia, S. C. 29221 . .

Kings Mountain High's tennis team has for its goal this spring to win the Southwestern Conference title. And, the Mountaineers will have a solid chance, as coach Ed Guy returns his entire team which finished second to Shelby last year. But, next year, the Mountaineers should really be strong. Guy loses only three seniors off this year's fine club and, of course, Tim Riddle, is just a unior and is already the 15th ranked 16-18 year old player in North Carolina . .

And, speaking of tennis, Guy's girls team will have a chance to win two conference cham-pionships in one year in 1977. The Mountainettes are currently preparing for Southwestern Con-ference play. Next year when KMHS and the SWC enters the North Carolina High Schools Athletic Association, girls tennis will be played in the fall .



Photo By Gary Stewart

MOUNTAINETTE LEADER - Mercedes Smith is one of five returning players on this year's KMHS girls ennis team, which opened pre-season drills yesterday. The Mountainettes are scheduled to begin Northwestern-Southwestern Conference play on March 31.

> KINGS MOUNTAIN **PLANTS** AND FLOWERS

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RUNNER-UP The Kings Mountain Junior High jayvee basketball team, pictured above, finished the season with eight straight victories to nail down second place in the Foothills Conference race. The Little Patriots finished runner-up to Lincolnton after dropping their first three games. Team members include,

front row, left to right, Terence Blalock, Tony Boyce Wayne Brown, Carl Smith, Vincent Roseboro, Tony McKinney and Mark Scruggs. Back row, Coach Damy McDowell, Tim Bell, Craig Champion, Ricky Proctor, Bryan Norris, Chris Wright, Scott Hardin and Sylvester

## **Mountaineer Netters** Open Against Huss

Kings Mountain High's boys tennis team opens 1977 play this afternoon at home against 4-A Hunter Huss of Gastonia.

Singles matches begin at 3 p. m.

The Mountaineers will be at less than full strength but Coach Ed Guy still figures his team will be in good shape.

Ricky Deaton, the team's number three singles player, is suffering from an injury and might not be able to play, and Al Cloninger, the number six singles player, is serving as a page in the State Senate this week and will

rejoin the team next week Tim Riddle, a junior, will and Kevin Morehead has moved into number two ahead of Deaton. If Deaton's healthy enough to play, he'll draw the number three assignment, John David Reed will play

fourth, Kenny Boheler fifth and Scott Summitt sixth. If Deaton is not able to play, Reed, Boheler and Summitt will move up a

1, Hunter Huss

8. at Freedom

11, Freedom

22, at Hickory

31, Latin "B"

4. at Ashbrook

7, at Shelby

APRIL

15, Open 18, at Latin "A"

25, Open 29, Open

at Hunter Huss

notch and David Lynn will but Guy says it's too early take over the number six

Guy says practice has been going well and he feels his netters are much improved over last year.

'We've had some people to move down in the playing order," he says, "but that doesn't mean they aren't as good as they were last year. It's just that the other people have gotten better."

For instance, Summitt played the number three singles position last year and made All-Conference, but is playing the number six position today.

"Scott's still playing good tennis," said Guy.
"His moving down in the
order just shows that we've gotten overall team improvement."

The Mountaineers continue non-conference play Thursday at Hudss. They travel to Morganton Freedom next Tuesday and host the Patriots here

the following Thursday.
Meanwhile, the KMHS girls have begun practice

14, at Cherryville

18, at E. Ruth.

21, R-S Central

2, at S. Point

4, Ashbrook

12, Bi-Conf. at Shelby

13, Bi-Conf. at Shelby

19, Assn. at Shelby

20, Assn. at Shelby

9. Hickory

25. at Chase

28, Burns

15, Providence Day

**KMHS Boys** 

Tennis Schedule

to tell what kind of team they'll have. They had their first practice session yesterday.

The Mountainettes return five players from last year and Guy will be looking to several untested sophomores to fill some key positions.

Returnees Mercedes Smith, Bonnie Hinnant, Ronda Shytles, Sara Maner and Kathy Brennan. The Mountainettes lost theire top three players, Kathy Wheeler, Kaki Mauney and Cheryl Lutz.

The girls are scheduled to begin conference play on March 31 at R-S Central.



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