

Largest Turnout In Years

KMHS Track Team Is Eyeing Improvement

There's no place to go but up for Kings Mountain High's track team, which is busy preparing for the Southwestern Conference race which begins on March 17.

The Mountaineers probably won't be a serious contender for the SWC championship, but first year Coach Dan Brooks is certainly going

to see a lot of improvement.

To begin with, Brooks and his assistant, Dennis Dukes, are working with 36 prospects, and that's three times as many as Steve Baker had to work with last season.

And, to make things better, most of those 36 are young and will be with the Mountaineers in the

future.

Brooks says he has some outstanding prospects, but several are nursing injuries at this point. If they return, they could be strong performers.

Shot putter David Gordon, a 240-pound strongman, has a torn hamstring and could be out for six weeks. He was injured in the final match of the

Western N. C. High Schools Activities Association wrestling tournament.

Sophomore Charlie Jenkins, an 880-runner who helped lead the junior high to the Foothills Conference title a year ago, has some blood problems and will be out for an indefinite period. Brooks is hopeful he'll be ready by the opening meet March 17 at Burns.

Mike Adams, a junior speedster, and several others could step in and help take up the slack from the loss of the Thompsons.

KM's complete list of track prospects includes

David Seay, David Gordon, Charlie Jenkins, Billy McCarter, David Barrett, Erik Hagen, Billy Hammett, Kenny Lowrance, Mickey Lowrance, David Bolton, Tim Patterson, Barry Ledford;

Also, Dewayne Clark, Jimmy Bradley, Clayton Wright, Steve Blackburn, Mike Adams, Keith Adams, Johnny McKinney, Bryan Jenkins, Walter Floyd, Kelly Land, Sammy Bell, Kenneth Roseboro;

Also, Tony Smith, Mike Hinson, Scott Wells, Kenny Bell, Dennis Owens, Al Eddins, Richard Ross, Jerome Miller, Terry McClain, Ricky Hunter, Bay Himpaphanh and Larry Smith.

"We're pleased with the turnout," noted Brooks. "I understand it's probably one of the biggest at Kings Mountain in several years. We would have liked to have had more from the junior high, though."

Brooks will at least have someone entering every event, and that's something the Mountaineers couldn't do last year. The participants the Mounties had a year ago were strong in their events but they didn't have enough to compete with the bigger squads such as Shelby, Crest, North Gaston, and South Point.

Brooks feels the cross country team, which was held together by a determined young Joe Rountree in the fall, will help the track program. He's counting on several cross country runners, such as Sammy Bell, Johnny McKinney, Jimmy Bradley and Clayton Wright, to be strong in long distance events.

Kelly Land, a returnee, and Terry McClain, a sophomore, should be the Mounties' top hurdlers and Brooks is looking to three newcomers — Tony Smith, Dewayne Clark and Barry Ledford — to be competitive in the pole vault.

Bay Himpaphanh, a Vietnamese, Mike Hinson, a transfer from East Mecklenburg, Steve Blackburn, Larry Smith, Jerome Miller, and others, should be strong in running events.

The relay teams have been KM's strong point the past few years, but the Mounties lost Jim Thompson through graduation and William Thompson for disciplinary reasons, and they'll be hard to replace. But Brooks still has two speedsters in Richard Ross and Al Eddins, a pair of seniors who run faster than two chickens being chased by Colonel Sanders.



Photo By Gary Stewart

TRACK HOPEFULS — Kings Mountain High track coach Dan Brooks left, discusses the upcoming season with five of his senior performers prior to a recent

workout at John Gamble Stadium. The team members include, left to right, Bay Himpaphanh, Scott Wells, Al Eddins, Johnny McKinney and Richard Ross.



Photo By Gary Stewart

CLEARING THE BAR — Sophomore Tony Smith, who helped lead Kings Mountain Junior High to the Foothills Conference track title a year ago, practices the pole vault in a recent Kings

Mountain High track practice session at John Gamble Stadium. Smith is one of several young prospects hoping to help turn the Mountaineer track program around this spring.

KMHS Golfers Open Thursday At Cherryville

Kings Mountain High's golfers open Southwestern Conference play Thursday afternoon at Cherryville against the Ironmen, East Rutherford and Chase.

Senior Johnny Gamble, last year's most valuable player, will lead the Mountaineers into action but Coach Bobby Jones is looking to several other players to help bring the Mountaineers their best season in years.

Mark Sanders is the only other returnee from last season, but the Mountaineers have one of their most promising groups of sophomores in quite some time.

Darrell Austin, Herbie Beam and Darrell Forbes have been giving Gamble plenty of competition in practice and all three are capable of playing the number one position. They helped lead the junior high to two straight Foothills Conference titles.

Others being counted on include Mike Howze, Brad Tate, Chip Harmon and Scott Yarbro.

"I believe we can be a contender if our people play up to their potential," says Jones. Jones points to Shelby as the team to beat and North Gaston's Larry Penley as the top individual in the league.

The Mountaineers will play an eight-match regular season schedule.

Duplex Team

Industrial

Loop Champ

Duplex added the industrial league tournament title on to its regular season crown Thursday night at the community center, defeating the Carolina A's 96-68.

Coach Bubba Brown cited Ken Napier, Jim Jolly, Danny McDowell and Hughie Thompson for their shooting and defensive play.

The A's finished with a 12-1 record.

Brown said he'd especially like to thank plant manager Carl DeVane for backing the team this winter.

The conference tournament is set for Shelby on May 9 and the Western N. C. High Schools Activities Association tourney is at Shelby on May 16-17.

The Mountaineers will host two matches at Kings Mountain Country Club. They entertain Cherryville, Crest and East Gaston on April 7 and Crest, R-S Central and Shelby on April 28.

All regular season matches will be 18 holes. Teams will play six golfers and count the best four scores.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF CORNELIA M. TAMLEY

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against Cornelia M. Tamley, deceased, are notified to exhibit them to the undersigned Executor on or before August 15, 1977, or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the undersigned Executor.

This 15th day of February, 1977.

James B. Garland, Executor
P. O. Box 859
Gastonia, N. C. 28052

Garland & Alala Attorneys
192 South Street
Gastonia, N. C. 28052
February 15, 22, March 1, 8

Superior Court Division
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
CLEVELAND COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S-EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as Administrator of the estate of Will Adams of Cleveland County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said Will Adams to present them to the undersigned within 6 months from date of the publication of this notice or same will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate please make immediate payment.

This 28th day of February, 1977.
James E. Adams Administrator
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KM HURDLER — Junior Kelly Land, one of the few returnees on the Kings Mountain High track team this year, practices running the hurdles during a team practice session at John Gamble Stadium. Coaches Dan Brooks and Dennis Dukes are working with 36 prospects, one of the biggest track turnouts in years at KMHS.