



Photo By Gary Stewart

BASEBALL SWING - Kings Mountain tennis player Kenny Boheler uses a baseball-type grip and swing to return a shot to Morganton Freedom's Phil Hatcher

in their singles match Friday at KMHS. Boheler won 7-6, 6-2, to help lead the Mountaineers to their fourth straight win, 8-1.

KM Netters Whip Freedom 8-1, Face Toughest Challenge Friday

Kings Mountain High's boys tennis team scored its fourth straight victory at home Friday, defeating 4-A Freedom High of Morganton 8-1. Kings Mountain won five of six singles matches and all three doubles events in bouncing the Western 4-A Conference team for the second time in a week. Rick Deaton, playing the number two position, was the only Kings Mountain player to taste defeat. He lost his singles match to Charles Erwin, 6-4, 6-4. Most of the other KM players won easily. Kenny Boheler had the only trouble, winning his first set over Phil Hatcher by only 7-6. But he came back strong in the second set to win an impressive 6-2 victory. The Mountaineers had three highly impressive doubles victories. Deaton and Tim Riddle teamed for their second straight win over Erwin and Mark Nesbitt, who were the Western 4-A doubles champions last spring and made it all the way to the North Carolina High Schools Athletic Association quarter-finals before losing. Riddle and Deaton won 6-4, 6-0. Kevin Morehead, who was playing with an injury, and John David Reed won a 5-7, 7-6, 6-3 victory over John Green and Bruce Hatcher. "That victory probably pleased me more than any of the others," noted Coach Ed Guy. "They lost the first set and were down 5-2 with match point against them in the second. But they battled back to win. That really impressed me." In the other doubles match, Scott Summitt and Al Cloninger defeated Powell and Smith 6-0, 6-2. "They played exceptionally well," noted Guy. "It was only the second time they've ever played together." In a practice match, Chris Keeter and David Lynn of the Mountaineers defeated Bill James and Leroy Smith of the Patriots 8-1. "I'm reasonably happy with the way we've played in these first four matches," noted Guy. "I feel like we're on our way. It looks like we have an abundance of players that can show up real well." The Mountaineers face their toughest match of the season Friday when they travel to Charlotte to play Latin's "A" team. Latin, an independent team, probably has the best tennis program in the state. "I'm not saying we'll beat them," says Guy. "But we won't come away with our heads hanging down."

KINGS MOUNTAIN MIRROR-HERALD SPORTS

THE RESULTS (Singles)

Tim Riddle (KM) def. Mark Nesbitt 6-1, 6-8. Charles Erwin (F) def. Rick Deaton 6-4, 6-4. Kevin Morehead (KM) def. John Green 6-4, 6-0. Kenny Boheler (KM) def. Phil Hatcher 7-6, 6-2. John David Reed (KM) def. Bruce Hatcher 6-3, 6-1. Scott Summitt (KM) def. Reggie Horton 6-1, 6-1.

(Doubles)

Riddle-Deaton (KM) def. Nesbitt-Erwin 6-4, 6-0. Morehead-Reed (KM) def. Green-B. Hatcher 5-7, 7-6, 6-3. Summitt-Cloninger (KM) def. Powell-Smith 6-0, 6-2.

R-S Game Washed Out

Baseballers At Burns

Kings Mountain High's baseballers return to action today with a non-conference game at Burns. The Mountaineers' game with R-S Central last Friday was rained out and has been re-set for Wed., March 23. Both the Mountaineers and Burns will be looking for their first victory today. KMHS lost an earlier 8-5 decision to R-S Central and Burns dropped a 5-4 decision to Shelby in its opener last week. Coach Barry Gibson is using the non-conference games for experimental purposes; playing as many players as he can in hopes of coming up with a solid nine in time for Southwestern Conference play, which begins March 29 at Bessemer City. Coach Gibson played 15 players in last week's loss to R-S Central while the Hilltoppers went with only nine. R-S scored three runs in the bottom of the sixth inning to break a 5-5 tie and win the contest. Gibson has young, inexperienced players at most positions. But they have a lot of talent and Gibson's hoping they can get in all their non-conference games in order to give the youngsters the needed experience. Gibson said the Mountaineers need to improve their defense and hit better with men on base. In last week's loss, they made five costly errors and left 10 men stranded on the basepaths. On the other hand, R-S managed only four hits off three KMHS pitchers, but left only three men on base. Jimmy Hall and David Ray Robinson, a pair of sophomores, provided half of KM's eight hits (two apiece) and veteran Scott Ellis came through with a key two-run single. The Mountaineers led most of the game but two big innings (three runs in the fourth and sixth) provided the difference for the Hilltoppers. Burns, coached by a former member of the KMHS staff, Tommy Pruett, is considered as a Division Two contender, even though the Bulldogs lost their opener to Shelby. They have one of the SWC's top pitchers in David Williams, who is

sidelined right now with an injury but is expected back before the opening of conference play. The Mountaineers have two more big games this week. They host Shelby in the only meeting of the two this spring on Friday afternoon at 4 p. m. and they host Burns on Saturday afternoon at 2:30.

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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 is the 28th day of February, 1977. James E. Adams Administrator 312 E. Ridge St. Kings Mountain, N. C. 28066

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Patriots Are Rebuilding, Will Have Young Squad

Kings Mountain Junior High's baseballers begin defense of their Foothills Conference championship on March 24 when they travel to West Lincoln.

Defending the title will be tough, however, as Coach Porter Griggs lost eight of nine starters and will be looking to seventh and eighth graders to fill some key positions.

First baseman Eric Dixon, who recently led the Patriot basketball team to its second straight league title, is the lone returnee.

Griggs will be looking to southpaw Tim Leach and righthander Jeff Cloninger to carry most of the pitching load. They both saw some action with the "B" team and in Bath Ruth ball last year but don't have any varsity playing experience.

Other pitchers include southpaws Joe Self and Darrell Sisk and righthanders Todd Blalock, Ricky Proctor, Brent Bell and Randy Moss.

Lynn Hayes, who backed up Tim Whitaker last spring has the inside track on the starting position

behind the plate but eighth grader Terry Chapman and seventh grader Laird Keeter are also good-looking prospects.

Backing up Dixon at first base will be Robbie Wilson and Craig Champion.

Four players are fighting hard for the second base position, which was manned extremely well last year by Jimmy Hall. Those include Eric Moore, Ricky Chapman, Scott Buchanan and Allen Van Dyke.

THE SCHEDULE

- MARCH**
- 24, at W. Lincoln
- 28, at E. Ruth
- 31, R-S Central
- APRIL**
- 5, at Linc.
- 12, E. Lincoln
- 14, at Shelby
- 18, W. Lincoln
- 21, E. Ruth
- 25, at R-S Central
- 28, Burns
- MAY**
- 2, Linc.
- 5, at E. Linc.
- 9, Shelby
- 13, Burns

KMHS Golfers Finish Second

Kings Mountain High's golfers finished second to Chase in their opening Southwestern Conference match Thursday at Cherryville Country Club. The Trojans shot a 325, Kings Mountain 328, East Rutherford 346 and Cherryville 350. Sophomore Darrell Austin led the KM effort with a 10-over-par 80. Mike Howze shot 82, Mark Sanders and Johnny Gamble 83, Darrell Forbes 87 and Herbie Beam 89. Mike Marshall of Chase was medalist with a 76.

Coach Bobby Jones said he was disappointed in the Mountaineers' showing. "None of our guys played like they're capable of playing," he said. "Even though we played badly, we still felt we were going to win until Chase's number six man came in with an 81."

The Mountaineers go to Dogwood Valley near Cliffside Thursday to meet Chase, North Gaston and R-S Central.

Hole-In-One

Doug Middleton fired a hole-in-one Friday on the per three, 17th hole at Kings Mountain Country Club.

Middleton used a four iron to ace the 180-yard hole. He had an 85 for the match.

Middleton was playing in a twosome with Houston Wolfe.

FACES CHALLENGE Kings Mountain Junior High baseball coach Porter Griggs faces a big rebuilding challenge this spring as his Patriots enter Foothills Conference play. Griggs lost eight of nine starters from last year's club which went 14-0 and will be counting on young players to fill many key positions.



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