

Win Bi-Conference

Riddle, Mounties Champs

Kings Mountain High's top seed, Tim Riddle, out-classed the Northwestern Conference's top-seed, Butch Dunn of Wilkes Central 6-1, 6-2 Friday at Shelby High to give Riddle the individual singles title and the Mountaineers the team championship in the Northwestern-Southwestern Conference

tennis tournament. The victory gave the Mountaineers their first tennis championship ever and it came in the final

year of competition in the Western N.C. High Schools Athletic Association. The Mountaineers and other SWC schools move into the

larger North Carolina High Schools Athletic Association next year.

The KM victory also unseated Shelby High as the King of NWC-SWC tennis. The Lions had won the last eight SWC crowns and the last five bi-conference titles.

The Mountaineers, who scored 14 team points to 13 for Shelby, needed Riddle's victory in the finals to claim the championship. Shelby had battled into contention when its number one doubles team of Skip Warrick and Kevin Grayson defeated KM's Kevin Morehead and Scott Summitt 7-5, and 6-2.

As the bi-conference singles champion, Riddle will be one of the favored players for this week's Western N.C. High Schools Athletic Association tournament, which will be played Thursday and Friday on the Shelby courts.

Summitt and Morehead, who defeated the Shelby team of Buddy Hobbs and Mark Gibson, 4-6, 6-4 and 6-1 to reach the finals, will also be competing in the association event. All other KM players, both boys and girls, lost out in the opening round of the bi-conference event and did not qualify for the association.

Following KM and Shelby in team points were Wilkes Central 11, R-S Central 10, East Rutherford nine, Watauga eight, Chase, and South Point six each, Burns and Lenoir three each and Crest and Hibernia one each. Hudson and Cherryville failed to score.

In girls competition, Shelby won with 13 points, followed by Lenoir 12, Watauga 11, South Point and R-S Central eight each, Burns and Wilkes Central six each, East Rutherford five, KMHS three, Crest two and Cherryville one. Chase failed to score.

Kings Mountain won the bi-conference event this year in exactly the same way Shelby took it from the

Mountaineers a year ago. A year ago, the Mountaineers went into the final round leading the Lions by a point but the Shelby club came back to win by a point. This year, Shelby led by a point going into the final round only to see the Mounties come back to edge them out by one.

The key victory for the Mountaineers, other than Riddle's championship win, was the semi-finals doubles victory Morehead and Summitt won over Shelby's SHobbs and Gibson. Had the Shelby team won that match, it would have ended KM's hopes of a team title.

"Morehead and Summitt went through their first round matches rather easily," noted Coach Ed Guy, "but the Shelby team put the pressure on them in that semi-finals match. Morehead and Summitt lost the first set, 6-4, but came back real strong and won 6-4 and 6-1.

"They played real well against Warrick and Grayson in the finals," added Guy, "but it's hard to beat two Shelby teams in the same day. We would have liked to have won the doubles title, but second place is still pretty good."

Riddle, as many expected, had little trouble. The only surprising thing about his play was how easily he defeated Dunn, who finished second in the association last year.

"Dunn's a good player," noted Guy, "so this victory should put Tim in a good position for the association tournament. I'm prejudiced, but I'd have to

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BI-CONFERENCE CHAMPION — Kings Mountain High Junior Tim Riddle added the Northwestern-Southwestern Conference tournament singles title to his list of tennis accomplishments Friday when he swept through the event at the Shelby High courts. Riddle soundly defeated Butch Dunn of Wilkes Central 6-2, 6-1, in the championship. Dunn was the runner-up in the

association tournament a year ago. Riddle's victory gave the Mountaineers their first team tennis title in history as they edged out perennial champion Shelby by a single point. Riddle and the doubles team of Kevin Morehead and Scott Summitt will be competing in the association tournament Thursday and Friday at Shelby.



Photo By Gary Stewart

SLUGS HOMER — Jim Hall (24) and Danny Bolin (center) congratulate Bruce Valentine after his second inning homer helped stake KMHS to a 7-3 lead against South Point Wednesday at

Lancaster Field. South Point came back to win 12-10, then copped the SWC title Friday night at Belmont with a 7-4 victory over the Mountaineers.

KMHS Baseball Team Ousted By South Point

Kings Mountain High's baseballers reached the end of the line Friday night at Davis Park in Belmont, losing 7-4 to South Point in the final game of the Southwestern Conference best of three championship series.

The victory gave the Red Raiders a 16-2 overall record and the right to represent the SWC in the bi-conference playoffs against Hudson. That best of three series begins today in Hudson.

The loss left the Mountaineers with a final 11-12 record, but the Mountaineers finished 10-6 in SWC play. Six of their 12 losses were in non-conference action.

The determined Red Raiders spotted the underdog Mounties a 2-0 lead in

the top of the second inning, but came storming back behind the hitting of designated hitter Karl Witzke to eliminate the Mountaineers.

Witzke, who normally starts at first base, drove in five runs, clearing the bases in the second with a three-run double and adding a two-run single when the Raiders scored three in the fourth.

The Mountaineers matched the Raiders in hits with five, but Coach Barry Gibson's youngsters left nine men stranded on the basepaths. South Point left only three men on base.

Righthander John Conner went the route for South Point, walking just three and fanning seven.

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Mountaineer Boxscores

WEDNESDAY GAME

	AB	R	H	RBI
S. Point				
Davis, cf	4	3	2	1
Witzke, lb	5	0	0	0
Painter, c	4	2	2	2
Shope, p	5	2	2	1
Haynes, p	0	0	0	0
Bosoton, 3b	0	0	0	0
Richmond, 3b-r	5	1	2	0
Shepherd, 2b	3	1	1	0
Lawing, rf	4	1	1	0
Sausedo, rf	0	0	0	0
Stowe, dh	4	1	1	1
Moss, lf	0	0	0	0
Barker, ss	4	1	1	1
Totals	38	12	12	6

FRIDAY GAME

	AB	R	H	RBI
K. Mtn.				
Hall, cf	3	0	0	0
White, ss-lf	3	1	1	0
Robinson, p-ss	4	1	1	0
Ellis, c	4	0	1	0
Whitaker, rf	3	0	0	0
Lancaster, ph	1	0	0	0
Bolin, 3b	2	1	0	1
Chapman, 2b	0	0	0	0
Tinsley, dh	2	0	1	0
Loftin, lf	2	1	0	0
Wilson, p	1	0	0	0
Valentine, lb	3	0	1	2
Totals	28	4	5	3

E - White 2, Robinson, Tinsley, Chapman, Ellis, Bolin 3, Loftin, Valentine 2, Richmond, Barker 2. LOB - SP 9, KM 8. 2B - Painter 2, Shope. HR - Valentine, Robinson, Stowe. SB-Davis.

Pitcher:	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Shope (W)	6 2-3	4	10	7	4	9
Haynes	0	0	0	0	2	0
Richmond	1-3	0	0	0	0	0
Lancaster	2	2	3	1	1	0
Robinson (L)	2 1-3	5	5	1	2	2
Wilson	2 1-3	5	4	10	0	3

Save - Richmond. WP - Robinson. HBP - Bolin, by Shope; Loftin, by Shope; Valentine, by Shope, Hall, by Shope.

Totals 22 7 5 6
By Innings
KM 021 000 1
SP 040 800 x

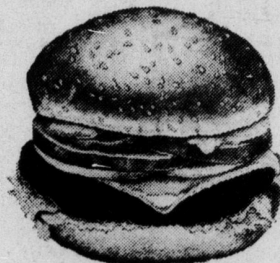
E - Whitaker, Bolin, Richmond 2, Shepherd, Barker. LOB - KM 9, SP 3.
2B - Witzke, Ellis. SB - White. SB - Barker. S - Moss. SF - Bolin.

Pitcher	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Robinson (L)	4 5 7	5	4	1	1	1
Wilson	2	0	0	0	1	1
Conner (W)	7 5 4	0	3	7		

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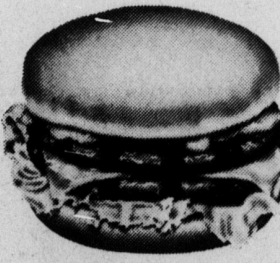
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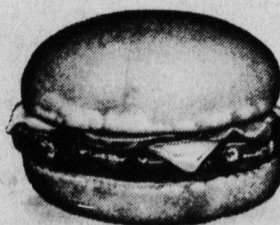
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