

Moss Ties National HR Mark

# Americans Win Title



**HURLS TWO WINS**—Ronnie Wilson picked up both wins over the weekend as Kings Mountain's 16-year-old Babe Ruth all-stars won a best-of-three area championship

series over Charlotte. The wins put KM in the state tourney to be held beginning today at Charlotte's Myers Park High School.

Kings Mountain's American League all-stars went unbeaten en route to the District Three major league baseball tournament title last week at Deal Street Park, and the local team will now set its goal of winning the state title.

Coaches Clarence Batchler, Bob Short and Bubbles Pearson take their team to Norwood this weekend, where they'll play their first game Saturday night against the District Four champions.

Kings Mountain defeated Dallas 10-3 Saturday night for the district title as Kevin Jones went the route on the mound and Jeff Moss tied a national Dixie Youth tournament record with his fifth home run of the double-elimination event.

KM scored six runs in the first inning to break the game open early. Moss had a two-run single to plate the first two runs, then Chris Barnette clubbed a grand-slam homer.

Jones and Moss led the KM hitting with two hits apiece.

The American Leaguers gained a spot in the finals by defeating Tryon 9-6 on Friday night. The game was originally scheduled for Thursday but was postponed due to the Duke Power energy situation.

Roy Mathis got the pitching win with relief help from Jones and Moss. Jay Schronce led the KM hitting with 3-for-5 and Stan Haynes led Tryon with 4-for-4.

Dallas earned a spot in the championship game by ousting Bessemer City 12-2 behind the pitching of Kevin Mills. Gerard Brandon led the Dallas hitting attack with 3-for-4.

All players and coaches from the KM and Dallas teams won trophies for placing first and second and Grover, which competed in Dixie Youth play for the first time this year, won the sportsmanship award.

Moss copped both the most valuable player and outstanding player trophies and Grover's

Tony Batchler, who recently underwent open heart surgery, was given a plaque from Dixie Youth baseball for his courage.

**WEDNESDAY GAMES**

Lop-sided victories highlighted Wednesday night's action, with the Kings Mountain Americans defeating previously unbeaten

**KM Team**

**Cops ASA**

**N. C. Title**

Last week, the Amateur Softball Association erroneously sent the 13-15 year old state championship trophy to Kings Mountain, where the state 16-18 year old tourney was being held.

So, this past weekend, when the 13-15 year old team went to Hendersonville for the state tourney, coaches Darrell Van Dyke and Elmer Ross took the trophy along so it could be presented to the winning team.

Sunday night, when the team returned home, Van Dyke and Ross brought the trophy back, for the Kings Mountain team had swept the double elimination tourney without a defeat.

The KM crew, which now goes to York, Pa., for the national tourney August 12-14, defeated Etowah 37-4, Yadkinville 10-5, Advance 5-4 and the East Gaston Boys Club 9-6 en route to the title.

Five players, all of whom hit over .500, made the All-State team. They included pitcher Lynn Hayes, first baseman Kale Goins, shortstop Jeff Cloninger, and outfielders Roger Taylor and Jody Deaton.

Hayes hurled all four tournament wins, walking only one batter. He struck out two.

KM cracked 40 hits in the opening game victory over Etowah with Hayes and Eric Dixon leading the way with five each. Deaton, Cloninger, Goins, Ricky Proctor, Tim Leach and Alan Van Dyke added four each and Taylor and Ricky Chapman

Bessemer City 17-2, Kings Mountain Na-

tionals 19-4 and Tryon ousting Grover 47-2. Jamie Green went the

route with a five-hitter for the KM Americans, sending eight BC batters back to the dugout on strikeouts.

Jay Schronce went 3-for-3 to lead the KM plate attack against Kenny Smith. Chris Barnette went 2-for-3 and Jeff Moss and Roy Mathis each clubbed three-run homers.

Chris Nichols went 2-for-2 and drove in both runs for BC. Tim Schronce was 2-for-4.

Tryon went on the biggest hitting tear of the tourney in lashing Grover. The Gaston County club had 28 hits to only three for Grover.

Scott Heavner went 4-for-6, hit two homers and scored six runs for Tryon. Tommy Putnam, Eddie Green and Steve Blanton had the Grover hits.

KM's National Leaguers managed only four hits in their loss to Dallas. Blair Mackey hurled the win for Dallas and Tommy Henson took the loss.

Harold Foster clubbed a pair of solo homers for the KM team. David Hoyle was 3-for-4, including a homer, and Greg Howington 2-for-2, including a homer, for Dallas.



Photo By Gary Stewart

**TIES RECORD** — Jeff Moss is all smiles as he trots around the bases after hitting a home run in last week's district major league tournament at Deal Street Park. Moss clubbed five homers during the double-elimination event to tie a national Dixie Youth record. KM won the title and will begin play in the state tourney in Norwood this weekend.

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## 16 Year Olds Win, Go To State Tourney

Kings Mountain's 16-year-old Babe Ruth all-stars copped the area tournament here over the weekend by winning a three-game series over Charlotte, and will begin play in the state tournament Thursday at Myers Park High School.

Kings Mountain came from behind Friday to win a 4-2 decision, lost

by 7-1 Saturday, then took the series with a 3-1 win Saturday night. Ronnie Wilson, the MVP of the KMHS team this spring, hurled both wins for KM. He won Friday's game in relief of David Cobb and won Sunday's contest with a five-hit, route-going performance.

A pair of reserves keyed a three-run sixth inning rally Friday as KM went 1-up on the Charlotte all-stars.

Mike Mitchell singled to tie the score at 2-2, then Craig Bell drove home the winning run with a two-run double.

Charlotte filled the bases in the seventh on a hit and two walks but Wilson fanned the final batter to clinch the victory.

KM managed only three hits in Saturday's loss, and managed only one hit after scoring its first run in the first inning.

Jim Hall walked to leadoff the KM first, moved to second on Wilson's single and scored on a single by David Ray Robinson. After that, the only hit for KM was a third inning double by Hall.

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## El Bethel Joins Second Baptist In State Tourney

El Bethel won the district church league softball tournament over the weekend to qualify for the state tourney to be played here next month.

El Bethel went unbeaten through the double-elimination event and whipped Oak Grove 11-6 in the championship game.

Coach Red Kale cited Glenn Perkins, David Bullocks, Don Sessoms, Bobby Peterson, Sherrill Toney, Pete Hawkins, Roy Kale, Jim Grayson, Johnny Reynolds, Gary Shields and Barry Rikard for their play.

Rikard hurled every win for El Bethel and Shields won the tourney MVP award.

El Bethel won games over Macedonia, 24-17, and Oak Grove, 8-7, prior to defeating OG in the title game.

Toney, Perkins, Bullocks, Shields, Hawkins and Peterson had three hits each in the win over Macedonia and Bullocks and Hawkins hit home runs. Junior Sellers with four hits and Gene Huntsinger with three led Macedonia.

Kale had two hits to pace the 8-7 win over OG, and Gene Connor and Danny Denton had two each for the losers.

In other games, Oak Grove slugged Bethlehem 21-3 and

Macedonia topped Bethlehem 11-5.

Bill Ware hurled the OG victory and Connor, Greg Paysour, Jack Bell and Bill Stone had three hits each to lead the plate attack. Joel Whisman was the losing pitcher.

Dean Smith hurled the win and Chuck Boheler and Sellers had two hits each to lead the Macedonia win over Bethlehem. Bill Mullinax led Bethlehem with two.

El Bethel will join host team Second Baptist plus around 40 of the best church teams from North Carolina in next month's state event.

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