

Machine Also Saves Arms....

In a recent column on John Henry Moss, the KM Mayor and President of the Western Carolinas League endorsed pitching machines as a means of speeding up practices and as a means permitting more swings by the batter in the same period of time.

The machine, you see, throws more accurate than a batting practice pitcher as well as throwing (in most cases) a bigger variety of pitches, including the fast-ball, curve, slider and knuckler.

There is, according to many people, another reason for endorsement of the pitching machine, especially on the tee league and little league level. It avoids young arms being thrown away before they've matured.

My brother-in-law, Ed Spencer, is a former Youth Director of the Durham YMCA, and is a big supporter of pitching machines in little league baseball.

Their league last summer began using the machines in actual games on an experimental basis. The pitcher was used for defensive purposes only and Ed reports that there were no complaints, but a lot of praise, from the coaches involved in the program.

For one thing, the machine helped speed up the game because of the same reason John Henry pointed out. It eliminated the pitcher's wildness. And, another thing, and probably more important, it eliminated injuries to pitcher's arms.

Mayor Moss last week was in New York to see demonstrations on pitching machines for both baseball and slowpitch softball, as well as a passing machine for football. The passing machine, he feels, is a great asset to receivers because an injured player can man the machine and by a simple adjustment can make it throw a perfect spiral, a Billy Kilmer dying duck, high and low, and passes of any kind.

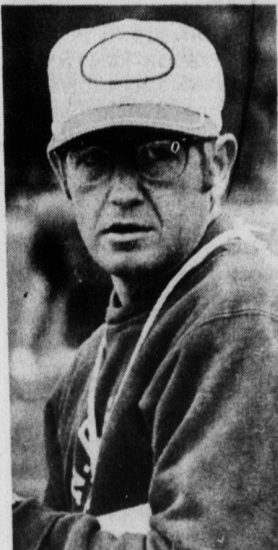
Another good thing about the machines are that they are not expensive.



GARY STEWART

NCAA Coach of the Year has to be Lou Holtz, the former N. C. State mentor who turned Arkansas into the third best team in the land. His only loss was a narrow four-point defeat to Texas when that team was number one. With all the sophomoxes and juniors on the Razaback team Holtz could go all the way to the top next fall . . .

As a golfer (although not much of one) one thing that tears me up is to play on a crummy course, especially one with grown-up fairways and dead greens. But something that irks me even more is to see someone out for kicks damage a good course. This happened recently at Kings Mountain Country Club, where someone turned the number one fairway into a racetrack by taking an automobile and spinning up and down the fairway. Whoever you are, I hope you have to replace every blade of grass . . .



LOU HOLTZ



Damaged fairway at KMCC....

KMHS Drops Pair, Hosts Raiders Friday

Kings Mountain High's cagers will be trying to get back on the winning track Friday when they host South Point in a Southwestern 3-A Conference twinbill.

The KM clubs dropped a pair Tuesday night at R-S Central, the girls losing 60-51 and the boys 76-50.

The Mountaineers are now 4-3 and the Mountaineers 3-4 in

the SWC and 4-5 overall.

The girls trailed all the way against the much-improved R-S ladies, trimming the final margin to nine points after trailing by 15 (47-32) going into

the fourth period.

KM's Priscilla Rickenbacker was the game's top scorer with 19 points but the only other Mountaineers hitting in double figure was Angie Hickman with 10.

The Mountaineers were in the game all the way until the fourth quarter, when the Hilltoppers took advantage of three technical fouls and broke the game open.

R-S led by just 27-26 at half-time and 45-44 going into the fourth quarter.

The Hilltoppers shutout KM's leading scorer Everette Burris. Timmy Adams led the Mountaineers with 18 points and Vernon Bell added 14.

GIRLS GAME

KM (51) — Rickenbacker 19, Henderson 6, Ramey 4, Hickman 10, Bristol 6, Bridges 3, Leach 5.
RS (60) — Hamilton 8, Sumley 4, Duffy 18, Miller 7, Lynch 20, Rogers 2, Burwell 1.

BOYS GAME

KM (60) — Bell 14, Prescott 8, Dixon 8, Adams 18, McClain 4, Lockhart 8.
RS (76) — Aiken 21, Morris 12, Smith 5, Hamilton 14, A. Landrum 12, Lathan 8, T. Landrum 2.

Junior High Cagers Resume League Play

Kings Mountain Junior High's cagers resume Western Conference play today, the jayvees hosting College Park and the varsity teams traveling to College Park.

The two varsity squads will be trying to maintain their hold on the conference lead, both clubs sporting perfect 5-0 records.

Coach Ken Napier's boys are trying to win their third straight league title and the girls are seeking their first championship under Candy Abergine.

After today's games, the varsity cagers will return home next Monday to host Grandview, a team which is expected to be KM's biggest threat.

Wrestlers At North Gaston Tonight

Kings Mountain High's wrestlers, 2-1 in non-conference action, begin

Southwestern 3-A Conference competition tonight at North Gaston.

NOTICE

The annual shareholders meeting of the Home Savings And Loan Association will be held in the home office at 106 East Mountain Street, Kings Mountain, N. C. the 24th of January, 1978 at 5 p. m.

Nancy S. Scism
Secretary

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