

Sports

KM Wins Controversial Decision Over East Club

Kings Mountain High's basketball teams dodged the bullet against East Rutherford Friday night in the KMHS gym.

The Mountaintettes, tied for first place in the Southwestern 3-A Conference, had to come from behind late in the game to edge the winless East Rutherford girls 55-51. The Mountaineers, tied for second in the SWC, came from behind in the fourth period and won a 75-74 decision when a shot at the buzzer by the Cavaliers was not allowed.

The victory gave the KM girls a 5-1 SWC record and 7-2 overall mark. They ended the week tied with R-S Central and Shelby for first place in the conference race.

The KM boys knocked East Rutherford out of a share of second place with a 4-2 SWC record and 8-3 overall mark. The Mountaineers improved their mark to 5-1 in the SWC and 7-3 overall and remained in a tie for second with North Gaston. R-S Central leads the league with a 6-0 conference and 10-1 overall mark.

Larry Crocker hit the front end of a one-and-one with six seconds left to break a 74-all tie and give the Mountaineers the victory. But both East and KM fans felt the thrill of victory and agony of defeat following Crocker's winning point.

When Crocker missed the second shot of the one-and-one, East's David McCoy grabbed the rebound and raced downcourt for a final shot at winning for the Cavaliers. He put up a jumper from 20 feet which rimmed out

of the basket. Tracy Keitt got the rebound and put it in for what East fans thought was the winning basket.

East fans and players stormed onto the court to celebrate. But, with the noise of the crowd drowning out the final buzzer, the referees weren't sure if Keitt put his shot up before the buzzer sounded. Basketball rules state that in the event the officials cannot hear the final buzzer, the official keeper of the scorelock is responsible for determining whether or not a shot is good. Scorekeeper Bruce Clark ruled that Keitt's shot was put up after the buzzer sounded, so the officials ruled it no good. Then, it was Kings Mountain's time to celebrate.

Kings Mountain Coach Larry Sipe said he couldn't hear the buzzer. "I was drained. I just had to look up at the scoreboard because I didn't know if we'd won or not."

Senior forward Tyrone Grier, who has been the Mounties' top scorer of late, turned in another brilliant performance with 21 points and 13 rebounds. He scored 13 points in the final six minutes when the Mountaineers erased a nine-point deficit. Crocker added 17, Arnold Jordan 13 and Lavar Curry 12.

Keitt led the Cavaliers with a game-high 37 points.

East held the upper hand throughout most of the game, leading by 21-17 after the first period, 39-34 at intermission and 53-49 going into the fourth quarter.

Kings Mountain's girls experienced an ice cold third quarter and almost fell victims of the season's biggest upset in the opener. The Mountaintettes led 14-12 after the first quarter and 28-24 at intermission, but the Lady Cavaliers outscored the KM ladies 18-6 in the third period to carry a 42-34 lead into the fourth quarter.

The Mountaintettes finally regained the lead at 52-51 following a basket by Sonya McClain with 2:10 remaining. Lisa Ingram hit the front end of a one-and-one with 2:07 left to make it 53-51 and Doreen Pettus iced the victory with a free throw with 11 seconds left.

Pettus led the KM scoring with 20 points, McClain added 18 and Ingram eight. Gina Elmore led the East girls with 31.

BOYS GAME

KM (75) - Grier 21, L. Crocker 17, Jordan 13, Curry 12, Roberts 6, Ballew 2, D. Crocker 2.

ER (74) - Keitt 37, W. McEntire 13, Byrd 8, Smith 7, Swann 6, R. McEntire 2.

GIRLS GAME

KM (55) - Pettus 20, McClain 18, Ingram 8, Ware 6, Boheler 2, Woods 1.

ER (51) - Elmore 31, Spratt 12, Sanford 4, Wright 2, Justice 2.

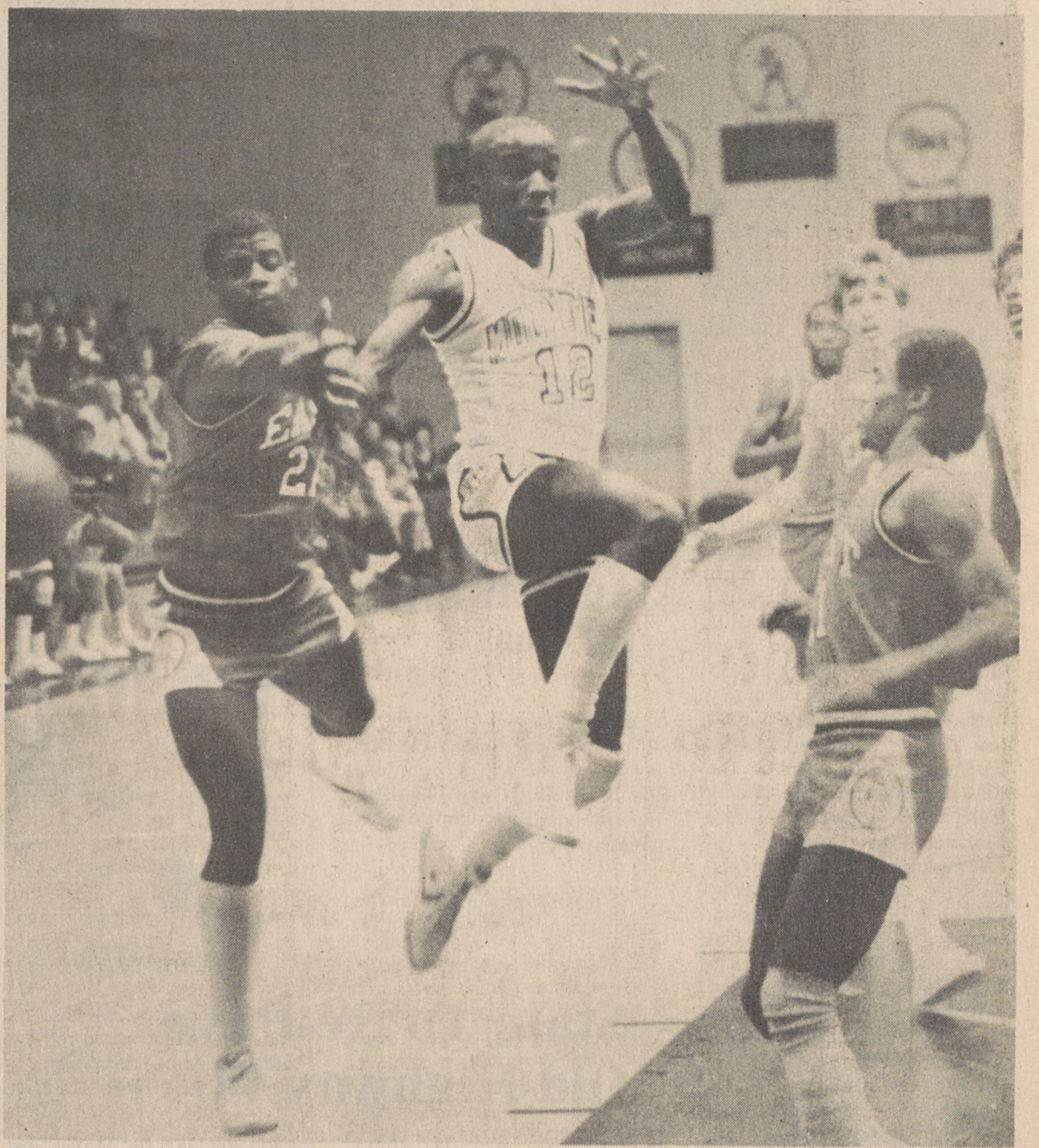
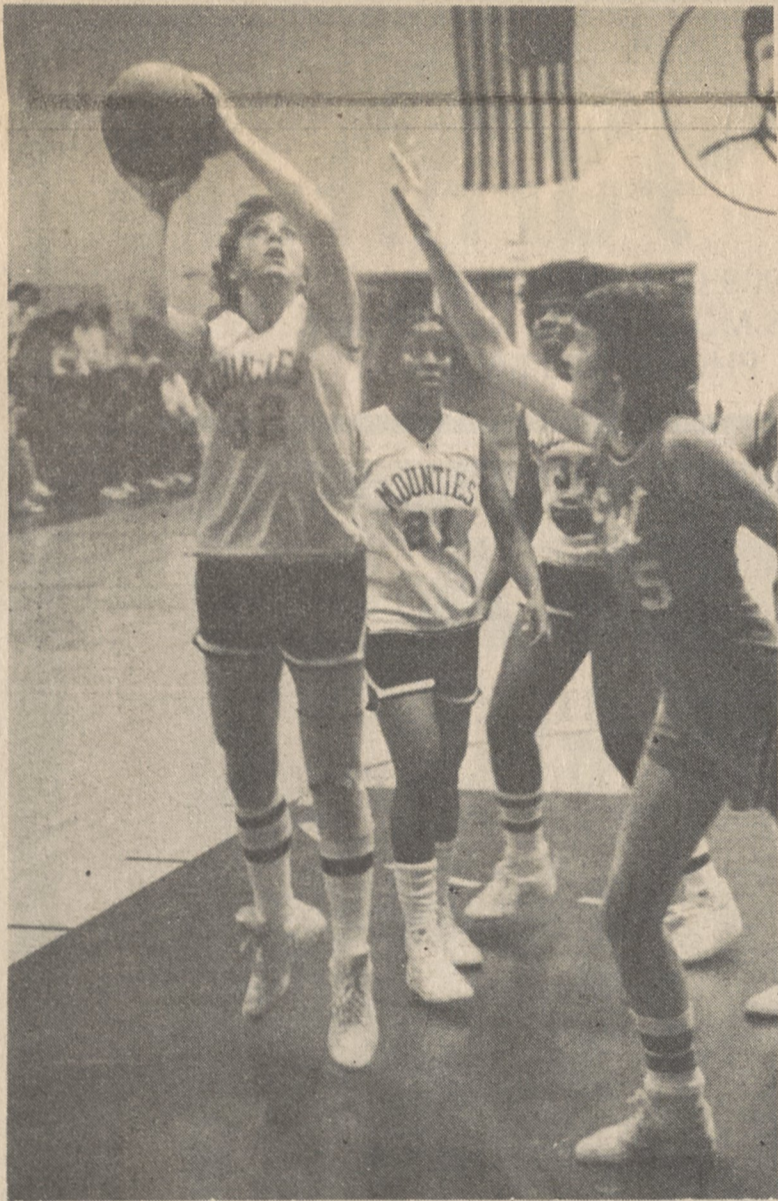


Photo by Gary Stewart

HIGH HURDLER - No. Casey Roberts of Kings Mountain High's basketball team is not practicing for the high hurdles which will come up in the spring. He's breaking for a layup in Friday's game at the KMHS gym against East Rutherford. But the Cavaliers' Tracy Keitt (behind Roberts) makes a good play and blocks the ball out of bounds. Kings Mountain won 75-74.



KEY BASKET - Anita Ware (32) of Kings Mountain shoots a key layup in a fourth quarter comeback victory for the Mountaintettes over East Rutherford Friday night at the KMHS gym. The East girls led until the final three minutes when the KM ladies came back to post a 55-51 win and remain tied for first place in the Southwestern Conference race.

Game Called Off, Shelby Here Friday

Kings Mountain High's scheduled Southwestern 3-A Conference twinbill with North Gaston Tuesday night was postponed because of a leak in the North Gaston gym.

The two teams were scheduled to try again last night.

The KM and North Gaston boys teams went into the game

tied for second place in the SWC behind undefeated R-S Central. Both teams were 5-1 in conference play.

The KM girls went into the game 5-1 in conference play and one-half game behind Shelby and R-S Central. A KM win would put the Mountaintettes back into a tie for the lead.

The Kings Mountain teams have a pair of tough SWC doubleheaders coming up this week. Friday night, they host county rival Shelby at 6:30, and next Tuesday, they travel to R-S Central for a 6:30 twinbill.

CITY AUTO TAGS

City auto tags are now on sale by the Kings Mountain Lions Club and are available for \$1 at City Hall.

FULTON'S

CLEARANCE



MENS DEXTER DRESS BOOTS Reg. \$65.00	Sale \$38 ⁸⁸
SELECTED STYLES TENNIS SHOES	\$5 ⁰⁰ To \$18 ⁰⁰ Off Reg. Price
ALL BOYS BRUXTON SHIRTS (Fits Ladies Too) - Reg. \$15.00 To \$19.00	\$9 ⁸⁸
ALL LADIES DRESS SHOES	1/2 Price
ALL BLACK WOOL KM LETTER JACKETS Reg. \$55.00	\$33 ⁸⁸
BOYS MEMBERS ONLY JACKETS Sizes 8-20 - Reg. \$40.00 & \$44.00	\$32 ⁸⁸ & \$34 ⁸⁸
ONE GROUP BOYS JACKETS	1/2 Price
ALL HEALTH-TEX	40% Off
ALL MENS PANTS Reg. \$27.00 To \$65.00	Sale \$16 ⁸⁸ To \$44 ⁸⁸
CHRISTIAN DIOR MENS SWEATERS Reg. \$38.00 To \$45.00	Sale \$22 ⁸⁸ To \$28 ⁸⁸
BOYS INSULATED VESTS Reg. \$20.00	\$9 ⁸⁸
MENS ALL COTTON SWEATERS Reg. \$32.00 To \$40.00	Sale \$19 ⁸⁸
ALL LADIES HANDBAGS	1/2 Price
ALL MISSY & JUNIOR FALL & WINTER DRESSES	1/2 Price
ALL MISSY SPORTSWEAR	25% To 50% Off
ALL JR. SPORTSWEAR	25% To 50% Off
NEW SPRING MISSY & JR. DRESSES	25% Off
NEW SPRING MISSY & JR. SKIRT & TOP SETS	25% Off
ALL WINTER SHADOWLINE	20% Off
JUNIOR WINTER SLEEPWEAR BY JENNIFER DALE	40% Off

117 West Mountain Street
Downtown Kings Mountain



739-2366