

Photo by Gary Stewart

FIRST KM TD - David Ledbetter (38) lowers his head and bulls his way into the endzone for the first touchdown of the season for the Kings Mountain offense in first quarter of Friday's game with East Lincoln. The Mountaineers won 42-0.

Seek Third Straight Win

Mountaineers Host Hunter Huss Friday

Kings Mountain High's footballers go after their third straight victory Friday at 8 p.m. when a strong Hunter Huss eleven invades John Gamble Stadium.

The Huskies, a veteran ballclub from the Southwestern 4-A Conference, played Southwestern 3-A Conference favorite Shelby to a scoreless tie last week on a wet Hunter Huss field.

"They're very explosive," said KMHS Coach Denny Hicks. "They have a good solid team with a lot of talent. It should be a good ballgame."

The Huskies, who operate out of a Pro-I, are a better running team than they were last year when they fell to Kings Mountain 13-9 at Huss stadium. Sparking the offense is quick tailback Kevin Armstrong, who gained 650 yards last year and who had 95 yards rushing last week against a strong Shelby defense.

"He is a good running back," noted Hicks. "We'll have to do a good job on him and keep him contained."

Will Coleman, the leading

rusher on last year's undefeated junior varsity team, starts at fullback for the Huskies and Neil Cochran, also up from the jayvees, is the starting quarterback.

"They don't throw the ball as much as they did last year, but they have a good passing attack," said Hicks. "They have some good receivers with good speed."

Hicks is hoping his offense can continue to improve, because the Huss defense is solid.

"They run a 50 defense which is very similar to Shelby's, and their front five are real solid," said Hicks. "They have good linebackers. They have a lot of faith in their line and linebackers because their secondary plays real deep to take care of the pass. We'll have to do a good job coming off the football."

The Huskies finished with a 2-8 record last year but second-year coach Jack Huss, an R-S Central and Lenoir-Rhyne product, hopes to make a run for the state playoffs this year.

The Mountaineer offense began to jell in last week's 42-0 win over East Lincoln after failing to move the ball consistently in the opening-season 17-7 win over Bessemer City, a game in which the defense scored both touchdowns on pass interceptions.

Hicks and his staff were forced to change their offensive scheme last week because quarterback Jerry

Jordan was operating on a tender ankle.

"We had to take out most of the option plays, and all of our players adjusted well," said Hicks. "Our execution was good, the line blocked real well and the backs did a good job of running to the holes."

Jordan ran the ball only twice, both out of passing situations. The rest of the night, he depended on brothers Anthony and Daron Hillman, Raynards Roberts and Monty Deaton to do the work. They responded with 213 yards rushing.

The defense continued its fine work, holding the opposition to under 100 yards rushing for the second week in a row.

Coach Bruce Clark's defense was dealt a severe blow, however, when linebacker David Ledbetter went down to a knee injury in the second half.

"There's a possibility the injury wasn't as bad as it looked on the field," said Hicks. "David's one of the best defensive linemen I've coached since I was at Asheville 13 years ago. We'd be tickled to death to get him back in time for our conference opener at Shelby (September 26)."

Except for Ledbetter, the Mountaineers should be healthy for Friday's contest.

"It's going to be a big challenge for us," said Hicks. "We anticipate a good, close ballgame. We hope everyone will come out and support us."

Tie-Breaker Decides Contest

Howell Football Winner

S.S. Howell of Route 2, Cherryville, picked 18 of 19 winners and came within four points of the tie-breaker to win the \$100 prize in last week's Herald football contest.

Howell's only miss was Union's 6-3 victory over Clover on Friday night. The Shelby-Hunter Huss game, which ended in a scoreless tie, was not counted.

Howell won over Bobby Bolin and Gary Bess, both of Kings Mountain, by coming closer to the tie-breaking score of 50 points scored in the East Gaston-North Gaston game which was won by East Gaston 26-24.

Bolin also missed the Clover-Union game and predicted 38 points on the tie-breaker. Bess missed the Nebraska victory over Florida State and predicted 24 points on the tie-breaker.

Winners of last week's games were Crest over Burns, East Rutherford over R-S Central, Kings Mountain over East Lincoln,

East Gaston over North Gaston, Ashbrook over South Point, Union over Clover, Miami over Florida, Duke over Northwestern, UNC over The Citadel, N.C. State over East Carolina, Virginia over South Carolina, Wake Forest over Appalachian, Oklahoma over UCLA, Nebraska over Florida State, Ole Miss over Memphis State, Penn State over Temple, West Lincoln over Lincolnton, Kannapolis over Statesville, and York over Blacksburg in overtime.

The second of 10 weekly contests is inside today's Herald. Pick the most winners and get us your entry by 4 p.m. Friday and you will be the next winner. Mail your entry to Football Contest, P.O. Box 752, Kings Mountain, N.C. 28086, or bring it by our office at East King and Canterbury Road. Only one entry per person will be allowed. Any entries judged to be the same handwriting will be disqualified.

Jayvees At Huss Thursday

Kings Mountain High's junior varsity footballers dropped a 16-0 decision to East Lincoln in their season's opener Thursday night in Denver.

Coach David Bolton takes his Mountaineers to Hunter Huss in Gastonia Thursday for a 7:30 game.

Kings Mountain marched to the East Lincoln five on three occasions but each time penalties took them out of scoring range. The Mountaineers gave up the ball on downs twice and missed a 15-yard field goal attempt.

"We should have won the game, but a lot of fumbles and penalties hurt us," said Coach Bolton. "We need to work on our blocking and tackling."

Alan Moore led the KM rushing effort with 54 yards and center Brandon Morgan did a good job of blocking. Chris Brown and Reggie Gamble led the KM defensive effort.

East McDowell Here Wednesday

Patriots Open Next Week

Kings Mountain Junior High's football team will open its season Wed., Sept. 17 at John Gamble Stadium against East McDowell.

Game time is 5 p.m.

Coach Gary Blake, beginning his third season as head coach of the Patriots, will field an inexperienced, but talented ball club.

"We're just going to have to go out there and fight and see what happens," said Blake. "We lost a lot of starters. We hope to be a sleeper this year. We've got good talent, we're just inexperienced."

Heading the Patriots' attack this year will be quarterback Tim McClain, a good passer, and a pair of good tailbacks, Darius Ross and Jeff Lockhart.

Blake and his assistants, Tommy Wease and Keith Batchler, hope they can develop a good blocking line to spring those backs and give McClain a lot of time to throw.

Linemen and defensive players who'll be seeing a lot of action include Billy Applying, Ray Roseberry, Mark

Rhea, Cedric Byrd, Derek Byrd, Tony Young and Benji Foster.

Blake points to East Rutherford and Shelby as the teams to beat in the Western N.C. Junior High Athletic Association. "They're the only two teams to beat us last year. We played them close

last year, and hope we can come out a winner against them this year."

THE SCHEDULE
Sept. 17 - East McDowell; Sept. 24 - at R-S Central; Oct. 8 - at Burns; Oct. 15 - at Shelby; Oct. 22 - East Rutherford; Oct. 29 - at Chase; Nov. 5 - Crest.

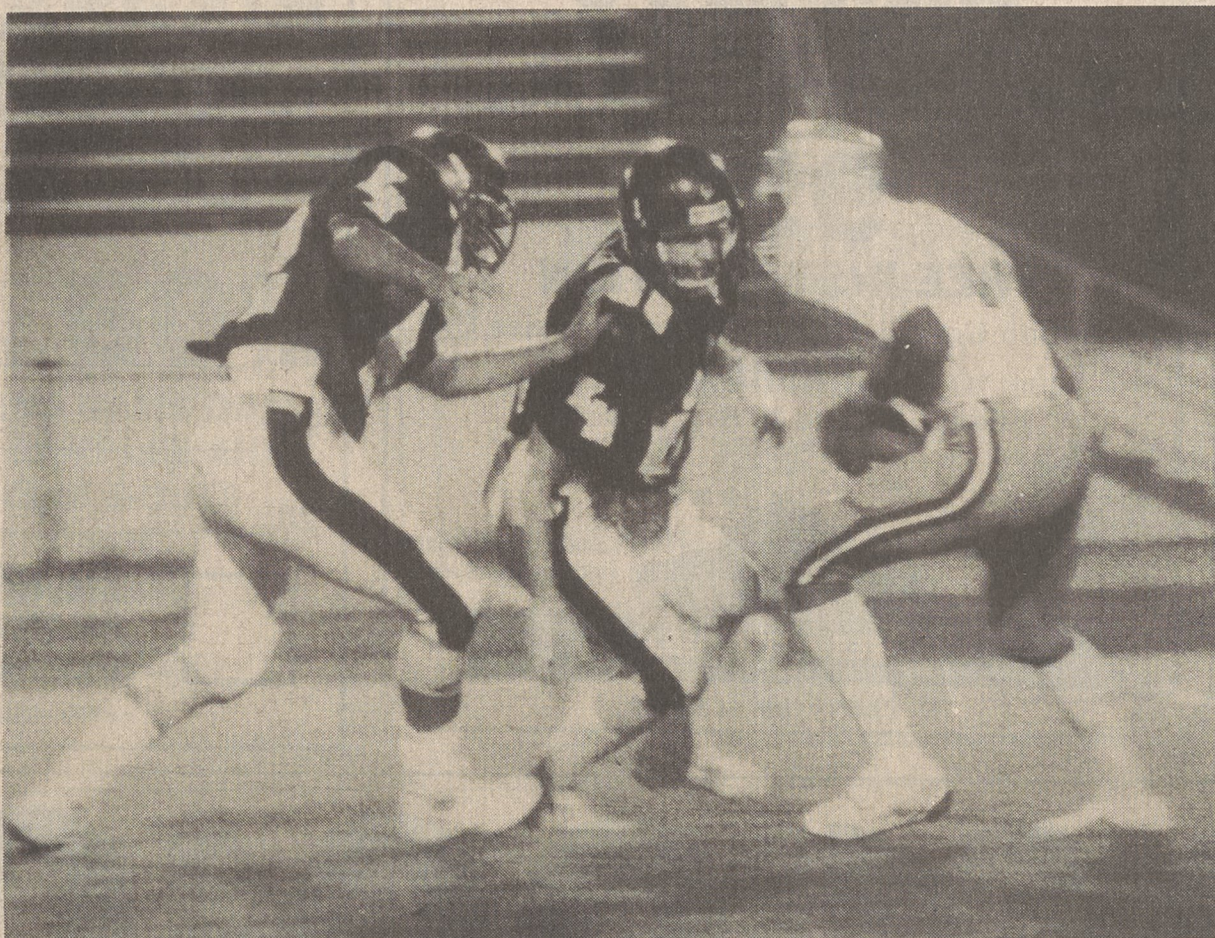


Photo by Gary Stewart

HEMMED IN - Kings Mountain defenders Kevin Champion (52) and Danny Hamrick (66) corner East Lincoln quarterback Keith Rendleman in Friday's non-conference game at John Gamble Stadium. KM won 42-0.

Volleyball Team Wins Two Of Three In SWC

Kings Mountain High's volleyball team won two of three Southwestern 3-A Conference matches during the past week and dropped a non-conference battle to Crest.

The KM ladies, defending SWC champions, are 2-1 in the conference and 3-3 overall. They play at East Rutherford this afternoon in a big SWC clash.

In action last week, the Mountaineers defeated South Point 15-9, 10-15 and 15-9 and lost to Chase 15-9 and 15-11 in conference games. In non-conference action, they fell to Crest 3-15, 16-14, 3-5, 15-3 and 15-5.

The KM ladies bounced back Monday afternoon to defeat Burns 15-12 and 15-7 in SWC action.

Kings Mountain's B team lost both of its matches last week, 13-15, 15-13 and 15-7 to South Point, and 13-15, 15-8 and 15-11 to Chase. Monday afternoon, KM's B team defeated Burns 4-15, 15-8 and 15-11.

Coach Diana Bridges got good performances from several players last week. Chris Shelby scored 15 points in three games against South Point and good spiking in the third game by Regina Brown and Jennifer Boheler, with key assists by Carmen Smith, gave the Mountaineers the momentum they needed to pick up the victory.

"Against Chase, we never could get our momentum going, but we got some good play from Carmen Smith who led us with five points," Coach Bridges said.

Poor serving cost the Mountaineers in the loss to Crest but Bridges still saw some benefits.

"We always enjoy playing them because they play good volleyball with an attack offense which makes for good, exciting volleyball," Bridges said. Brown, a returning All-Conference standout, led the Mountaineers in the five games with 30 points.

Coach Bridges said she was pleased with her B team's progress despite two losses last week.

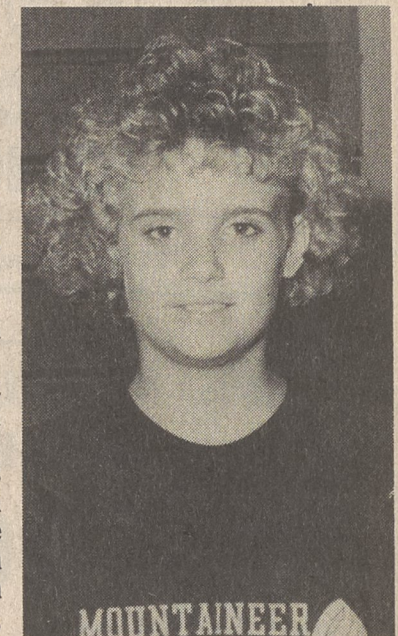
"They are a hustling team," she said. "Tonya Ballew and Robin Watterson have been leaders with their ace serving."

In Monday's victory over Burns, Bridges said "we had a steady attack by the offense despite poor serving. Smith and Ballew did an excellent job of setting up the offense."

Smith, a freshman, was cited by Bridges as KM's first Player of the Week for an outstanding effort in last week's games.

"She is carrying the majority of our setting responsibility," Bridges said. "Setting is the key to what makes the offense work and she has a natural touch with setting and a good, consistent serve."

"She works hard to improve her skills in practice and is a very coachable young lady," Bridges added. "I look forward to coaching her during the next four years."



CARMEN SMITH
...Player Of Week

Bowlers Needed

Kings Mountain's Mixed Duckpin Bowling Leagues will begin their fall season soon at Dilling Heating's lanes.

All area men and women interested in bowling on Tuesday and/or Thursday nights should call John Dilling or Betty Hullender.