

Hollifield Triple-Winner At KMHS Fall Sports Fete

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two of the nation's best academic institutions.

"He's a computer whiz," Wilson noted. "He's a leader on and off the football field and is one fine man."

The entire crop of senior linemen drew praise from Clark, who pointed out that the seven players on the starting line had a combined grade point average of 3.24. Of the five senior line starters, four are being recruited by major colleges, he said.

"We don't play dumb lineman," he noted.

The Fred Plonk Blocking Trophy, which is the oldest trophy given at KMHS, went to center Kevin Champion, who developed into one of the best one-on-one blockers in the SWC.

"He came so far it's almost unbelievable," Coach Clark said. "He has great potential. I can't tell you how much he meant to us. He's one of the most polite boys I've ever known and is a heck of a young man."

Coach Bolt pointed out that the team's most outstanding lineman, Bumgardner, graded out at better than 90 percent for the year and was KM's "best lineman in practice and the games. He had a real good relationship with all the coaches and his teammates," Bolt said.

Bumgardner was also All-Conference on both offense and defense and is also being highly recruited by the major colleges as a tight end and placekicker. As a kicker at KMHS this year, he hit 34 of 36 extra point attempts and two of three field goals for 40 points. His 43-yard field goal was the difference in KM's 17-14 state playoff victory over Brevard.

KM's best defensive lineman, Hillman, was one of the team's smallest players, but the 5-6, 145-pounder was one of the hardest hitters in the conference. For the year, he made 60 tackles, had one blocked field goal, three fumble recoveries and scored two defensive touchdowns.

"Everybody would say he's too little to play football," said Coach Clark. "But he did a lot of work in the weight



MORE WINNERS - Winning football trophies at Wednesday's Fall Sports Banquet at KMHS were, left to right, Kevin Champion, Gus Degree and Paul Heffner.

room and is as stout as an ox. He did a great job for us."

Included among the backfield trophy winners for KMHS were several youngsters who made a lot of sacrifices for the good of the team.

Jordan, winner of the BDF Award for producing the most offense on the team, was the team's leading rusher last year at the tailback position.

"We asked him to make the switch to quarterback this year for the good of the team, and he was willing," Coach John Goforth pointed out. "He accounted for 809 yards of total offense and 12 touchdowns.

"Defensively, he was one of the best backs around," Goforth said. "He had only two pass interceptions but that was because everybody respected him and wouldn't throw against him. They knew what would happen if they did."

Jordan finished the year with 63 tackles, one of the best marks on the team.

Goforth also had words of praise for Roberts, the most

outstanding. But Raynard Roberts was one of the most exciting runners I've seen in years. He was a threat to go all the way every time he touched the football."

Roberts finished the year with 712 yards rushing and nine touchdowns. During his two-year varsity career, he returned six kicks for touchdowns.

"Pound for pound, he's the best around," Goforth said.

The most improved player, Degree, also saw double-duty and led the team in receiving from the flanker position. He was effective on reverses and as an option passer on reverse plays, and along with Roberts was one of the best return men in the conference.

He led the team in pass interceptions with six and was also in on 20 tackles from his cornerback position.

"He worked very hard to improve," noted Coach Chuck Gordon. "He was a bundle of surprises on both offense and defense and went after it every time."

Degree's backup, Paul Heffner, was presented the coaches award for his hard work in practice and the games.

"He always gave you 100 percent," Coach Hicks said. "He's the type of individual you don't forget."

Volleyball award winners

Regina Brown and Tina Anderson also gave 100 percent on every play, Coach Bridges pointed out.

Brown, the MVP, was Player of the Year in the SWC after leading the KM ladies to their second straight conference crown and into the third round of the state 3-A playoffs.

"She's being recruited very highly by a number of colleges, including N.C. State," Coach Bridges said. "It would be great if we could have a volleyball player in the ACC. She's the best."

Anderson worked her way into the starting lineup after playing in a reserve role last year.

"She always worked hard to improve her game, and was good on techniques," Bridges said. "She served match point for the district championship."

Crosscountry award winners Cliff Meeks and Neil White finished in the top 15 in the SWC meet.

"White trained hard and improved in every race," Coach Steve Lazenby pointed out. "He scored points in every race."

"Cliff trained as hard as anyone I've ever coached," he went on. "I have him in English, also, and he carries the highest academic average in my class."

The tennis award winners, McGinnis and Warlick, were both All-Conference and advanced to the State Tournament. Warlick finished undefeated in singles competition for the second year in a row and now has a 22-0 varsity record.

During the regular season, they played the second and third singles positions behind Ashley McGinnis, but moved up to first and second after Ashley suffered a late-season injury. At that time, the KM ladies were undefeated and battling Shelby and North Gaston for the SWC title. They dropped their only two matches after that but still wound up 10-2.

"I hate to see Kimberly go, we'll miss her," said Coach Suzy Holtzclaw. "But we're looking for even better things out of J.J. next year."

Senior Paris Floyd was presented the most outstanding cheerleader award from cheerleader coach Kevin Plonk.

She was the only three-year cheerleader on the football cheering squad and served as squad captain. She was voted Cheerleader of the Month for November.

"She's a very polite young lady and active in many school and community activities," said Mrs. Plonk. "We'll miss her."



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