

Mounties 7th Gaston Tournament, Lose 5-4 To South Point Tuesday

Kings Mountain's Mountaineers fell to area 2-A powers Cherryville 8-5 and Bessemer City 2-0 and trimmed 4-A Gastonia Ashbrook 7-5 in the Gaston County Baseball Tournament last week at Bessemer City High School.

Saturday morning's victory over Ashbrook gave the Mountaineers seventh place in the eight-team tourney. North Gaston of the Southwestern 3-A Conference won the event with a 10-inning victory over 4-A East Gaston in Saturday night's title game. Following the second place Warriors were Cherryville, Hunter Huss, Bessemer City, South Point, KM and Ashbrook.

Sophomore Toby Deaton went the distance and scattered five hits to beat Ashbrook Saturday after the Cherryville and Bessemer City teams defeated KM's 1-2 hurlers Monte Deaton and Rusty Bumgardner earlier in the week. The Mountaineers backed Deaton with a 10-hit attack.

The key hit for the Mountaineers was a two-run homer by Del Postell in the bottom of the sixth inning which broke a 5-5 deadlock.

Kings Mountain grabbed a 1-0 lead in the first inning on a home run by Brent Bagwell but the Green Wave battled back to take a 4-1 lead after Brad Walters slammed a two-run homer in the top of the fifth. The Mountaineers scored four runs in their half of the fifth to edge back on top 5-4. Bagwell had an RBI single, Postell had a run-scoring triple and Chris Morris had a two-run single to give the Mountaineers the lead.

Ashbrook tied the score again in the top of the sixth on a sacrifice fly by Steve Alexander to set the stage for Postell's game-winning blow in the bottom of the inning.

Cherryville built a 5-0 lead after four innings and then held off a late Mountaineer rally to edge the KM entry 8-5 in opening round action Wednesday night.

Jeff Warlick went the distance for the Ironmen. Monty Deaton worked the first five innings for the

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Boys Track Team Third At Shelby

Kings Mountain High's boys track team finished third in a non-conference meet Friday at Shelby. The host Golden Lions won the event with 92 points, followed by Crest with 39 and KM with 37.

Kings Mountain's Steve Mauney ran the 800 in two minutes flat to win the event and place fourth in the state rankings. Coach David Bolton cited him as Performer of the Week.

Kings Mountain's only other first place was Cliff Meeks, who won the 3200.

Second places for the Mountaineers included Mauney, Aubrey Hollifield, Daron Hillman and Ron Ruffin in the 1600 meter relay, Meeks in the 1600 run and Andre Bess in the 400.

Thirds included Hollifield in the 110 and 300 hurdles, and Daron Hillman, Anthony Hillman, Kevin Smith and Tim Tyndal in the 800 relay.

Finishing fourth were Fred Byrd in the shot put, Rusty Carringer in the discus, Daron Hillman in the 100, and Tyndal in the 200.

The Mountaineers were scheduled to participate in the Cleveland County Meet Tuesday at Crest. They go to Shelby Thursday for the Shelby Invitational.

Kings Mountain's girls were idle last week. They will participate in a Pre-Conference meet today at R-S Central and the SWC meet next Wednesday at East Rutherford.

SPORTS

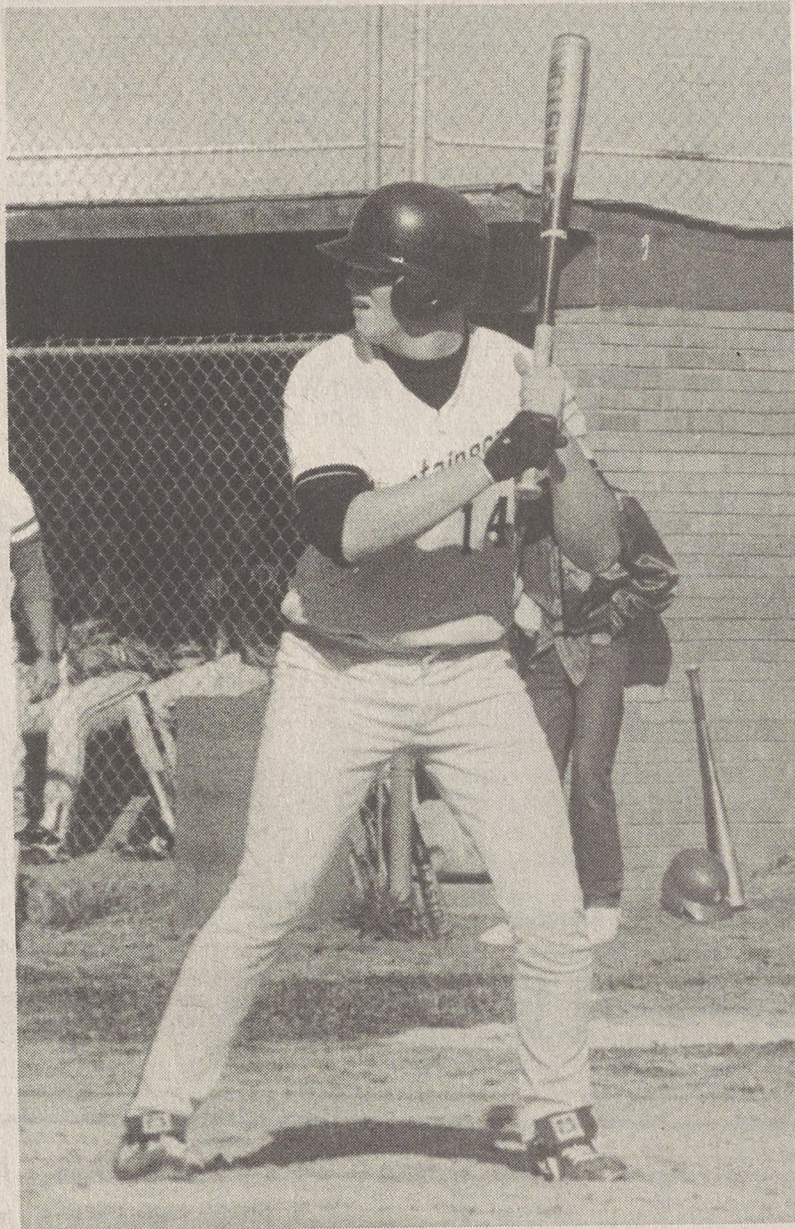


Photo by Gary Stewart

SLAMS HOMER - Brent Bagwell's first inning homer helped lift Kings Mountain's Mountaineers to a 7-5 victory over Gastonia Ashbrook Saturday in the Gaston County Tournament at Bessemer City. The Mountaineers host East Rutherford Friday and North Gaston Tuesday in a pair of key Southwestern 3-A Conference contests.

Boys Club Cagers Fourth In State AAU Tournament

Kings Mountain Boys Club's 15-under basketball team finished fourth in the State AAU Tournament last weekend in Greensboro.

Kings Mountain fell to Charlotte 84-76 in the third place game. Darius Ross scored 25 points and Tyrone Brice 20 for the local five.

Kings Mountain defeated Winston-Salem 68-66 in the opening round before falling to Haywood County 78-77 in overtime Friday. Brice scored 21 points, Tank Allison 15 and Shawn Colquett 10 against Winston-Salem, and Kevin Armstrong had 18, De-mond Alexander 16 and Brice 13 against Haywood County.

Kings Mountain battled back Saturday to defeat Greensboro 81-58, Raleigh 75-61 in overtime and Haywood County 48-32 before

losing again in the consolation finals. Brice scored 20 points and Darius Ross 18 against Greensboro, Tripp Guinn had 15 and Alexander 12 against Raleigh and Ross scored 13 and Armstrong 12 against Haywood County.

Booster's To Plan Spring Sports Fete

Kings Mountain High's Booster's Club will meet Monday at 7:30 p.m. at Barnes Auditorium to make final plans for the spring sports banquet which is scheduled for Tues., May 12 at 6:30 at the KMHS cafeteria.

The sports banquet is open to the public. Tickets are available at the high school at \$5 each. Athletes from winter and spring sports will be honored.

Kings Mountain's Mountaineers will probably have to decide their own fate in regular season-ending Southwestern 3-A Conference baseball games over the next week and a half.

The Mountaineers missed a chance to wrap up a SWC playoff berth Tuesday night when they fell to South Point 5-4 on Brian Pate's solo homerun in the bottom of the sixth inning.

A Kings Mountain win would have given the Raiders their sixth SWC loss and second to KM. With three games remaining, the Mounties could have done no worse than tie South Point for fourth place in the SWC and KM would have advanced because of two regular season wins over the Raiders.

But, now, KM is only one game up on South Point in the race for one of the four SWC playoff and three state 3-A playoff berths. The Mountaineers must still battle East Rutherford, North Gaston and Shelby while South Point has a lighter schedule, facing Burns, R-S Central and Chase.

After Tuesday's action, North Gaston leads the league with a 9-2 record, followed by Chase and East Rutherford at 8-3, KM 7-4 and South Point 6-5. Kings Mountain hosts East Rutherford Friday night and North Gaston Tuesday night, and then closes out regular season play on the following Friday at Shelby.

"We had them on the ropes in the first, fourth and fifth innings, but just couldn't get the hits to produce runs," said KMHS coach David Hefner of Tuesday's loss at Belmont. "We just didn't hit with men on base." The Mountaineers left 11 men stranded.

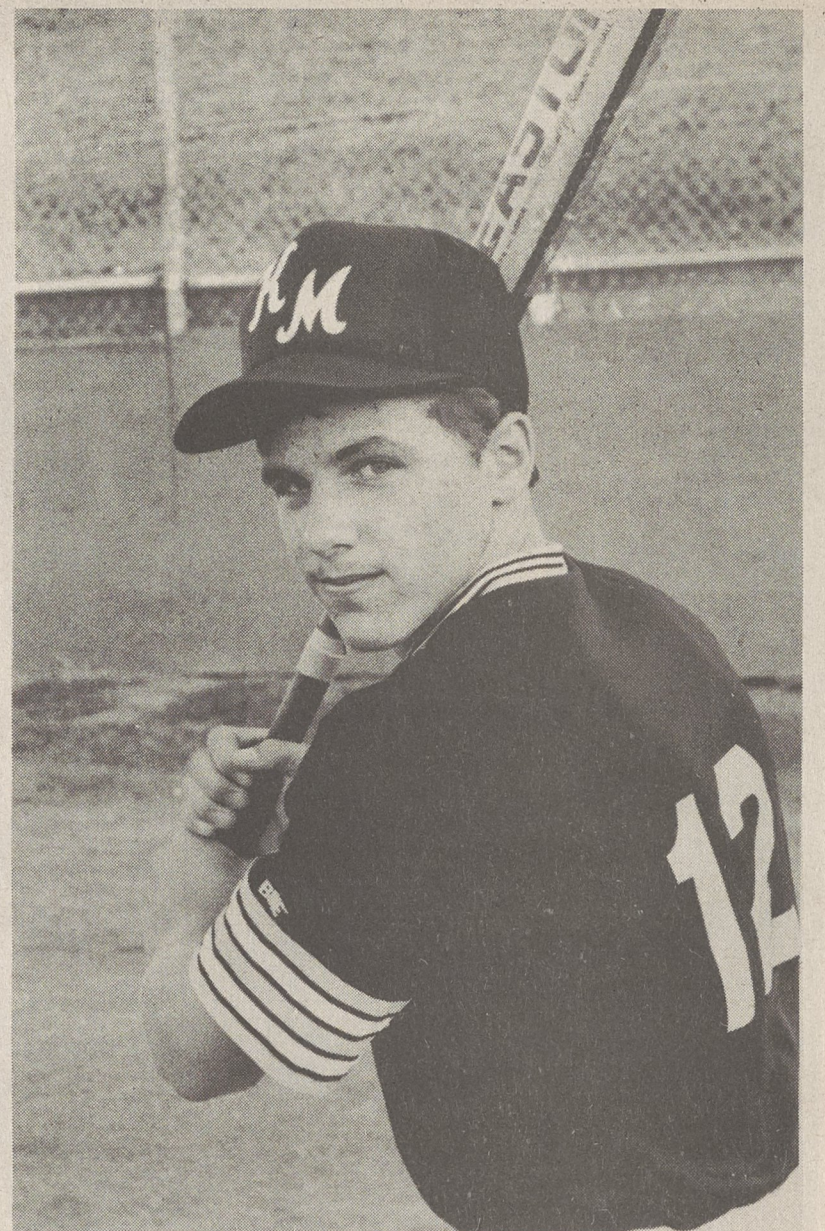
Despite collecting only five hits off sophomore Shane Lay, the Mountaineers battled back from a 4-1 deficit to tie the game at 4-4 heading into the bottom of the sixth. Del Postell led the KM plate attack with two hits and an RBI, Larry Yarbrough and losing pitcher Monty Deaton had run-producing singles, and Todd Fleming had a single.

Trent Horne's two-run homer in the third built South Point's three-run lead.

THE LINESCORE

By innings: R H E
KM 100 021 0 4 4 4
SP 202 001 x 5 7 1

Deaton and Crocker; Lay, Kinlaw (6) and Nichols.



HELPS LEAD KM WIN - Chris Henson had three hits to help lead Kings Mountain Junior High's baseballers to an 11-1 win over Chase Monday. The Patriots host Shelby Thursday and Crest Friday.

Junior High Baseball Team Whips Chase For Eighth Win

Kings Mountain Junior High's baseballers defeated Chase 11-1 Monday to run their record to 8-0 in the Western N.C. Junior High Athletic Association.

Coach Tommy Wease's Patriots, trying for their second straight league title, host Shelby Thursday and Crest Friday.

Keith Allen hurled the first six innings to earn Monday's

win. He gave up only three walks and struck out six. Chad Plonk pitched the seventh inning and struck out all three men he faced.

Chip Cash, Chris Henson and Paul Brannon led the KM plate attack with three hits each. John Forrest and Jon Reid added two hits apiece and Kevin Whittington and Chris Plonk had one each.

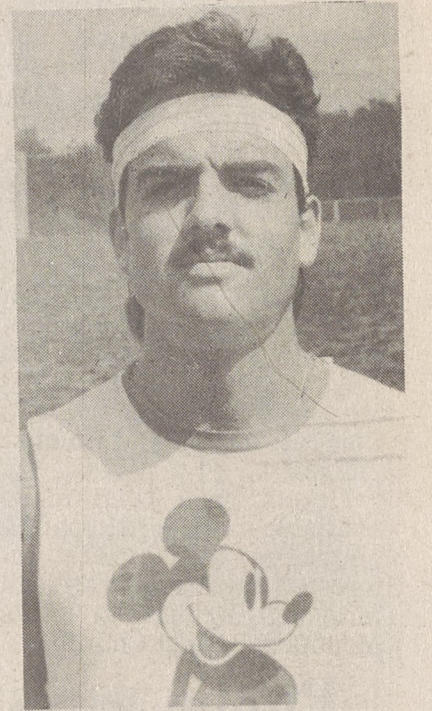
Junior High Golfers Win Western Association Title

Kings Mountain Junior High's golf team won its second straight Western N.C. Junior High Athletic Association championship in the conference match Tuesday at City Park in Shelby.

Coach Paul Bolt's Patriots shot an 18-hole score of 304. Following the Mountaineers were Burns 321, Crest 343, East McDowell 358, Shelby 359 and West McDowell 426.

Kings Mountain's Brady Goforth and Ryan Broadwell shared medalist honors with one-over-par 73s. Todd

Parker shot 77, Robbie Wilson 81, Matt Heavner 83 and Lenny Wright 89.



STEVE MAUNEY

REGISTRATION

Registration for anyone between the ages of 13 and 16 interested in playing summer baseball will be held from 1-3 p.m. Saturday at the KMHS baseball field.

Each player must pay a \$10 registration fee and \$5 for insurance.



KMHS GIRLS TRACK TEAM

Kings Mountain High's girls track team, 4-1 in the Southwestern 3-A Conference, will compete in the SWC Pre-Conference meet today at R-S Central and in the annual SWC meet next Wednesday at East Rutherford. Team members include, front row, left to right, Karen Anthony, Jackie Plonk, J.J. Warlick, Terri Jenkins, Donna Hughes and Shana Robinson. Second row, Candice Carswell, Stacey Goode, Michelle Roseboro, Kim Huffstetler, Teresa Watkins, Carol Ann Van

Dyke, Misty Shockley, Melissa Helms, Kathy Kreuger, Dana Schrum, Stephanie Brown, Becky Bridges and Bridget Hill. Back row, coach David Bolton, Dana Jenkins, Sciandra Robinson, Kerry Rhyne, Lisa Lund, Laura Allen, Ashli McGinnis, Angela Woods, Tracy Ward, Bobbie Byrd, Kim Degree, Adrienne Woods, Sherry Jordan, Vickie Ellis, Kim Watkins, Donna Young and Stacey Crocker.