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# SPORTS

3-B

## Mounties Blank Chase, R-S Here Friday Night

### Ross KO Return Keys 48-0 Rout

Darius Ross returned the opening kickoff 95 yards for a touchdown to spark Kings Mountain's Mountaineers to a 48-0 rout of Chase in Southwestern 3-A Conference football action Friday night at John Gamble Stadium.

The victory broke a two-game losing streak for the Mountaineers and evened their overall record at 3-3. The Mounties remain at home Friday to host R-S Central in their annual homecoming game.

The 48-point offensive production was the most for the Mountaineers since 1985 when they defeated Chase 59-0 en route to an 11-2 season.

Although the offensive statistics would indicate a close ballgame, the Mountaineers completely dominated the game, thanks mostly to their return game. Ross, who had to sit out the first four games with an injury, scored three of the four times he touched the football.

The Mountaineers rolled to a 35-0 halftime lead and closed out the scoring with a touchdown in each of the final two periods. Kings Mountain's final touchdown came early in the fourth quarter by the second offensive unit.

The game was highly pleasing to the Mountaineers and their coaching staff who had witnessed good efforts in every game only to lose three games because of some missed assignments.

"This was a game in which everybody played well," said Coach Hicks. "I know Chase came in with an 0-5 record but they had played some good teams close ballgames. But when you do the kind of things we did you can win big."

After Ross's opening return and Todd McDaniel's point-after gave KM a quick 7-0 lead, Chase tried some trick plays to try to get its side fired up, but Kings Mountain's defense never let the Trojans' dangerous backfield get untracked. The Trojans had 12 plays which lost yardage and the Mounties sacked quarterback Todd Bomer six times.

Victor Bell's two-yard touchdown run put KM on top by 13-0 later in the first quarter and the Mounties put the game away with a 22-point burst in the second quarter. Ross was wide open down the Chase sideline for a pass from quarterback Ryan Hollifield which resulted in a 79-yard scoring play, and Hollifield hit Ross again with a 12-yard touchdown pass moments later. Bell's 10-yard run late in the second quarter closed out the first half scoring.

Bell scored from four yards out and McDaniel booted the PAT to give KM a 42-0 lead early in the third quarter, and reserve quarterback Timmy McClain scored from two yards out to close out the scoring with 10 minutes remaining.

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#### THE YARDSTICK

	CH	KM
First downs	6	16
Yds. Rushing	47	187
Passes	2-4-0	
Passes	3-15-0	2-4-0
Yds. Passing	32	91
Fumbles Lost	1	2
Yds. Penalized	60	25

Score by quarters:	T
CH	0 0 0 0-0
KM	13 22 7 6-48

**Scoring:**  
 KM - Ross 92 kickoff return (McDaniel kick)  
 KM - Bell 2 run (Kick failed)  
 KM - Ross 79 - pass from Hollifield (Kick failed)  
 KM - Ross 12 - pass from Hollifield (Bell run)  
 KM - Bell 10 - run (Bell run)  
 KM - Bell 4 - run (McDaniel kick)  
 KM - McClain 2 - run (Kick failed)

**RUSHING**  
 KM - Deaton 19-99, Bell 13-67, Lockhart 5-19, McClain 6-7, Hollifield 1(-5), CH - Daniel Deck 15-49, James Watkins 8-28, Gevin Phillips 2(-14), Todd Bomer 9(-16).

**PASSING**  
 KM - Hollifield 2-4-0-91; C - Bomer 3-13-0-32, Phillips 0-2-0-0.

**RECEIVING**  
 KM - Ross 2-91, C - Parry 1-27, Hawkins 1-11, Caffell 1(-6).

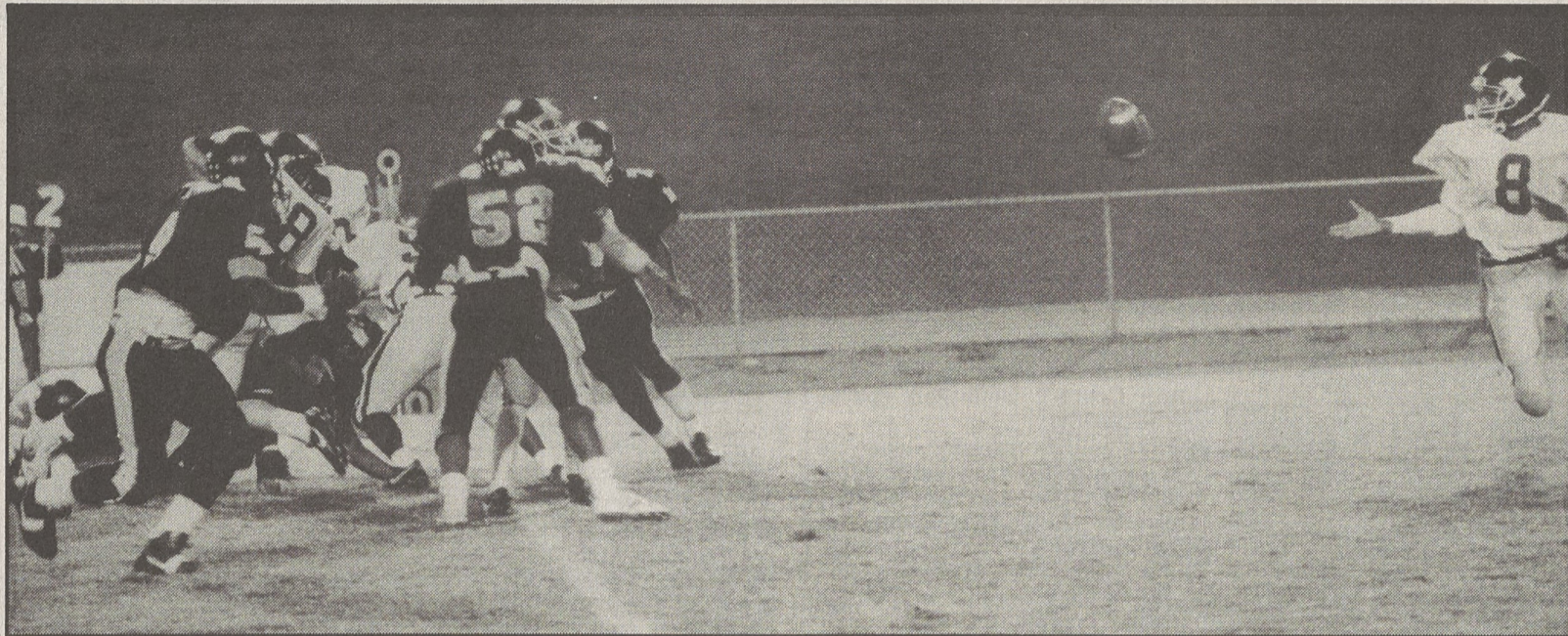


Photo by Gary Stewart

### Trojan Pitch

Kings Mountain's defense (in black) closes in on Chase quarterback Todd Bomer but Bomer pitches back to Daniel Deck (8) in Southwestern 3-A Conference football action Friday night at KM's

John Gamble Stadium. Mountaineers won 48-0 to break a two-game losing streak. The Mounties host R-S Central in homecoming action Friday at 8 p.m.

### Volleyball Team Wins Tournament

Kings Mountain High's girls volleyball team, which earlier in the week had completed an unbeaten regular season for its third Southwestern 3-A Conference title in the past four years, whipped a strong R-S Central team 9-15, 15-11, 15-4, 11-15, 15-7 Saturday night at the KMHS gym to win the conference tournament.

Coach Diana Bridges' team, which is now 21-1 overall, will enter state tournament action for the fourth straight year on October 18 against the number three team from the Big Six 3-A Conference. The match will be played at KMHS and the time will be announced later.

Kings Mountain had early leads of 4-0 and 9-5 wiped out in the opening set of the championship match as R-S came back to win 15-9 behind some strong play around the nets.

R-S blazed out to an early lead in the second set but the KM ladies came back behind some strong net play by Adrienne Woods and Velma Degree, and good all-around play by Tessie Ruff, Carmen Smith, Suzette Feemster and others to win 15-11 and tie the match. Ruff's point off a serve tied the score at 10-all and Woods scored three of the final five points to give KM the win.

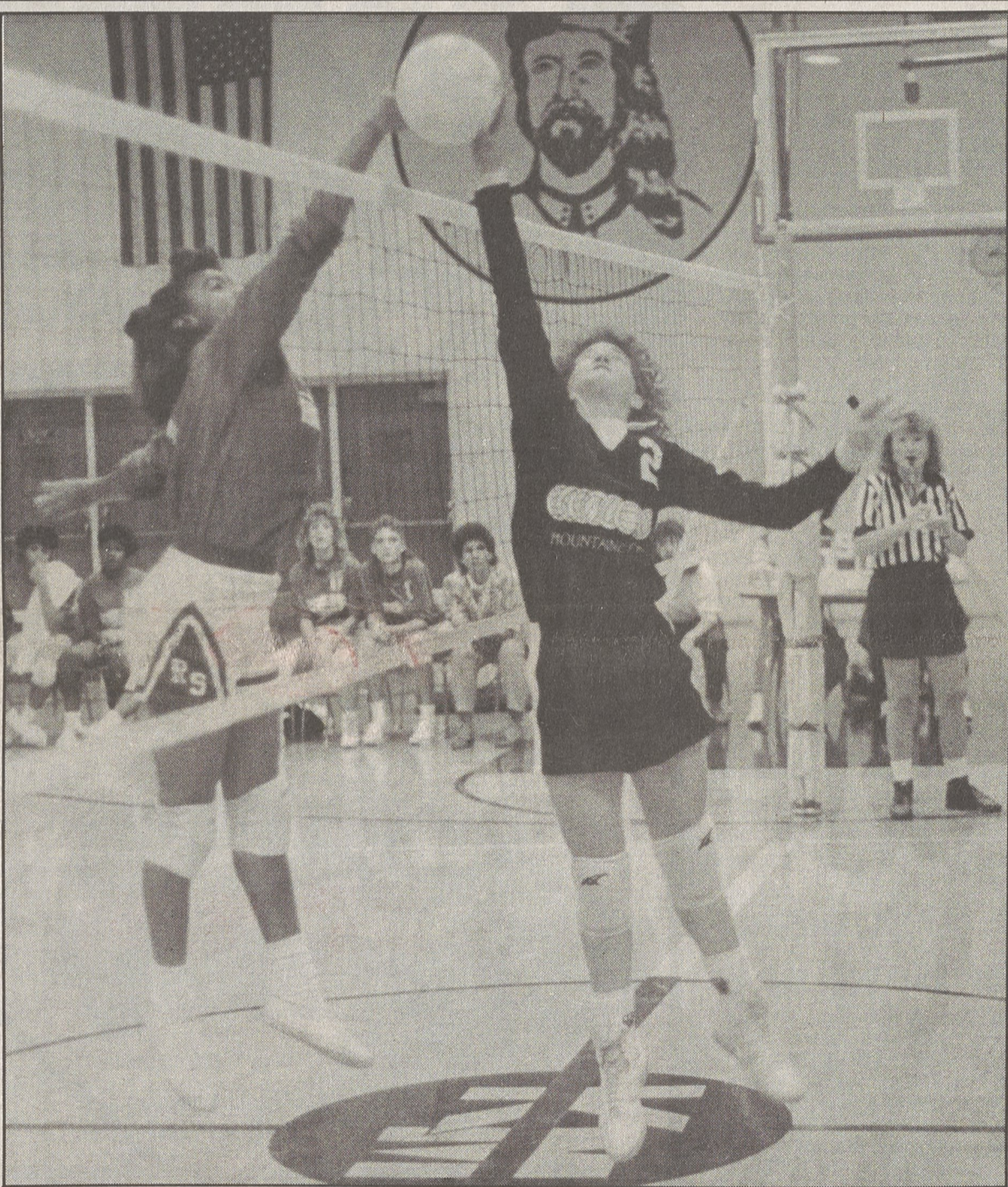
The strong play which made KM unbeaten during the regular season conference race came to light in the third match. After a spike by Woods gave the Lady Mounties an early 3-2 lead, they were never headed en route to a 15-4 win. Degree scored three straight points to make it 6-4 and Feemster scored off a good set by Smith to make it 7-4. Ruff scored three points and Angela Woods, Adrienne Woods, Feemster and Degree one apiece to close out the win.

R-S battled back in the fourth set to win 14-11 and tie the match. Kings Mountain led 2-1 early but R-S continuously broke the KM serves to stay on top. The match was tied six times, the last time at 10-all.

Kings Mountain fell behind 2-0 in the fifth and deciding game but Ruff served four straight points to make it 4-2 and Adrienne Woods sparked a string of five straight points which gave KM a 9-3 lead which R-S could not overcome.

Kings Mountain opened tournament action last Thursday with a 15-5, 15-5 victory over Shelby. Watterson scored seven straight points to give KM a 7-2 lead in the first game and Ruff and Juli McRae also played well.

Ruff's strong serves put KM on top 5-0 in the second game and Adrienne Woods scored six straight points as the KM ladies built an 11-5 lead.



### Strong Net Play

Kings Mountain All-Conference standout Tessie Ruff (2) blocks a spike attempt by an unidentified R-S Central player in championship match of Southwestern 3-A Conference volleyball tournament Saturday night at the KMHS gym. The KM ladies won in five sets to add the tournament championship to their regular season crown.

## Smith Player Of Year

Kings Mountain High placed four players on the All-Southwestern 3-A Conference volleyball team which was announced today, and for the fourth year in a row the Lady Mountaineers produced the conference coach and player of the year.

Carmen Smith, a junior standout, was selected by the league's coaches as the Player of the Year and Coach Diana Bridges was named Coach of the Year for the fourth time in her five seasons as coach. She has an 87-25 record at KM.

Smith follows Susie Moore, Regina Brown and Jennifer Boheler as Players of the Year from KMHS.

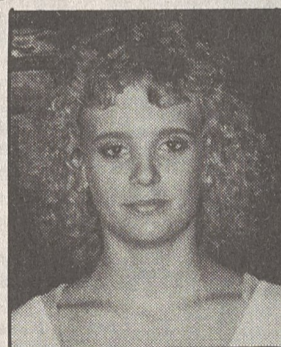
Other KM players on the all-star team were juniors Tessie Ruff and Velma Degree and senior Robin Watterson.

The four all-league choices, and many other outstanding players, led the KM ladies to an unbeaten regular season and the SWC regular season and tournament titles. The KM ladies have won the conference title three of the past four years and have participated in the state playoffs each of the past four years.

Smith and Ruff have started for Coach Bridges since their freshman year at Kings Mountain Junior High. Smith was named to all-star teams at summer volleyball camps at Clemson and N.C. State.

"She's a very hard worker," said Coach Bridges. "She was the setter for our local team which won the North Carolina State Games this past summer. She had a very good season this year and developed into a strong hitter. She's always been an outstanding setter for us. She's dedicated to the sport and wants to play college volleyball."

Ruff is also a strong setter and hitter for the KM team. "She's had an exceptional season," Bridges



Carmen Smith

### Homecoming Big Game For KMHS

Kings Mountain's Mountaineers hope to stay in the running for a state playoff berth Friday when they host R-S Central's Hilltoppers in their annual homecoming game at John Gamble Stadium.

Kickoff is at 8 p.m. Prior to the game, members of the homecoming court will be introduced. The queen will be crowned at halftime.

The Mountaineers take a 1-2 Southwestern 3-A Conference record and 3-3 overall mark into the contest. R-S Central is 2-1 in the conference and 2-2 overall. The Hilltoppers dropped their first SWC game last week to Shelby, 21-7.

The Hilltoppers will bring a big team to Gamble Stadium and KM Coach Dennis Hicks says the Mountaineers will have to play well for four full quarters.

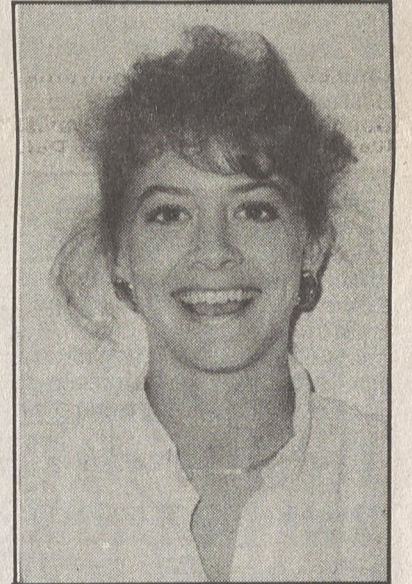
"In terms of size, they're very comparable to Burns," said Coach Hicks. "They have two offensive tackles who weigh 250 pounds apiece and they have three men in their 50-defensive front that weigh 280, 240 and 250. Their fullback is over 200 pounds and has a lot of speed and quick feet, and is a very aggressive runner."

The Hilltoppers are led offensively by sophomore quarterback Troy Harris, who is comparable to Shelby quarterback Chad Holbrook when he runs the option play. He gets outside quickly and is always among the team's leading rushers.

"He's an extremely talented athlete," says Coach Hicks.

Hicks said the Hilltoppers' size will put a lot of pressure on Kings

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J.J. WARLICK

### KM Netters Beat Shelby First Time

Kings Mountain High's girls tennis team scored the biggest win in the team's history Tuesday afternoon when it defeated Shelby 6-3 to take over sole possession of first place in the Southwestern 3-A Conference.

Shelby has won every conference championship since the SWC began tennis 16 years ago and the Lady Lions had never lost a conference match.

Kings Mountain swept the three doubles matches after the two teams split the six singles events.

Kings Mountain came from behind to win the numbers one and two-double matches in three sets, and then the number three doubles team of Susan Hendricks and Christi Dixon won in straight sets to add an insurance point.

KM's number one player, J.J. Warlick, who recently won the Cleveland County Tournament for her division, defeated Shelby's number one player, Cookie Ellis, 7-5 and 6-1, and teamed with Paula Morris to win the number one doubles match 3-6, 6-0, 6-2.

"It was a great victory for us," said KM's first year coach, Diane Dooley. "Our girls were really excited. We were a little nervous going in. All of the girls were pretty evenly matched, but our girls just played hard and came out with the win. I was very pleased with their play."

Kings Mountain is now 4-0 in the conference with three matches remaining. The KM ladies host North Gaston Thursday at 3:30, go to East Rutherford next Tuesday and host Chase in their

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