

KMHS Cindermen Hope To Improve

Kings Mountain High's men's track team expects to improve on last year's record in Southwestern 3-A Conference action this spring.

Coach John Bumgardner has most of his men back from last year's fifth place team, and some talented younger players should give the Mountaineers much-needed depth.

"With the number of kids that we have out, if everyone stays healthy and works hard, we could be one of the top three teams in the conference," said Bumgardner. "Of course, Shelby and East Rutherford are always strong in track and they'll be right up there again, and with South Point's speed they'll be tough."

Some of Bumgardner's returnees include long distance runner Ryan Hollifield, who finished fifth in the conference in the mile last year. "We look for him to do just as well or better this year," Bumgardner said.

Brian Butler returns in the 800, along with Audia Spencer, a sophomore, who qualified for the state meet in the 300 high hurdles last year. "He didn't place in the conference last year because of an injury," Bumgardner recalled. "If he stays healthy this year, he'll be tough."

Alan Chisholm and Fred Byrd return in the shot and discus, James Roberts returns in the 200, and Larry Stone, who finished fifth in

the conference last year, returns in the pole vault.

Bumgardner expects a lot of sophomores to help out. Some of those include Mike Byers, Andy Hollifield, Bill Foard, Doug Womic, Victor Bell, Clifton Propst, Roderick Clemmons, Chuck Bridges, Rodney Houser, D.J. Williams, Jonathon Hicks and Kevin Moss.

Seniors Patrick Odem and Patrick Jones, who are coming out for track for the first time, should give the team a boost in the sprints and jumping events, Bumgardner said. Jeff Ross is also coming out for the first time as a senior and Bumgardner expects him to be one of the fastest men on the team.

Some juniors who look promising are Quan Smith, Casey Shipman, and Chris Goforth.

Bumgardner is carrying three freshmen, including Matt Stout, Andy Turner and Kyle Hamrick.

"The key for us is to improve in the field events so we won't be so far behind when we start the running events," said Bumgardner. "We're real solid in the long distance events and, if we work hard, we can be good in the sprints."

MEN'S TRACK MARCH

16 - KM, East Rutherford, R-S at Shelby. 18 - Ashbrook at KM. 23 - East Rutherford, Shelby, South Point at Kings Mountain.

APRIL

6 - KM, Burns, Shelby at East Rutherford. 13 - KM, South Point, R-S at Chase. 18 - Cleveland County meet at Crest. 20 - KM, Shelby, North Gaston, Burns at South Point. 27 - Shelby Invitational.

MAY

5 - SWC meet at East Rutherford. 13 - Sectional meet. 20 - Regional meet. 27 - State meet in Raleigh.

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Netters Look Good Again

Kings Mountain High's men's tennis team will open its 1989 season March 20 at Charlotte Latin.

Coach Steve Lazenby, whose Mountaineers won their first Southwestern 3-A Conference title two years ago, expects to be strong again after finishing second to Shelby last year and qualifying several players for the state tournament.

Senior Jeff Guy, who played number one last season, is the top returnee, but Lazenby has two other returning starters and several younger players with a lot of po-

tential. Dale Bowen and Jay Hendricks will move up to the second and third playing positions, and rounding out the top six will be Robert Wilson, Jonathan Bolt, and either Kevin Bess or Kelly Bess.

"This promises to be a good season with the quality of play that these young men are capable of accomplishing," Lazenby said.

Lazenby said the local playing facilities have been improved. The junior and senior high courts have been resurfaced and net wind-screens and nets have been installed.

BOYS TENNIS MARCH

20 - at Charlotte Latin. 21 - Lincolnton. 23-24 - at Gaston County Tournament.

APRIL

4 - at East Gaston. 6 - at Ashbrook. 11 - Myers Park. 13 - at Garinger. 18 - R-S Central. 20 - Burns. 25 - at East Rutherford. 27 - at Chase.

MAY

2 - at South Point. 4 - at North Gaston. 9 - at Shelby. 17-18 - State Regionals. 24-25 - State Tournament.

Senior Games Underway In County

BY BILL ALEXANDER

Registration for the 1989 Regional Senior Games opened on March 1. All senior adults ages 55 and over are eligible to participate in as many events as they desire, divided in five year categories for male and female.

Most events will be held at Gardner-Webb College, except putt-putt, golf and bowling. The Senior Games program will run from April 24 through April 27, with the awards ceremony in Cleveland Mall at 7 p.m. on that Thursday.

Guests for the opening ceremonies at noon on Monday, April 24 will be John Carter of WBTV, Charlotte, and Margo Raynor, State Senior Games Director, of Raleigh. The ROTC Unit from Ashbrook High School, Gastonia, will present the colors and Chase High School Band will play "The National Anthem."

Track and field events will begin at 9 a.m. Monday morning before the opening ceremonies. These include the 1500 meter walk, 100, 200, 400, 800 and 1500 meter runs, spincasting, broad jumps, discus, shot put, football, and softball throws. Events on Monday afternoon will be horseshoes, shuffleboard and basketball shooting.

Tuesday morning the golf competition will be held at Woodbridge Golf Course and beginning at 7 p.m. tennis singles and doubles will be played at Gardner Webb College.

Wednesday morning will feature croquet and table tennis, while the bowling competition will begin at 2 p.m. at Major League Lanes.

Thursday morning will feature swimming and billiards while putt-putt will begin at 4 p.m. at Cleveland Mall.

A new event has been added this year. Silver Arts competition al-

lows older adults to showcase their artistic talent. Visual arts, paintings and drawings, may be of oil, acrylics, pen and ink, pencil, watercolor, charcoal and pastels. All entries must be the original work of the artist after age 55 and must be securely framed and wired, ready to be hung. Art work can be no longer than 20x24 inches and will be displayed at Cleveland Mall April 25-27. First, second and third place winners will be selected and awards will be given at closing ceremonies at Cleveland Mall Thursday, April 27.

The general registration fee is \$2 before April 10 and \$3 after that date. This fee entitles a participant to enter as many events as desired and includes lunch on Monday. A facility fee will be charged for golf and bowling in addition to the general registration fee.

Program information booklets have been prepared and may be picked up at the local Senior Center.

Baseball Registration Underway

Registration for Kings Mountain Dixie Youth baseball will begin Thurs., March 9 at the community center (room 102) from 8:30 a.m. until 8:30 p.m.

Registration will continue on Fri., March 10 from 8:30 until 4:30, and resume Mon., March 13 through Thurs., March 16 from 8:30 until 8:30 and conclude on Fri., March 17 at 4:30 p.m.

All players ages four through 12 wanting to participate in the pro-

gram this year must register by March 17 to be placed on a team. The deadline applies to first year players and players returning from last year.

To register, parents must present a copy of the child's birth certificate to be filed with the completed registration form and pay a \$7.00 registration fee.

Drafts for Tee Ball will be on March 18 at 10 a.m. The draft for the Minor League will be March 18 at 12 noon and the draft for the

Major League will be March 18 at 2 p.m.

Election of league officers will be held March 13 at 7 p.m. in the Mountaineer Room at the community center. Parents or league guardians of players, coaches, current officers and sponsors will have one vote each.

For more information, contact Preston Leonard at the Kings Mountain Community Center, 734-0449.

Fitness Expo Set At Mall

A Fitness Expo is planned for Monday, March 20 from 8 to 10 a.m. to help senior adults get acquainted with Senior Games.

The special event, to be held at Cleveland Mall behind Center Stage, will be sponsored by the committee for the 1989 Cleveland-Rutherford County Senior Games.

Rec Meeting Re-Scheduled

The Kings Mountain Parks and Recreation Commission meeting has been re-scheduled from March 23 to March 16 at 7 p.m. at the Community Center. The public is invited.

The group will discuss the commission's youth athletics benefit softball tournament to be played March 30-April 1.

The tournament will be a double-elimination format and will include a church league division and an open-industrial league division.

Entry fee is \$75. For more information, contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 734-0449.

SPEEDWAY OPENS
Carolina Speedway in Gastonia will open for the 1989 racing season Sunday with racing in five divisions. Gates open at 12 noon and

'Rock' To Defend Titles

Kings Mountain's David "The Rock" Humphries will go to Paris, France, April 24 to defend his world super middleweight kickboxing title against Paschal Lapat of Paris. Humphries knocked out Lapat in 43 seconds of the first round in a recent bout in Paris.

Humphries and his trainer, Robert Eng of Kings Mountain, will go from France to Spain to tour the country and defend the title against some of that country's top stars.

Humphries has a 45-3 record which includes 31 knockouts and 10 knockouts by kicks. Eng said the 43-second victory in Paris recently "upset" the Paris media which had highlighted the fight for eight weeks.

"Much has happened to David over the last three years, but we've just broken the tip of the iceberg," says Eng.

Humphries won his fifth world title in Virginia Beach, Va., in January, defeating Bubba Walters for the super middleweight title.

"David has done what no other kickboxer has ever done," says Eng. "He's won more world titles, had more successful title defenses, and has defeated more world champions than anyone else."

Eng said Humphries will defend at least one of his titles in Kings Mountain on April 1 against Larry "The Terror" Bethea. The match had earlier been scheduled in Charlotte but was called off because of a contract dispute.

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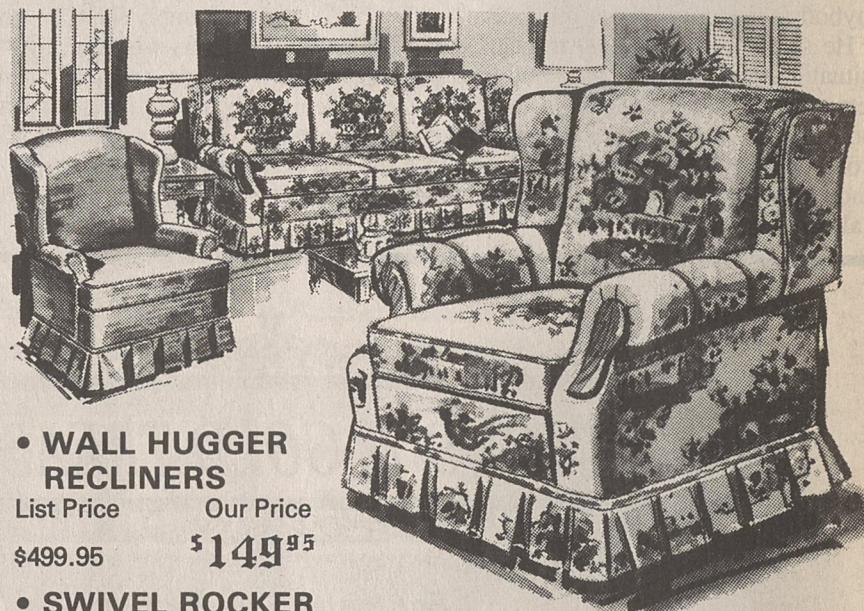
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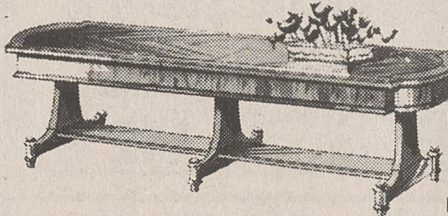
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