



Photos by Gary Stewart

SURROUNDED BY MUSTANGS - Kings Mountain lineman Max Washington (64) tries to throw a block to help spring tailback

Pat Ross (10) in junior varsity game with East Lincoln Thursday night at John Gamble Stadium. The visiting Mustangs won 7-0.

Junior Varsity Drops Opener 7-0

Kings Mountain High's junior varsity football team fell to East Lincoln 7-0 in its season opener last Thursday night at John Gamble Stadium.

Coach John Bumgardner said he was pleased with his players' opening game performance but warned that they'll have to play "much better" in order to defeat Crest this Thursday at 7 p.m. at Gamble Stadium.

Kings Mountain took the opening kickoff last week and drove it inside the East Lincoln 10. But on a fourth and long play, the Mountaineers were stopped short of a first down on the four yard line.

"We looked good early, but just couldn't put the ball in the end-zone," Bumgardner said. "Maybe that's because of our youth and inexperience."

Bumgardner said he was pleased with the play of Robbie Ruff at tailback and cornerback, David Jenkins at offensive and defensive tackle, and Chris Davison on defense and special teams. Craig Hammett recovered two fumbles for the Mountaineers.

"Pat Ross played a good game in the backfield," Bumgardner said, "and so did our quarterback, Diron Bell. We saw a lot of good things. Our main concern right now is that

we have a lot of people playing both ways and we're going to have to be in the best physical shape we can be in.

"We expect a strong Crest team to come in here this week," he added. "They have a good quarterback who loves to throw the ball, and they also have a real versatile running attack. They mix their plays up a lot and they have one of the best jayvee teams they've had in years. We'll have to control their running game and not let the quarterback go deep on us if we expect to win."

"We'll be making some changes in our offense to try to get more

speed in the backfield," Bumgardner added. "We'll be trying to put the ball in Diron Bell's hands a lot more. We'll have to open up our offense and make him more of a threat to run the ball."

Crest

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"They've got the best speed we've seen so far," says Coach Hicks. "We'll have a play our best."

The Mountaineers will go into the contest without the services of two of their three quarterbacks. Both Ryan and Andy Hollifield

suffered knee injuries in the second half of last week's game at East Lincoln. Timmy McClain, a talented junior, will get the starting nod for the Mountaineers.

After this week's contest, the Mountaineers will have an open date and then open Southwestern 3-A Conference play on September 29 at home against R-S Central's Hilltoppers.

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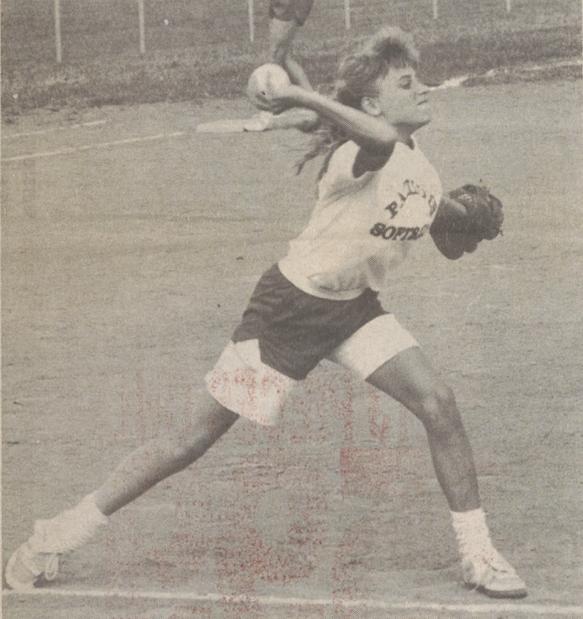
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GOOD DEFENSE - Kings Mountain pitcher Kelly Stepp makes a good throw to gun down a Burns runner who hit a slow bouncer just inside the first base line in Thursday's game at KM Junior High. KM won 20-5.

Junior High Girls Whip Burns

Kings Mountain Junior High's girls opened their softball season Thursday with a 20-5 victory over Burns at KM's Lancaster Field.

Coach Audrey Harris's ladies were scheduled to play Shelby yesterday. They travel to West Lincoln today and play at Lincolnton on September 21.

Kelly Stepp hurled Thursday's victory.

Tonia Barnette and Keisha Wilson led the KM plate attack with two hits each and Tammy Worchester hit a home run.

Coach Harris cited Stepp, Natalie Barnes and Holly Paul for their defensive play.

High Scores Posted In Bowling League

Several bowlers rolled high games on the opening night of the Tuesday Night Mixed Duckpin Bowling League at Dilling Heating.

John Dye rolled a 131 line and 380 set and R.W. Hullender added a 131-363 to lead Dye's team to three wins over Lib Gault. Jack Barrett had a 136-390 and Gault a 126-353 for the losers.

In another match, Wally Mocanu rolled a 141 line and 358 set to lead his team to a split with John Dilling. Dilling led his group with a 126 line and 356 set.

Bowlers are still needed for the Tuesday night league. If interested, call John Dilling at Dilling Heating or go to Dilling Heating next Tuesday at 7 p.m.

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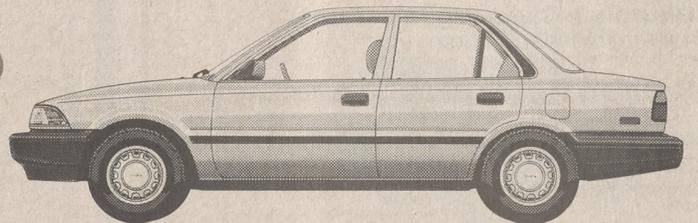
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