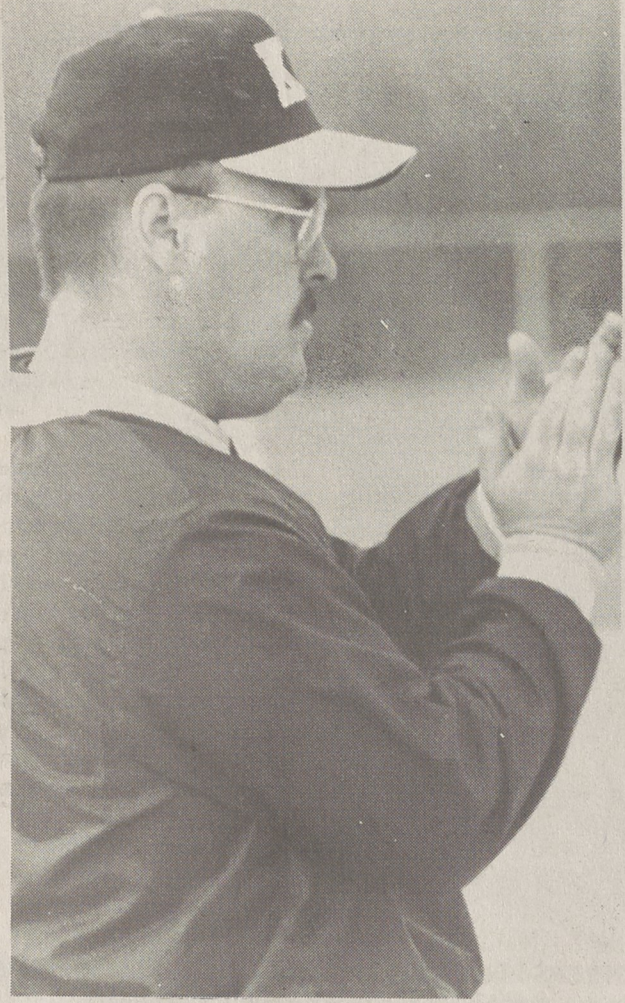


Taylorsville next foe here Friday

# Payne keys Post 155 win



**BRUCE CLARK**  
Post 155 Legion baseball coach

Kings Mountain Post 155 Legion baseball coach Bruce Clark says the immediate goal of his young squad is to make the playoffs which begin later this month.

Post 155, after an 0-4 start, has bounced back to win two of its last three games, including a 10-6 contest at home Tuesday over Bessemer City.

Kings Mountain goes into a Friday home game against Taylorsville at Lancaster Field at 7:30 p.m. with a 2-5 record.

Taylorsville and Caldwell County are currently the top dogs in the Western Division of Area Four.

All but the last-place finisher in the league will make it to the playoffs. Kings Mountain is currently tied for sixth place.

"We're getting better and more consistent," Clark said. "As we begin the final half of the first round, our goal is to make the playoffs."

"We're a better team than 2-5. We could easily be 6-1 with a few breaks here and there. What counts is how we're going to be playing when the second round begins."

Tommy Payne hurled Tuesday's win over Bessemer City and provided the long ball, dialing long distance for a pair of homers, a two-run blast in the third and a solo shot in the seventh.

Payne had nine strikeouts before tiring in the eighth inning, turning the mound chores over to Stephen

Fisher, who recorded the save.

Kings Mountain took advantage of two hits, five walks and an error to chalk up five runs in the sixth frame to take the lead for good, 8-5.

Danny Painter's solo homer had given Bessemer City a 1-0 lead in the second, but Payne's two-run shot put Post 155 up briefly, 2-1. Then the visitors tallied four in the top of the fourth on four hits and an error for a 5-2 lead.

Included in that inning was a run-scoring double by Wesley Walker, the starting pitcher for BC.

Kings Mountain collected 13 hits off three Bessemer City pitchers, including three by catcher Rick Marr. Fisher, Mike Smith and Robbie Ruff each had a pair.

Both teams squandered scoring opportunities, Post 155 leaving 11 runners stranded and Bessemer City stranding 13.

Kings Mountain's first win of the season came in Shelby Saturday, 7-5, despite being outthit, 11-5.

Trailing 5-4 entering the seventh, Post 155's comeback got rolling on a leadoff double by Mike Smith. T.G. Goforth tried to sacrifice the runner to third, but Shelby threw the ball away, allowing Smith to score the tying run.

Shelby then dropped an attempted sacrifice bunt by Ruff. Fisher singled home Goforth to give KM the lead, then Ruff scored on a wild pitch.

Donald Bell picked up the victory. Shelby dropped

to 1-5 with the loss.

Cherryville Post 100 captured a 4-1 win Monday over KM as Chris Houser pitched a four-hitter. Steve Sanders and Brian McGinnis broke a 1-1 tie with run-scoring singles in the seventh.

Kings Mountain took a 1-0 lead in the top of the third with Ruff scored on an infield single by David Jenkins.

Robbie Wallace tied the game with a double in the bottom of the third.

Cherryville added its final run when Ronald Beaver singled in the eighth.

The game featured five double plays - two by Kings Mountain and three by Cherryville.

Cherryville had 13 hits off losing pitcher David Jenkins, including two each by Sanders, Matt Beam, Shane Hester and Mark Hoyle.

Mike Smith and D.J. Ormand had doubles for Kings Mountain.

Post 155 lost a tough 13-8 decision to Burke County last Thursday. KM held a 4-1 lead after one inning and was in command 7-3 until the top of the sixth when Burke County scored four runs to tie it at 7-7, then won it with a five-run outburst in the seventh.

Fisher was the losing pitcher in relief. Ruff homered for Kings Mountain and Fisher had three of his team's 11 hits. Damon Putnam had two hits and Payne added a pair of RBI.

Saturday night, Post 155 dropped a heartbreaker to Forest City in 10 innings, 6-5.

## Tennis tourney planned

Kings Mountain Tennis Association is hosting a singles and doubles tournament July 12, 13, 14 at KMHS Tennis Courts. Entry fee is \$10 per person for non-members and \$5 for league members and must be turned in no later than July 19 to Pat or Don Huffstetler, 739-5706; Debbie or John Bumgardner, 739-1069; or Jerri Cates, 739-3075.

Debbie and John Bumgardner

report increased interest in the sport and new members joining the league.

Results of recent tennis matches:

Don Huffstetler vs. Brian Smith, 7-5; 6-2.

Lyn Cheshire vs. Jason Cash, 6-1; 6-0.

Ed Ormsby vs. John Bumgardner, 6-0; 6-0.

Pat Huffstetler vs. Jerri Cates, 6-3; 6-2.

Debbie Bumgardner vs. Al Phonset, 6-2; 6-2.

Pam Cheshire vs. Kay Cloninger, 6-3; 6-2.

Melanie Bumgardner vs. Pam Edwards, 6-3; 7-5.

Holli Hollifield vs. Sarah Tignor 6-3; 7-5.

Bo Phongsas vs. Ed Ormsby, 8-3.

Bridget Martin vs. Debbie Bumgardner and Pat Huffstetler vs. At Phonset doubles pro set, 8-6.

## Reeds defeat KM in Rec. League

Reeds defeated Kings Mountain 11-10 in the 13-15 year old Gastonia City Recreation League play Thursday.

Leading hitters for KM were Courtney Goforth who went 3 for 4

with a homerun and Angie Whitaker who had 3 for 4, Melody Ellison, 3 for 3 and Dana Shope, 3 for 4.

Kings Mountain sponsors are Parker's Amoco and American

Family Mart.

Kings Mountain faces Dallas at Ferguson Park in Gastonia Friday night. Charlie Burns and Curtis Rayfield are team coaches.

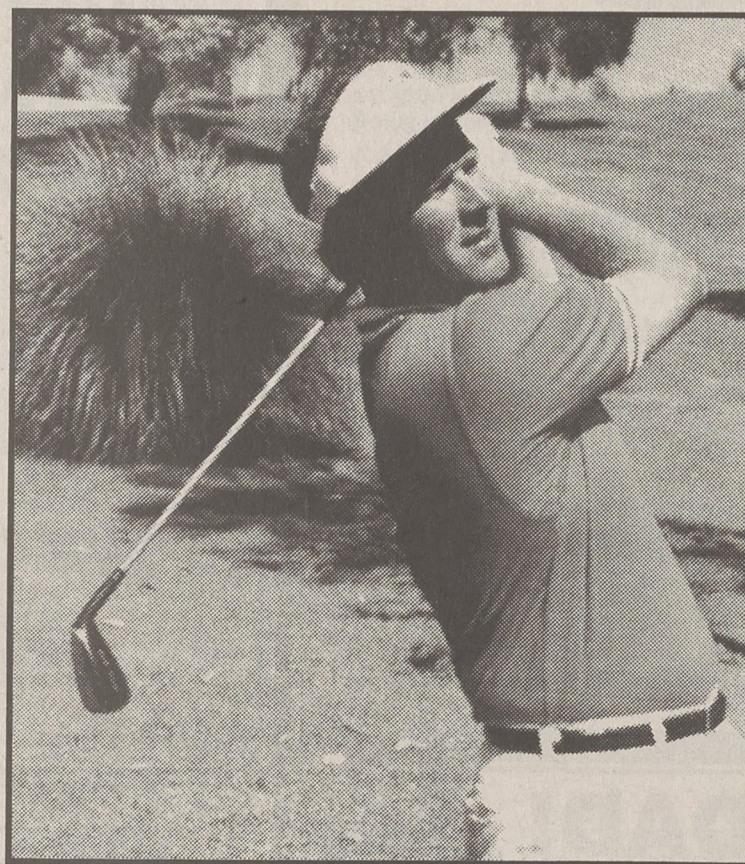


**BOYS TENNIS CLASS**-These boys are enrolled in the first week of tennis clinics at KMHS Tennis Courts. Back row, from left, Kevin James, Andy Ross, Ty Toney, Sloan Goforth, Drew Howell, Ricky Southard; Middle row, Kyle Tsui, Clark Stowe, Dustin James, Ben Howell, Robin Perkins, Jimmy Boheler; front row, Travis Patterson, Charlie Mauney, Kenny Grant, Alex Mauney and Daniel Miller.



**TOPS ON TURTLE TEAM**-Nicole Burris is congratulated by KMMS teacher Richard Rupp after she obtained 21 sponsors for the "Turtle team" in a book run last week at the KMSH track. The 30 sixth grade students ran a mile for a book for the Discovery group and obtained 90 new books.

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Libby Blanton, JoAnn Hall, Kings Mountain Office

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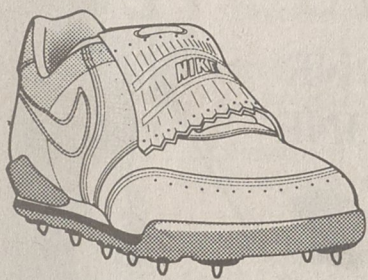
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