



Kings Mountain High football coach Denny Hicks calls the play for his offense in recent 34-6 defeat at North Mecklenburg. Hicks expects to see a much improved Mountaineer team this Friday night when they host East Lincoln's Mustangs in their home opener at John Gamble Stadium. Kick-off is set for 8 p.m.

Improved Mountaineers host East Lincoln Friday

Kings Mountain football coach Denny Hicks hopes fans will see a different team on the field when the Mountaineers host East Lincoln in their home opener Friday at 8 p.m.

The Mountaineer offense turned the ball over five times and the defense allowed North Mecklenburg to run the ball up and down the field almost at will in a season-opening 34-6 loss at North Meck two weeks ago.

With two weeks of preparation under their belts, the Mountaineers are improving and should match up well with the Mustangs, who are 2-0 and one of the pre-season favorites in the Big Six 3-A.

Kings Mountain's main objective on offense Friday will be to hold onto the ball and control the tempo of the game. The Mountaineers were impressive at times at North Meck but lost four fumbles inside the Vikings' 15 yard line.

The Mountaineers' main objective on defense will be stopping East Lincoln's talented senior running back, Wes Schenck, who gained over 1,000 yards rushing last year and has topped the 100-yard mark in both of the Mustangs' wins this year.

East Lincoln, though picked along with St. Stephens as the favorites in the Big Six, struggled in its first two victories. The Mustangs edged West Lincoln 7-6 and Cherryville 10-0.

"We've seen two sides of them," says Hicks, who has never lost to the Mustangs. "We saw them scrimmage and they looked as good as they did in 1985. They're very physical and totally dominated their scrimmage."

Although Schenck is a dominating player in the backfield and on defense, the Mustangs also have quite a few other standouts. Junior running back Jamie Rendleman gained over 1,200 yards to lead The Mustang junior varsity to a 7-1-1 season last year, including a 40-0 romp over Kings Mountain. Ben Aiken is an excellent receiver and quarterback Chad Seigler is quick on the option play and also throws the ball well.

In addition to those talented skill players, the Mustangs have a big, veteran line and one of the state's best placekickers in Gabriel Abraham.

"If they have an edge it's probably experience," says Hicks, who has a young team. "They have several three-year starters, but I anticipate that it could be a real physical football game."

Hicks said his team has shown tremendous improvement in practice the past two weeks.

"In our first game we didn't see the team we expected to see," he said. "We're very fortunate that we had an open date. There were just really two things that we weren't expecting. We felt good about our defense even though we were play-

ing a lot of kids that had never played before. In our scrimmage our biggest problem was over-pursuing the ball, but at North Mecklenburg we didn't even get to the ball.

"Offensively, we expected more control of the ball," he said. "We had several opportunities to score but just didn't do it."

"But all of our guys are quality kids that have the physical ability to help us," he added. "I feel like we've come a long way in two weeks."

Hicks looks for a close game Friday, featuring the running of Schenck for East Lincoln against the break-away potential of the quick Mountaineer backs.

"They're going to run the ball 75 percent of the time, and Schenck's probably going to get it 50 percent of the time," Hicks said. "But their quarterback likes to roll out and he throws as well on the run as anybody we've seen in a long time. He has the speed to hurt us on the perimeter if we don't contain him."

See Football, 5-A

Spicer edges Jackson for KMCC club championship

Eric Spicer defeated Stoney Jackson in a sudden death playoff Monday to win the annual Club Championship at Kings Mountain Country Club.

The two ended the three-day event with 218 scores, four strokes better than Ronnie Wilson at 222. Spicer birdied the first hole to win the playoff.

Jackson trailed Spicer by four strokes entering Monday's final round. Spicer had a 140 total after shooting back-to-back 70s on Saturday and Sunday, but the reigning Cleveland County champion turned in a 78 Monday while Jackson shot a 74.

Wilson was followed by Hayne Neisler at 223, Mitch Howze 226, John Howze 227 and John Gamble 228.

Lee Neisler shot a 232 to win the championship B flight by one stroke over Ryan Broadwell. Neisler was in fourth place after Saturday's opening round but shot a three-over-par 75 Sunday to take a one-stroke advantage over Broadwell, who had led with a 73 after Saturday's play. Both shot 78 Monday.

Phil Russ finished third with a 238, followed by Lane Smith 239 and Mickey Powers 242.

Ron Murphy shot a 239 to win the first flight by five strokes over John McGinnis. He led McGinnis by just one shot heading into the final round but turned in a fine 77 while McGinnis shot 81.

McGinnis finished at 244. Tim

Leach, Jim Lybrand and Ron Queen tied for third with 248s but Leach won the playoff. Following them were Jerry Broadwell at 249, Robert Scism 250, Jerry Ross 256 and Bill Sellers 267.

Toney Wells edged Rob Wilson by one shot to win the second flight. Wells shot a 249 and Wilson had a 250. Wells grabbed the lead with an opening round 81 and held on the rest of the way. Gary Smart was third at 251, followed by Guy Trout 252, Leard Keeter 255, Dennis Smith 256, Tom Tate 256 and Mike McDaniel 257.

Terry Pilgrim's 83 Monday moved him past Al Grigg and Scott Summitt to first place in the third

flight. Pilgrim finished with a 257 while Grigg and Summitt finished at 258. Grigg won the playoff for second place. Ragan Harper shot 259, Darrell Austin 265, Jim Jennings 265, Howard Rhyne 270 and Tom Thomas 273.

George Bowen defeated Rick Moore in a playoff to win the fourth flight. Both shot 280. David Sanders was third at 285, followed by Alan Cloninger 286, Richard Van Dyke 287, Toney Cook 301, Danny Wilson 309 and Charlie Johnson 332.

Tom Tate Sr. won the Senior Division with a two-day score of 170. Dan Finger won the second flight with a 188.

Broadwell wins KMCC championship

Mary Leigh Broadwell shot a 165 Saturday and Sunday to win the Women's Club Championship at Kings Mountain Country Club.

Sylvia Neisler was second at 175.

Peggy Jackson won the first flight with a 197. Doris Cloninger and Shirley Austin tied for second with 198s, but Cloninger won a sudden death playoff on the first hole.

Nicki Pilgrim shot a 199, followed by Janet Tate 209 and Doris Howze 211.

See Golf, 5-A

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THIS WEEK'S SPORTS SCHEDULE

Thursday:

Middle School Soccer - KM at Shelby
 High School tennis - Crest at Kings Mountain
 High School Cross Country - KM, R-S Central at North Gaston
 High School JV Football - Kings Mountain at East Lincoln, 7 p.m.

Friday:

High School Football - East Lincoln at Kings Mountain, 8 p.m.
 High School Volleyball - KM, Country Day at Charlotte Latin, 5 p.m.

Monday:

High School JV Soccer - KM at West Mecklenburg, 5:30
 High School Varsity Soccer - KM at West Mecklenburg, 7 p.m.
 Middle School Soccer - Kings Mountain at Burns
 High School Volleyball - North Gaston at Kings Mountain, 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday:

Middle School Football - KM at West Lincoln, 5 p.m.
 High School Soccer - R-S Central at Kings Mountain, 7 p.m.
 High School Volleyball - KM, Shelby at South Point, 4:30 p.m.

Warlick to teach bridge course

Cleveland County's highest ranked tournament bridge player will be teaching an eight week bridge course for beginners and experienced players Wednesday nights from 7:30-9:30 p.m. beginning September 30 at the Council on Aging's Senior Center building, 408 E. Marion Street, Shelby.

The instructor, John Warlick of Kings Mountain, is recognized as an accredited bridge teacher by the American Contract League. He

made life master in 1958 and currently holds a silver life master ranking.

The cost for the class is \$40 per person and included the book, "Introduction to Bridge."

To sign up for the class, call Warlick at 739-2941 or Tracy Davis at 482-3488 or mail check made payable to the Council on Aging, 405 Downing Street, Kings Mountain, 28086.

Film to be shown at Kings Mountain High

Partners for Quality Education will sponsor Part II of Dr. James Dobson's film series, "Children At Risk," Tuesday, September 22, at 7

p.m. at B.N. Barnes Auditorium. There is no admission charge. The public is invited. A nursery will be provided.

Short family reunion is this Sunday

The Short reunion will be held Sunday at 1 p.m. at the home of Norvella Foster, 311 Stowe Acres.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend and take a well-filled basket.

Register to vote at KM Senior Center

Precinct registrar Hilda Dixon will be at the Kings Mountain Senior Center Thursday morning at 10 a.m. to register interested senior citizens to vote in the November

general election. Aging Director Monty Thornburg reminds new voters they must show their picture for identification with current address.



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