



R.J. Barnes of Kings Mountain goes airborne with his opponent to score a takedown in Thursday's wrestling match with Burns at the Kings Mountain Middle School gym.

Patriots win in Bi-County

Kings Mountain Middle School's Patriots wrapped up the Bi-County Conference wrestling championship Monday with a 46-42 victory over West Lincoln.

The win gives the Patriots a 7-0 conference record and a two-game lead over Crest with just one conference match remaining against Shelby. The Patriots also have a non-conference bout with South Carolina power Rawlinson Road of Rock Hill.

This is the first time the Patriots have won a wrestling championship since going to a middle school organization three years ago. They won several championships in the junior high ranks.

"The season has gone really well," says Farquharson, who is assisted by Brian Kiser. "We've got a bunch of young people who have never wrestled before...a bunch of rookies. We have only about five or six kids that returned from last year."

"This is the first year we've been able to fill every weight class," he said. "The boys are young but they work hard and practice hard, and it has paid off for them."

Mark Johnson, a heavyweight, is unbeaten with a 6-0 record.

"All of our kids work hard," Farquharson said. "Wrestling is a very difficult sport because it's an individual sport. It's one on one. How well you do depends on how

well the team does. That kind of competition is hard for young kids to get the grasp of. There's no other teammates out there to help them. When they step out on the mat they're on their own."

A forfeit and three pins in the final three matches lifted the Patriots over West Lincoln. Brett Wells got the forfeit at 160 pounds, then 171-pound Billy Johnson, 189-pound Derek Goode and heavyweight Mark Johnson all recorded pins.

Other Patriot victories were by David Turner and T.J. McClain on pins, Chad Reid on a forfeit, and Sloan Goforth on a decision.

In action last week at the KMMS gym, the Patriots man-handled Burns 65-24. The Patriots dropped a couple of matches early, but dominated the middle and heavy weights.

Kings Mountain's winners last week included 83-pound David Turner, who pinned Jason Grigg; 93-pound Eric Paul, who won by forfeit; 119-pound R.J. Barnes, who won a decision over James McBride; 125-pound Ricky Carroll, who pinned Leon Bollinger; 130-pound Sloan Goforth, who pinned Dottie White; 135-pound Chad Reid, who pinned

See Patriots, 7-A

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Clover here Tuesday

Huskies down Mountaineers 71-60

Hunter Huss broke open a close game in the fourth quarter to defeat Kings Mountain's Mountaineers for the second time, 71-60, Tuesday in Gastonia.

The victory gives Butch Blalock's Huskies a 3-0 record. Kings Mountain fell to 1-2.

The Mountaineers remain on the road Friday at Lincolnton. They return home next Tuesday for a rematch with Clover.

The Huskies began Tuesday's contest in much the same manner as they did the season's opener last Tuesday night in the KMHS gym. They jumped out to a big lead, going up by as much as 12 points in the first quarter and 17 in the second quarter.

But, this time, the Mountaineers got hot in the second half and made a game of it. Sophomore forward Bryan Leftwich, who led the Mountaineers with 22 points, began hitting from three-point range and the Mountaineers cut a 33-20 halftime deficit to 50-42 going into the fourth quarter.

Leftwich canned a three-pointer with 5:36 left to cut the margin to 54-50, but the Mountaineers failed to connect on their next four possessions and the Huskies scored 11 unanswered points to break the game open.

Kevin Clyburn led the Huskies with 17 points and Greg Cathcart added 11. Marquiz Williamson was

the only other double-digit scorer for the Mountaineers with 10.

Kings Mountain's girls went down to defeat for the third straight time in the opener, 53-37. The Hunter Huss defense held the KM ladies to just two points in the second quarter as the Lady Huskies ran to a 24-13 halftime advantage.

Julie Thompson led Huss with 18 points and Tameeka Anderson had 19 for Kings Mountain.

BOYS GAME

KM (60) - Bryan Leftwich 22, Jerry Black 3, Marquiz Williamson 10, Justin Jones 9, Kyle Sellers 4, Marcus Bell 4, Calvin Mathis 2, Sharee Hopper 4, William Vaughn 2.

Huss (71) - Kevin Clyburn 17, Dajuan Allison 8, Lenard Wright 10, Michael Guzek 6, Greg Cathcart 11, Antonio Leach 8, Tashaun Johnson 7, Jameal Moore 1, Vashon Sadler 1.

GIRLS GAME

KM (37) - Amanda Halmess 2, Tameeka Anderson 19, Christy McCleary 9, Shani Smart 2, Karen Queen 1, Heather Harrison 1, Rebecca Champion 2, Natalie Barnes 1.

Huss (53) - Michelle Ellis 4, Julie Thompson 18, Jennifer Humphries 2, Misty Summitt 6, Amanda Placie 2, Alana Jeter 1, Latoya Adams 6, Tereka Adams 14.

Santa Claus is coming to town!

Floating Affections 124 W. Gold St., Kings Mountain, is pleased to announce the arrival of Santa on Saturday, Dec. 12th at 12:00. Come and bring your Christmas wish list to Santa and receive some goodies. Pictures will be made on Sat. from 12:00 to 4:00 and also on Sunday Dec. 13th from 1:00 to 5:00.

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