

Billy Johnson records a pin for Kings Mountain Middle School's wrestlers in Thursday's victory over Burns at the Kings Mountain gym.

## Ruff MVP in tournament

Three Kings Mountain wrestlers won championships in the annual Gaston County Tournament Saturday at North Gaston High School.

Senior Robbie Ruff won the 145-pound division and was also named the tournament's most outstanding wrestler. He defeated Joey Davis of Ashbrook 5-0 in the championship match.

Other Kings Mountain winners were Bo Phongsa, who defeated Tracy Philbeck of North Gaston 9-7 for the 140-pound championship; and Cedric Moore, who defeated Brad Eccles of Ashbrook 8-2 to win the 189-pound title.

Phongsa made it to the finals for the fourth straight year and won his weight class for the third year in a row.

Defending 4-A state champion East Gaston won the team title with 187 points, followed by Ashbrook 177, North Gaston 160, Kings Mountain 123, Shelby 65 1/2, Crest 65, Hunter Huss 64 and South Point 18.

Finishing second for the Mountaineers was Derek Houser, who lost the 130-pound title to Bryon Baker of North Gaston in overtime.

Winning consolation honors for

the Mountaineers were Gary Hughes at 119 pounds and Kenny Bridges at 125.

Finishing fourth were Steven Lemons at 103 pounds and Thong Chanthaphang at 135.

The Mountaineers travel to West Lincoln tonight and participate in the Myers Park Invitational Saturday. They travel to West Mecklenburg next Monday.

At Myers Park, the Mountaineers will battle the host Mustangs, Ashbrook, Independence, West Mecklenburg, Providence, Garinger and West Charlotte.

## KM swimmers beat East in openers

Kings Mountain High's swim teams defeated East Rutherford in their season openers last week at Neisler Natatorium.

The Mountaineers outscored East 112-61 and were led by double winner Dave Messenger and individual winners Lindsay Suber, Nathan Mayse and Dan Messenger. The men won nine of the 12 events.

The depth of the Lady Mountaineers proved enough to pull out a win 83-77 in a close meet. Kings Mountain won five of 12 events with victories by Paula Eckard, Marie Mayse, Katie Benton and Holly Parker.

The Kings Mountain teams were scheduled to host Chase, North Gaston and South Point yesterday. They host McDowell County next Wednesday at 4:30.

### (Girls Results)

200 medley relay - Michelle Fujita, Marie Mayse, Paula Eckard, Carrie Hardin, second place; Amy Dixon, Holly Parker, Nicki Gladden, Monique Bakker, third place.

200 free - Paula Eckard first, Wendy Wright fourth.

200 IM - Marie Mayse second, Holly Parker fourth.

50 free - Carrie Hardin third, Verena Bartsch fourth, Monique Bakker fifth, Jenn Halter sixth.

100 fly - Nicki Gladden second.

100 free - Marie Mayse first, Michelle Fujita second, Carrie Hardin third, Verena Bartsch fifth.

Diving - Katie Benton first.

500 free - Paula Eckard second.

200 free relay - Holly Parker, Wendy Wright, Verena Bartsch, Carrie Hardin, first; Katie Benton, Jenn Halter, Jennifer Lepors, Kristina Sutherland, third.

100 back - Nicki Gladden third.

Michelle Fujita fourth, Amy Dixon fifth, Monique Bakker sixth.

100 breast - Holly Parker first, Wendy Wright third, Jennifer Lepors fifth, Jenn Halter sixth.

400 free relay - Michelle Fujita, Nicki Gladden, Paula Eckard, Marie Mayse, second.

### (Boys Results)

200 medley relay - Dan Messenger, Nathan Mayse, Dave Messenger, Rick Clary, first; J Sloan, Ty Ross, Chuck Kaylor, O'Brian Wilson, third.

200 free - Lindsay Suber first, Israel Angeles second, Tim Stroup fourth.

200 IM - Nathan Mayse second, Dan Messenger third.

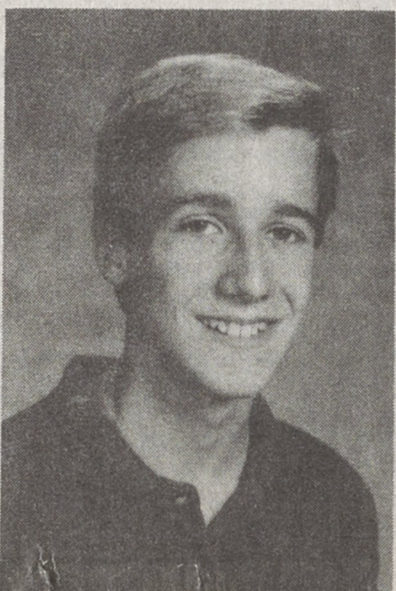
50 free - Chuck Kaylor first, Lindsay Suber second, Rick Clary third, Ty Ross fourth.

100 fly - Dave Messenger first.

100 free - Nathan Mayse first, Israel Angeles second, O'Brian Wilson fourth, Tim Stroup fifth.

Diving - Antonio Budia second, O'Brian Wilson third, Bergen Hall fourth, Jay Speight fifth, Chris Waldt sixth.

See Swimming, 12-A



**TOP SWIMMER - Nathan Mayse** of Kings Mountain was a top swimmer at the recent Spartanburg Invitational. He swam "AA" times in three events. "AA" times are in the top 15 percent of the National US Swimming times. Competition at this meet included 24 top teams from North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia. Other excellent swimmers representing the Sharks Aquatics Club from Kings Mountain were Marie Mayse, Bethany Jimison, Nicki Gladden, Rick Clary, Drew Thomasson and Joshua Kienlen.

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## JV girls win two games

Kings Mountain High's JV girls basketball team is off to a good start.

Priscilla Rickenbacker's ladies edged Clover 17-16 in the opener last Thursday and defeated Burns

27-26 Monday.

The Lady Mountaineers travel to Lincolnton Friday afternoon.

Keekec McCluney, Alica Cole and Christy Feemster are the scoring leaders for the KM team.

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