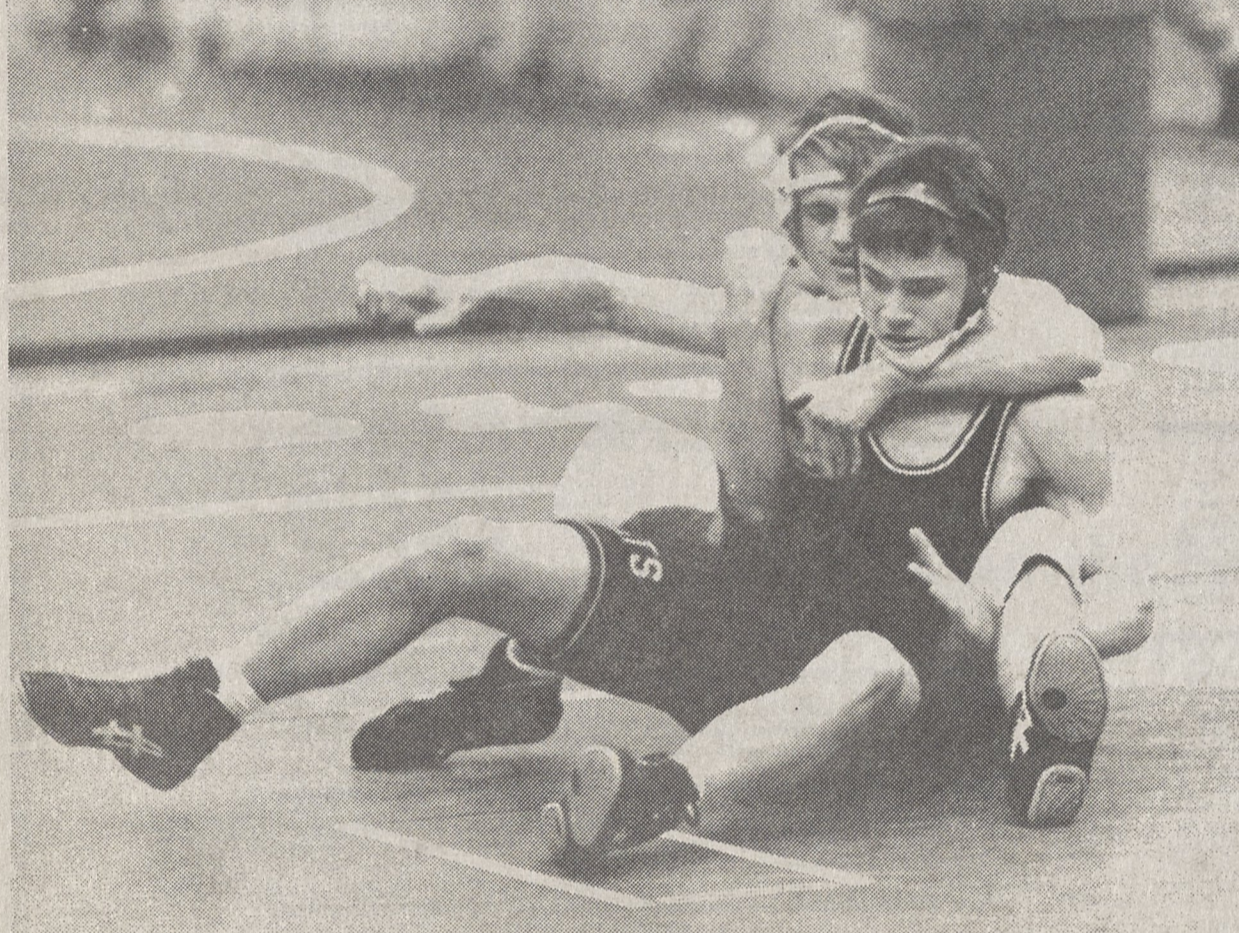


Kings Mountain's Kenny Bridges finished third in his weight division in the Western Regionals Wrestling Tournament last weekend at Enka High School. Bridges will join three other Mountaineers - Robbie Ruff, Shon Byers and Cedric Moore - in the state individual tournament this weekend in Greensboro.



Kings Mountain's Robbie Ruff (back) ran his school record number of career victories to 102 last week by winning the 140-pound division in the Western Regionals Wrestling Tournament at Enka High School. Heavyweight Shon Byers of the Mountaineers also won the Regionals. Ruff, who finished second in the state last year, hopes to complete an undefeated season by winning the state championship this weekend in Greensboro.

Ruff, Byers win Regionals

Kings Mountain was dethroned as team champion but Robbie Ruff and Shon Byers won individual championships in the annual Western Regionals Wrestling Tournament Saturday at Enka High School.

The Mountaineers, who had won the team title the past three years, finished fourth. Enka won the event with 151 points, followed by Pisgah 136.5, North Gaston 135, Kings Mountain 106, East Henderson 79.5, Shelby 75, North

Buncombe 72, Brevard 69, R-S Central 65.5 and Hibruten 56.

Ruff, who is undefeated for the season and is the Mountaineers' all-time winningest wrestler, won the 140-pound division with a 5-2 decision over Mason Manship of Hibruten.

Byers, who has lost only one match this year, won the heavyweight crown with a 5-1 decision over Rankin Muse of T.C. Roberson.

Middle School girls win

Kings Mountain Middle School's girls basketball team knocked off West Lincoln 37-36 in Bi-County Conference action Tuesday.

The victory gives Candy

SWIMMING

From Page 6-A
free, Paula Eckard in the 500 free, and Carrie Hardin, Eckard, Mayse and Holly Parker in the 400 free relay.

Mayse was fifth in the 100 free, Eckard sixth in the 200 free, Parker seventh in the 100 breast, Katie Benton seventh in diving, and Nikki Gladden, Parker, Mayse and Eckard 11th in the 200 medley relay.

Kings Mountain's boys will be one of the favored teams in this week's state meet. The Mountaineers finished second to Shelby last year and had one individual and one team to win their events.

BASKETBALL

From Page 6-A
conference games for the KM ladies, and sixth in 18 decisions overall.

Tony Leigh's ladies came from behind after trailing 28-25 at intermission. Kings Mountain cut the margin to 36-35 going into the fourth period and tied the score at 45-all after regulation play.

Tameeka Anderson scored 25 points to lead the KM attack, and Heather Harrison added 14. Nikki Geter scored 14 and Natasha Lawrence 12 for Burns.

Baseball hit-a-thon at KMHS

Kings Mountain High baseball fans will get a preview of things to come Saturday, Feb. 27 when the Mountaineers host their second annual hit-a-thon at Lancaster Field.

Each JV and varsity player will get 100 swings at balls thrown by a pitching machine. They will solicit pledges for each hit they get, with proceeds going to the KMHS athletic program.

Coach Bruce Clark said the event will get underway at 9 a.m. and will run all day. Admission is free and hot dogs, hamburgers and other concession items will be sold.

"This is an effort by the baseball team to be self-sufficient and to also help the entire athletic program," Coach Clark said. "Last year's event was very successful. We're looking forward to another successful season this year, especially with the guys we have coming back, and the anticipation of the community is very high."

Coach Clark said Mayor Scott Neisler will be a guest hitter this year. Anyone wishing to sponsor the Mayor should give him a call.

"We're really looking forward to this day," Clark said. "I think this event did more for our program last year than anything I've ever seen. It just makes it a lot easier on everybody when you don't have to worry about financial help from anybody except yourselves. This has not only been beneficial to our baseball team but to the total athletic program at Kings Mountain High School."

Clark said in case of rain the hit-a-thon would be held on the first Saturday in March.

"We'd like to encourage everybody to come out and see how these kids are going to hit this year," Clark said.

Naggers lead by two in duckpins

The Naggers won three of four games from the Alley Cats while the TarPack lost three of four to the Flufs, giving the Naggers a two-game lead in Mixed Duckpin Bowling League action Thursday night at Dilling Heating.

The Naggers now have a 15-9 record while the TarPack slipped to

13-11. The Cats are 12-2 and the Flufs 8-16.

Bill Myers rolled a 126 line and 338 set and Jack Barrett added a 118-328 to lead the Naggers over the Alley Cats. Allen Myers rolled a 151 line and 359 set and Bob Rathbone added a 126 line and 351 set for the Cats.

John Caveny's 133 line and 351 set and Ken Maney's 109-314 led the Flufs over the TarPack. Tommy Barrett rolled a 122-341, Dan Dilling a 116-338 and R.W. Hullender a 106-316 for the TarPack.

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