

KM players on county Star team

Cleveland County's 13-year-old Babe Ruth all-star team won the District 3 crown last week at East Gaston High School. The Cleveland County team has four Kings Mountain players that had a key role in the district championship.

David Clark led the team in hitting with a .555 average, and also pitched the team to a crucial win over the Gaston County all-stars in the semi-finals contest. Ty Toney and Toby Sims both had a .444 batting average and led the team in runs batted in with seven each. Scottie Martin contributed a .300 batting average and played an excellent centerfield.

The state Babe Ruth Tournament will begin Friday at East Gaston with Cleveland County pitted against Buncombe County at 5 p.m. The Cleveland County team is coached by Kings Mountain's Hayne Neisler and Dean Clark.



Kings Mountain's Ty Toney, Scottie Martin, Toby Sims and David Clark, left to right, are members of Cleveland County all-star team.

Howze wins golf tournament

Mitch Howze shot a 69-72-141 to win the annual Summer Ray Barnes Tournament Saturday and Sunday at Kings Mountain Country Club.

Howze won by two shots over Stoney Jackson, who shot a 71-72-143. Eric Spicer and John Howze tied for third 144.

Mickey Powers shot a 74-76-150 to win the championship B flight. Lee Neisler was second at 75-78-153 and Robbie Wilson third at 74-80-154. Jim Lybrand won low net with a 70 and Jerry Broadwell and Ronnie Murphy tied for second with 73s.

Scott Summitt shot an 81-73-154 and won a playoff over Ken Nantz for first place in the first flight. Nantz shot an 80-74-154. Guy Trout was third with an 81-76-157. Leard Keeter won low net with a 67 and Howard Rhync was second with a 70.

Bill Sellers shot an 88-78-166 to win the second flight. Denny Hicks was second with 85-83-168 and Darrell Austin third with 87-86-173. Randy Hartsoe won low net with a 71 and Al Grigg and Jim Jennings tied for second with 72s.

Louis Sabetti shot a 92-81-173 to win the third flight. Mark

Payscur was second with a 90-91-181, and Toney Cook third with a 98-86-184. Andy Neisler won low net with a 72 and Alan Cloninger was second with 76.

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LEGION

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4-2 victory. Chris Rider and Rick Marr each had a run-scoring single, and TG Goforth added a two-run single to account for the Post 155 offense.

Hickory brought out some heavy artillery to win game two Monday night in Kings Mountain, 6-1. The visitors got consecutive first inning home runs from York, Paul Everhardt and Anderson Marvin to put the game away early against KM right-hander David C. Jenkins.

Kings Mountain scored its only run in the bottom of the first on Mike Smith's double and a passed ball.

Hickory broke open a close game in the late innings to defeat Post 155 7-4 on Tuesday night and grab a 2-1 lead, but Kings Mountain came back home on Wednesday to even the series at 2-2 with a 12-4 victory behind the six-hit pitching of Fisher.

Kings Mountain had its best hitting night, collecting 13 hits against a pair of Hickory pitchers. Smith clubbed a pair of home runs, and Rider and Caja Ormand each hit a home run for Post 155.

Kings Mountain grabbed a 4-0 lead in the first inning as Post 155 took advantage of two Hickory errors and a home run by Rider. Paul Everhardt homered for Hickory in the top of the second to cut the

margin to 4-1, but KM came back in the bottom of the inning to take a 6-1 lead on a two-run homer by Smith.

Ormand slammed a home run in the fifth to give Post 155 a 7-3 lead, and Smith smashed a three-run shot over the centerfield fence in the sixth to make it 10-3. Ormand scored on Damon Putnam's sacrifice fly to make it 11-3 in the seventh.

York homered in the eight for Hickory, and KM closed out the scoring in the bottom of the eighth when Smith scored on a balk.

Kings Mountain grabbed a 3-2 lead after two innings, but York came on to shut them out over the final 7 2/3 frames to get the series-

clinching victory for Hickory Thursday night.

York was also the hitting star for Post 48, getting four hits including a home run and two doubles.

Hickory collected 18 hits off David C. Jenkins and Sharee Hopper, while Kings Mountain managed only five.

Post 155 grabbed a 1-0 lead in the first on a run-scoring single by Ormand; and added a pair in the second on Goforth's two-run single for a 3-2 lead.

Anderson Marvin's two-run single in the fourth gave Hickory a 4-3 lead, and with York on the mound the Post 48 sluggers never looked back.

ROBINSON

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The Negro League were there. They were introduced as they stood on the base lines prior to the introduction of the all-stars, and all of them received standing ovations.

"A lot of guys I played with or against were there, including Bill Wright, Henry Kimbrell, Buck Leonard, Monty Irvin, Leon Day, Andrew Porter, and others, and Josh Gibson's son was there," Robinson noted. "They had an old-timers game the night before the all-star game but we didn't participate in it. People like Reggie Jackson, Lou Brock, Bob Feller and Bob Gibson played. I saw Yogi Berra, Boog Powell, Frank Robinson and Brooks Robinson, and the master of ceremonies was Joe Garagiola."

After the all-star introductions, Robinson said he went to his place in the stands and signed autographs for fans for a while, then left early for the hotel.

"I was kind of under the weather the whole time," he noted. "I was playing golf a couple of weeks before the all-star game and my hip started bothering me and I've been under the doctor's care ever since."

"All of the festivities surrounding all-star week were exciting, but it was a pretty rough schedule," he said. "But I saw guys I hadn't seen in 35 or 40 years and that was nice."

The Orioles had uniforms, caps and baseball shoes made for all of the Negro League legends who attended the festivities, and that meant a lot, Robinson said.

Robinson said it's also good to see baseball finally recognize the Negro League stars, and he hopes someday to see those players included in the major league pension plan. Several people are working on that idea now and the Upper Deck company, which publishes baseball cards and markets other memorabilia, is marketing sweat shirts, jackets and caps of the Kansas City Monarchs of which the players receive a royalty.

"I have the jacket and cap," Robinson said, "and they're nice. They say they can't keep them on hand, they sell so fast."

Robinson caught Satchel Paige while he played with the Monarchs and Satchel Paige All-Stars, and they became best friends. Paige nicknamed Robinson "Slow" because of his slow Alabama accent.

Robinson also played with the Chicago American Giants before moving to the Canadian League when the Negro League went under in the early fifties. He was offered a major league contract but turned it down because of his age

(34), an ankle injury and the fact that the \$25,000 bonus money for his signing was not to go to him but to a scout.

He had two of his best seasons in Canada, hitting .329 and .340. He retired from baseball in 1954 and moved to Los Angeles, where he worked with the L.A. Unified School System and operated his own parking lot sweeping business. He moved to Kings Mountain three years ago to be near his wife's family.

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BENEFIT

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straight tournaments, including the prestigious Smoky Mountain Classic recently in Maryville, Tenn., in compiling a 53-2 record."

Shoemaker announces that area softball legends such as Don Arndt, Stan Harvey, Bobby Bates, Danny Denton, Richard Howard and David Johnson plan to attend the games and greet their longtime friends.

Doug McDonald, who coached the Pharr Yarns Reds to several national championships, and Bobby Lutz, who once played for Howard's/Western Steer, will serve as honorary coaches for the County All-Stars.

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