



Avery Turbyfill uses the old head to put some spark into the offense for Kings Mountain Middle School's soccer team. The Patriots try to snap a two-game losing streak Thursday at Burns.

Patriot kickers lose two games

Kings Mountain Middle School's soccer team hit a skid during the past week, losing both of its games to fall to 2-2-1 and into a tie for third place in the Bi-County Conference.

The Patriots lost to Shelby Thursday 1-0. Shelby scored its only goal early in the first half and the rest of the game turned out to be a defensive struggle.

Coach Cheryl Lutz cited Tim Schwantes, Neal Rainey, Carey

Caldwell, Hunter Suber, Marty Goforth and Avery Turbyfill for their play on offense and Jon Cooke, Jeremy Wallace, Ben Howell, Caleb George, Kanya Phengkhamhak and David LaFollette for their defensive play.

Goalkeeper Collin Goforth made several crucial saves.

"I was very proud of the way our guys played and, most importantly, of the way they conducted themselves," said Lutz. "Shelby is a

very vocal team but we didn't let that bother the way we played."

The Patriots fell to R-S Central 3-0 Monday afternoon at R-S.

Cooke and Wallace played well on defense for Kings Mountain.

The Patriots hope to rebound Thursday when they travel to Burns for a 5 p.m. contest. They return home Monday to face Lincolnton.

KM booters lose to North Gaston

Kings Mountain High's soccer team gave a strong North Gaston team a tough fight before bowing 6-1 in Southwestern 3-A Conference action Wednesday night at John Gamble Stadium.

The Mountaineers held the Wildcats to a 2-1 edge at halftime, but the Dallas-based team broke the game open in the second half.

Lance Martin scored all six goals for the Wildcats for a new North Gaston school record. Wesley Bridges got the KM goal

with an assist from Andy Ross.

"North Gaston is probably the second best team in the conference," said KM Coach Dan Potter. "Our team played very well. We had several scoring opportunities. It was by far our best game of the year."

Kings Mountain had several key players injured in the second half as North Gaston broke the game open.

"That changed the complexion of the game," said Potter. "North

Gaston really played well in the second half. To go out there and play them that good of a game for a half speaks really well of our young players.

"We're encouraged about the remainder of the season," he added. "We have the potential to surprise some people. We've really developed."

The Mountaineers, 2-7-1 overall, host R-S Central Monday and Shelby Wednesday.

Optimist gridders win two games

Kings Mountain's Optimist Club Pop Warner football teams will play two big games Saturday at City Stadium as a part of the city's Mountaineer Day celebration.

Action begins at 9:30 a.m. and continues all day. Three games are on tap. Kings Mountain teams will battle Lincolnton in the 9:30 and 12:30 games, and the Cleveland County Boys Club Warriors will battle Lincolnton in the 11 o'clock game.

Kings Mountain won two of three games over Cherryville last Saturday in Cherryville. The mighty mites won 12-0 and the junior pee wees won 25-0 while the pee wees fell to Cherryville 27-0.

Jonathan Ammay hit 2-of-2 passes for 60 yards to lead the KM offense. Jamall Barrino scored on a 35-yard run around end and Ladricus Gingles picked up a fumble and went 50 yards for a TD for the Kings Mountain scores.

Kings Mountain played well defensively, with Tanner Putnam, Ty Curry and Tony Lowe leading the charge. Cherryville had a first and goal one the KM nine yard line but came away empty handed.

Quarterback Matt Ash scored on a 45-yard keeper around right end and on a 60-yard run on a broke play to lead the KM junior pee wee victory. Torez Leach scored on a 60-yard run on a counter play, and Shawn Moore went off tackle for an 80-yard touchdown run. D'Andre Curry scored an extra point.

Kings Mountain's defense gave up only one first down in the second half. Rodney Degree, Jason Jarvis, Brandon Moss and Ishmael Banks all gave outstanding efforts.

Despite being shutout, the Mountaineers gave a good effort in the pee wee game. Heath Wilson, Phillip Anderson and Kenny Moore gave a good offensive ef-

fort, and the young KM line blocked well. Defensively, the young Mountaineers gave up a lot of ground but plan to turn things around this week.

"We invite all the fans to come to City Stadium Saturday to cheer us on against Lincolnton, which is playing its first year in the Greater Gaston Football Conference," said KM Coach Jeff Putnam. "I don't guess a Lincolnton team has played in City Stadium since the high school teams stopped playing down there."

Houston on Junior Davis Cup team

The North Carolina Tennis Association (a division of the U.S. Tennis Association) has selected Jackie Houston of Kings Mountain to be a member of the Junior Davis Cup (Wightman Cup) team.

The selection was based on Houston's ranking in the North

Carolina 14-year-old Girls Division. She won the state championship for her division for the last three years.

The Junior Davis Cup team will play teams from South Carolina, Tennessee and Georgia October 1-3 at the Thornblade Racquet Club

in Greenville, SC. The NCTA team will be coached by Penny Brawley of Charlotte.

Jackie is a 14-year-old freshman and plays on the Kings Mountain High School tennis team, where she is undefeated thus far.

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