## Vhitaker, Bell KMHS Athletes of Year

Whitaker and Marcus Bell were volleyball, and Bell to Catawba named Athletes of the Year at the annual Booster's Club spring sports banquet Monday night at Kings Mountain High School.

Whitaker was a standout in vollevball, basketball and softball for three years, and Bell was an outstanding football, basketball and track star for three straight years.

Both are heading to college on athletic scholarships - Whitaker to College to play football.

Other trophy winners at

Monday's fete included: Girls basketball - Free throw award, Keisha Wilson; coaches

cated award, Amanda Halmess. Softball - Coaches award,

award, Anita Whitaker, most dedi-

Keisha Wilson.

Cheerleading - Most outstanding. Ann Marie Sanders.

male, Nathan Mayse; most outstanding female, Angela Bunzel; most outstanding male diver, Bergen Hall; most outstanding female diver, Michelle Fujita.

Wrestling - Coaches Award, Kenny Bridges and Michael Bell; most improved, Gary Hughes.

Men's tennis - Coaches award, Jason Cash; most improved, Sloan

Men's track - Most outstanding

outstanding in track events, Marcus

Boys basketball - Coaches Award, Marcus Bell and Sharee Hopper; most improved, Eric Tate. Golf - Most outstanding, Brad

Girls track - Most outstanding in track events, Amanda Halmess; most outstanding in field events, Carrie Hardin.

Boosters of the Year - Scott and

#### choice for your child? Mike Ware South Carolina's top athletic director **Carolina Christian**

Kings Mountain native Mike Ware, athletic director at Newberry, SC High School, has been named the South Carolina Athletic Coaches Association's 1994 Athletic Director of the Year.

Ware is the son of Howard Ware of Kings Mountain and the late Martha Lou Ware, and is a former standout athlete at Kings Mountain High School.

Ware was recognized for the success of the overall athletic program at Newberry, which included a regional championship and undefeated regular season in football, three region championships in a row in softball, and a region runner-up spot in baseball.

Ware has been at Newberry for 27 years, working through the ranks from assistant football coach to head football coach and athletic young athletes. director. He gave up his football

coaching duties two years ago. His 1976 football team compiled a 9-3 record and went to the up-state finals. One of his former gridders, Willie Scott, played professional

Ware is a former assistant coach for the South Carolina Shrine Bowl

Ware was recognized for his accomplishments at last week's meeting of the Newberry County School Board, and next Monday the Newberry High School football stadium will be named the Mike Ware Stadium in a special ceremony at the school.

Ware was cited in a recent editorial in the Newberry Observer for his distinguished career and exceptional leadership abilities and for being an excellent role model for

"He has been a tremendous in-

our community values that are more meaningful to a successful life than even some of those gleaned from the textbook. His duties to the educational world have not only included his direct involvement with athletics but also some rather strenuous classroom activity. For instance, he presently teaches four classes a day - two in sociology, one in U.S. history and one in psychology - in addition to his duties as athletic director," the editorial said.

The editorial further stated that Ware "personifies what the basic foundation of education is really all about. In spite of a multitude of problems that have interfered with the general progress of education throughout America, public education in Newberry County has excelled because the classroom at everyone of our schools in this county has a majority of classroom teachers who reflect the same kind of dedication and devotion to their profession as has Coach Ware."

Ware was an All-Conference lineman at KMHS in 1959 when the Mountaineers shared the Southwestern 3-A Conference title with Shelby and R-S Central.

Ware began his teaching and coaching career in 1966 at Fort Mill, SC and after one year there went to Newberry where he served several years as an assistant football coach under his brother-in-law, Jim Kimmell.

Ware is married to the former Barbara Griffin. Their daughter, Carson, is a rising senior at Newberry College and their son, Bucky, will graduate from Newberry High in June and plans to enter the University of Georgia

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## **Sports Briefs**

## softball team wins in SWC tourney

Kings Mountain High's girls softball team defeated Shelby 9-7 Monday in the opening round of the Southwestern 3-A Conference

Patricia Freeman led the Mountaineers with 3-for-3, Kelli Stepp was 2-for-3 with a home run and two runs batted in; Anita Whitaker was 2-for-3 with a triple; Keisha Wells was 2-for-3 with two runs batted in; and Karen Queen was 2-for-2.

The Mountaineers, 14-9 overall and third place in the Southwestern 3-A Conference, were scheduled to face East Rutherford in a second round game Wednesday afternoon. The championship game is slated Friday at the home of the higherseeded team.

Unless a team that finished lower than third during the regular season wins the tournament, the Mountaineers will qualify for the state tournament which begins next week. At present, it appears that the SWC's #3 team will open the playoffs at Hickory.

Coach Tony Leigh's team has made tremendous strides this season as Leigh has taken a mixture of experienced seniors and a host of talented young players and molded

them into a contender. Senior Karen Queen leads the Mountaineer attack with a .525 average and freshman Amanda Burns is hitting .500. Patricia Freeman is hitting .426, Kelli Stepp .424, Anita Whitaker .423 and Keisha Wells .417.

### Patriots end 9-5

Kings Mountain Middle School's Patriots finished with a 9-5 record and second place in the Bi-County Conference this spring.

Coach Ricky Fortner's Pats had a 358 team batting average. Avery Turbyfill led the way with a .488 mark, followed by David Clark .476 and Ty Toney .455.

The Patriots hit eight home runs, with three of them going out of the park. Scottie Martin hit two out of mer Auburn University quarterthe Kings Mountain park and Toby Sims hit one out at West Lincoln. Many middle school parks do not have fences and the other five

home runs were inside-the-park. The Patriots improved from a fourth place finish of the past two

Ty Toney led the pitching department with a 6-1 record, and Seth Denton was 0-2. David Clark was 1-3 but led the team in strike outs with 77. He issued only 20

"His strikeout to walk ratio was three to one, which is very good, but we just didn't give him any run support," Fortner said.

We had a great season," Fortner added. "These players have a lot of potential. If they realize that and work hard they can go a long way.'

**Mauney** is winner in Foothills golf Lynne Mauney of Kings

Mountain fired a 77 to win first low gross in the first flight in the May Foothills Golf Tournament May 10 at Catawba College.

Mary Leigh Broadwell of Kings Mountain was second low gross with an 83.

One hundred and three ladies competed in the event. Also participating from Kings Mountain were Doris Cloninger and Doris Howze.

The next Foothills event will be June 7 at Cowan's Ford Country Club. Any local women planning to participate should contact Doris Howze at 739-5885 before May

#### **Bagwell to coach** football at TCU

Kings Mountain's Brent Bagwell, who graduated from N.C. State Saturday with a degree in Marketing, will be a graduate assistant coach at TCU in Fort Worth, Texas, beginning in July.

Bagwell, who will coach the offensive line, will coach under forback and Heismann Trophy winner Pat Sullivan.

Bagwell played tackle at Kings Mountain High School for three years, and played offensive tackle at N.C. State for three years before

an injury ended his career. TCU is a member of the Western Athletic Conference.

#### KM Wildcats win over Lincoln County

Kings Mountain's Babe Ruth baseball team won its opening game last week, defeating Lincoln County 11-2. David Clark, Jeremy Cooke and Ty Toney combined for a three-hitter, while the Wildcats' hitters banged out 15 hits.

Leading hitters were Cooke, Scottie Martin and Kendrick Bell with two hits each. Trip Roark added a key two-run double in a six-run fifth inning which broke

open a close game. Members of the 1994 Wildcats team are David Clark, Toby Sims, Ty Toney, Scottie Martin, Jeremy Cook, Trip Roark, Avery Turbyfill, Josh Turbyfill, Chad Jones, Brian Cannon, Kendrick Bell and Greg Jarvis. Coaches are Hayne Neisler and Dean Clark.

#### N.C. Ducks Unlimited sets state convention

North Carolina Ducks Unlimited will be holding their annual state convention and banquet June 3, 4 and 5 at Shell Island Resort on Wrightsville Beach.

The banquet and auction will be hosted by the Wilmington Ducks Unlimited Chapter on Saturday night at the Resort. The event is open to the general public and everyone is urged to attend and support the conservation efforts of Ducks Unlimited.

Tickets are \$75 per couple and \$40 for individuals. For more information, call 919-261-2126.

Pro wrestling set May 21 at Armory

Southern Championship Wrestling comes to Kings Mountain Saturday, May 21, at the Kings Mountain National Guard Armory.

Bell time is 8 p.m.

The American G.I. (Richie Scruggs) and Dozer (J.R. Scruggs) of Kings Mountain will be in action along with Ric Starr, John Sullivan, Kevin Kirby, The Hitman Hunter Thompson, and others.

Advance tickets are \$5 and tickets at the door are \$7. Tickets are available at Floating Affections. For more information, call 739-3507 or 739-8564.

#### Horse show planned Saturday at Delview

The annual Tri-County Horse Show will be held Saturday, May 21 at Delview Road in Cherryville. There will be afternoon and

evening shows, with the first show beginning at 1 p.m. Classes included Western, English and Games, and high point

of the evening show for all three categories. A one-year negative Coggins is

trophies will be awarded at the end

required. Admission is \$2.

For more information, call Kris Hagaman at 435-6836.

#### **Basketball camp** at Middle School

The Lady Patriot basketball camp will be held June 13-17 from 9 a.m.-noon at Kings Mountain Middle School.

Girls entering the sixth, seventh and eighth grades next year are eligible. The cost is \$35 and covers the camp, T-shirt, basketball and

For more information, call Candy Albergine at 734-5670.

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