Page 6A-THE KINGS MOUNTAIN HERALD-Thursday, May 4, 1995



Burns' Jason Greene is caught in a pickle between first and second base in Thursday night's game at Kings Mountain but he avoided the tag by KM first baseman Timmy Harrelson and later scored to help Burns win 9-6.

## **Iounties fall to Burns 9-6**

ing the state 3-A baseball playoffs is to win the upcoming Southwestern 3-A Conference tournament.

The Mountaineers dropped their sixth conference game in eight outings Thursday night at home to Burns, 9-6, leaving them in fifth place and a full two games out of a tie for third. The top three SWC teams qualify for the state playoffs; however, if a team which finished lower than third wins the SWC tournament it advances and the third place team stays at home.

The victory improved Burns' record to 5-3 and the Bulldogs are battling South Point and Shelby for the second and third playoff spots. After East Rutherford's upset loss to North Gaston Friday night, the Cavaliers now hold down first place with a 7-2 record. Burns, Shelby and South Point all have three losses.

Kings Mountain never led against Burns but did battle back from a 6-3 deficit to tie the game at 6-all with three runs in the bottom of the sixth. But the Bulldogs scored three in the top of the seventh to win the game and sweep the Mountaineers for the first time in many years.

Three straight walks to lead off the seventh proved to be KM's downfall. Burns scored the go-ahead run on an error and got two insurance runs on a double by Eric Powell.

Brad Hoyle went the distance for the Bulldogs, scattering six hits, and also helped his own cause with a

It now appears Kings Mountain's only hope of mak- two-run home run in the top of the first inning. He also scored the Bulldogs' winning run in the seventh.

> Bryan Leftwich started for the Mountaineers and Robert Wingo came on with one out in the sixth. Wingo was the loser.

Kevin Melton's solo home run, Brian LeFevers' double and a run-scoring single by Cameron Falls tied the game for KM in the second inning. Burns regained the lead in the top of the third when Jason Greene singled and later scored on a single by Hoyle, and the Mountaineers tied it again in the bottom of the third when Kenny Bridges singled and later scored on a single by LeFevers.

Burns ripped Leftwich for five consecutive hits singles by Andy Champion, Powell, Thomas Pruette, and Greene and a double by Chad Beam - to score three runs and take a 6-3 lead in the fourth.

Melton's second home run of the game and his third of the season sparked a three-run rally which tied the score for the Mounties in the bottom of the sixth. After Melton's blast, LeFevers tripled and scored when Leftwich reached on an error. Leftwich later tied the game on Wesley Bridges' single.

R-H E Score by innings: 9-9-3 Br. 201 300 3

KM 021 003 0

Brad Hoyle and David Elliott; Bryan Leftwich, Robert Wingo (6) and Kevin Melton. W - Hoyle. L - Wingo.

6-6-2

## **Mounties lose to East Gaston, R-S Central here Friday night**

to defeat Kings Mountain 11-4 in make it 11-2. nonconference baseball action Monday night at Lancaster Field.

The Warriors broke on top 2-1 in the second inning and then put the game on ice with a pair of runs in the third and four more in the fourth.

It was the second straight loss for the Mountaineers, who fell to 9-7 overall and 3-5 in the Southwestern 3-A Conference.

Kings Mountain closes out its regular season during the next 10 days with three important conference games. The Mountaineers host R-S Central Friday, travel to East Rutherford Tuesday, and end the regular season on Friday, May 12 at home against South Point. The Mountaineers will host the final two rounds of the SWC tournament May 17-19.

Coach Nelson Connor used Monday's game with East Gaston to give his reserves a chance to see some action. Shortstop Bryan LeFevers and Timmy Harrelson were the only regulars in the game and Harrelson, who usually plays at first base, spent his time on the pitcher's mound.

David Stephens went the distance for the Warriors, scattering five hits and striking out nine. He had a one-hitter going until the bottom of the sixth.

The teams matched runs in the first inning, and East Gaston scored a run in the second on Nathan Cobb's single to take the lead for good. Jamie Cogdill's single, Kelly Womack's double and a single by Kenny Conroy produced two more runs in the third as the Warriors went up 4-1.

David Albright's leadoff double sparked a four-run explosion in the fourth to make it 8-1. Cobb added an RBI single and Stephens smashed a two-run double. Womack also singled home a run.

Allen Ware's second inning single was KM's only hit until the sixth inning, when Darrin Putnam singled home Tommy Morrow to cut the margin to 8-2. East Gaston scored three more runs in the top of the seventh on singles by Brandon Mills, Cobb and Stephens, a walk

East Gaston cracked out 13 hits and a Kings Mountain error, to The Mountaineers scored their

final two runs in the bottom of the

seventh on a double by LeFevers, a walk to Chris Burns, and singles by Ware and Chris Henderson.

Score by innings: R-H-E EG 112 400 3 11-13-0 KM 100 001 2 4-5-5

David Stephens and Aaron Goforth; Timmy Harrelson and Chris Burns. W - Stephens. L -Harrelson (0-1).





