

Juniors beat Cherryville and Gastonia; host Shelby Sunday, Rutherford Monday

Robin Perkins' RBI single in the bottom of the 13th inning gave Kings Mountain's American Legion Juniors a 10-9 victory over Cherryville Saturday night at KM's Lancaster Field.

It was the first win in the Central Division of Area IV for Post 155, which plays a number of key games this week and next.

Tony Leigh's charges travel to South Point High School Saturday night to face the Gaston Braves (3-1). They return home Sunday at 7:30 to battle county rival Shelby, and they remain at home Monday for a 5 p.m. twinbill with Rutherford County. Cherryville returns to KM Tuesday for a 7:30 contest.

Last Saturday's game turned into a 4 hour, 50-minute marathon which saw the two teams combine for 26 hits, 34 strikeouts, 23 bases on balls and 35 runners left on base.

Rusty Putnam, the third of

three KM pitchers, worked the 12th and 13th innings and got the win. Hunter Suber pitched the first five innings, and Seth Denton worked the sixth through 11th frames.

Putnam hit a three-run home run in the first inning to give KM a 3-0 lead, but Cherryville, playing without the services of the Cherryville High players who are still involved in the state high school playoffs, ran up a 9-4 lead after seven innings thanks to back-to-back home runs by Thomas Pruitt and Charlie Wilkins. But KM battled back with two runs in the eighth inning and three in the ninth to force extra innings.

Cherryville starter John Coffey settled down after the first and Post 100 started pecking away at the KM lead. Pruitt's sacrifice fly tied the game in the fourth, and Post 100 went ahead in the fifth as Wilkins singled home Will Lane, who had walked and stolen second.

Kings Mountain came back with a run in their half of the fifth to tie the game at 4-4, but Pruitt and Wilkins slammed homers in the eighth for a 9-4 Cherryville lead.

Kings Mountain left the bases loaded in the 10th and 12th innings, and Cherryville stranded two runners in the 12th and 13th.

Putnam and Ray Biddix led the KM plate attack with 3-for-5 each and Brad Lane had four hits for Cherryville.

■ In their home opener last Wednesday, Post 155 fell to the Gaston Braves 2-1.

East Gaston right-hander Kenny Conroy went the distance for the combined Belmont/Stanley nine, scattering three hits and striking out 13. He struck out the side in the first inning, fanned five of the first six batters he faced and had a no-hitter going until the fifth when Ray Biddix singled.

Hunter Suber pitched well for Post 155 but dropped his second straight one-run loss. He scattered five hits and struck out eight.

Jason Green had two of the Braves' hit, including a game-winning two-run single in the sixth inning.

■ Post 155 built an early 3-0 lead but fell to Rutherford County 12-4 Monday night in Forest City.

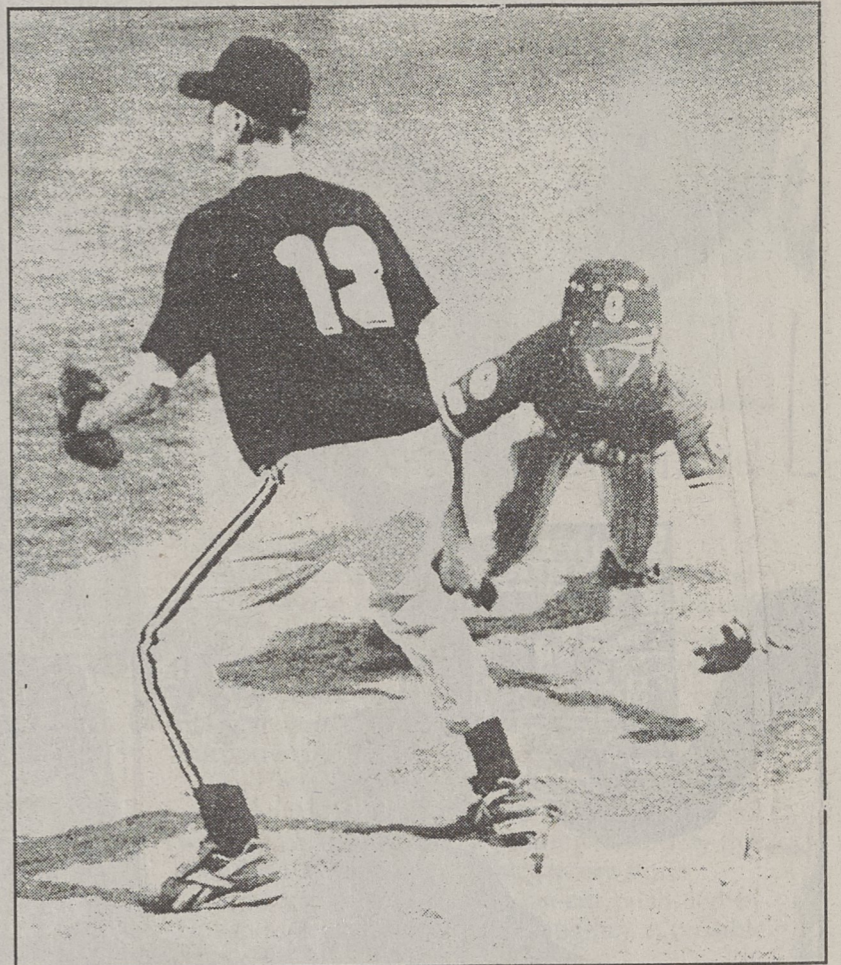
Jeremy Cooke, the first of four KM pitchers, took the loss.

Cooke's second inning home run put KM on top 1-0, and Tony Stokes' homer following a Seth Denton double made it 3-0 in the third.

But Rutherford County came back to tie the game after four innings, and took the lead for good in the fifth, 5-3.

Kings Mountain collected 11 hits with Perkins, Denton, Cooke, and Ray Biddix getting two apiece.

See Baseball, 7-A



HUSTLING BACK - Kenny Pasour of the Gaston Braves dives head first back into first base to avoid being picked off in Wednesday's American Legion baseball game at Kings Mountain. Braves won 2-1.

Boosters to sponsor bus to Raleigh scrimmage

The Kings Mountain High Booster Club will sponsor transportation to the Raleigh scrimmage that the Mountaineers will be participating in on August 16.

The Mountaineers will join 11 of the top 3-A and 4-A teams in North Carolina in the benefit scrimmage at Carter-Finley Stadium on the campus of NC State University.

Kings Mountain is tentatively scheduled to scrimmage from 6-8 p.m. against 4-A powers Northern Durham, Fayetteville Byrd and Garner.

Seats on the bus will be \$20 per person. Contact Pam Leigh at 739-5463 or 739-8373 for reservations.

Departure time will be 12 noon. Take snacks and a pillow. The tentative deadline for reservations is July 15.

Sports Briefs

KMHS student athletes named Scholar Athletes

Four teams and numerous individuals from Kings Mountain High School earned North Carolina High School Athletic Association Scholar Athlete Awards for the 1997 season.

To qualify for the award, teams must compiled a 3.10 GPA and individuals must attain a 3.5 GPA.

Teams recognized were men's tennis (3.540), golf (3.168), women's track (3.296) and softball (3.349).

Individuals recognized included Kimberly Belt, Kristen Gingles, Nikki Ingram, Nikki Ormand, Samantha Tate, Nancy Ely, Ginger Ownbey, Ashley Wilson, Brian Maxey, Evan Osteen, Basit Gangoo, Kenny Houston, Josh Rountree, Chad Pearson, John Bennett, Wesley Bridges, Ty Toney, Marylee Dilling, Cheryl Greene, Kristen Koenig, Ebony Phillips, D Chapman, Tiffany Ely, Kate Pascoe, Will Hendricks, Hiroki Nishiyama, David Angeles, David George, JD Ledford, Ricky Southard, Dwayne Littlejohn, Joe Page, Scotty Martin, Amy Fredell, Jackie Houston, Jessica Lynn, Teresa Rainey, Csharian Coleman, Toni Loftin, Amy Pearson, Michael Jolly, Matt Ellzey, Jordan Angeles, Zachary George, Scott Pendleton, Ben Howell, Ritchie Wells, Frank Hopper and Rusty Putnam.

Tennis clinics set at Recreation Dept.

The Kings Mountain Parks and Recreation Department will sponsor summer long tennis clinics. Clinics will be held on Saturdays from 10:30-11:30 a.m. for grades 1-5, and from 12-2 p.m. for grades 6-12. Clinics will also be held on Tuesday and Thursday from 6-8 p.m. for grades 6-12.

The clinics are free and will be run by Ron Humphries, his wife Rosetta, Jason Cash and Debbie Thomas. The first clinic will be held Saturday, June 7 at the Kings Mountain High School tennis courts.

Registration will be held Saturday beginning at 10:30 a.m.

For more information, call Tripp Hord at 734-0449.



FOOTBALL CAMP - Kings Mountain High assistant coach David Ballenger watches as youngsters ages 8-13 go through some drills during the second annual Mountaineer Football Camp Monday at KMHS. Twenty-eight youngsters participated in the three-day camp directed by KMHS head coach Ron Massey.

H.S. baseball showcase June 14 at Wake Forest

The 1997 Carolina High School Baseball Showcase will be held Saturday, June 14 at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem.

This showcase will be for the class of '98 and '99 and seniors who are going to a prep school or junior college. College coaches from all divisions will be evaluating and recruiting.

For more information, call Vinny Ferrara at 1-800-870-7767 (days) and 1-800-566-6467 (evenings).

Isaac Simpson winner of weekend of golfing

Isaac Simpson won the golf weekend at Myrtle Beach during the ninth annual golf tournament to benefit Life Enrichment of Cleveland County May 21 at Riverbend Golf Club.

The tournament raised almost \$10,000 for the non-profit adult day care center, which

helps families keep their frail or elderly adult loved ones in the home and community.

Other winners were: Low net women's team - Mary Beam, Dot Spangler, Denice McKee, Catherine Porter.

Low gross women's team - Sandie Roberts, Bonnie Sherwood, Marcie Crawley, Mary Williams.

Low net men's team - Ralph Meekins, Brock Taylor, Phil Blanton, Skip Almond, who won a scorecard playoff over Warren Newton, Dave Wilkison, Hal Mason and Larry Dixon.

Low gross men's team - Eddie McCurley, Keith Harbin, Bill Rodgers, Mike Stuckey.

Long drive, women - Bonnie

Sherwood; men - Kyle Cook.

Closest to the pin - Ralph Meekins, Robby Robson, Trip Boimest, Jake Kiser.

Longest putt - Keith Harbin.

Racing results

Results of Saturday night's racing at Antioch Speedway in Morganton.

Limited Sportsman - Brian Carswell, Dab Saulman, Tim Smith, Ronnie McPeters, David Bloom.

Modified Four - Tim Bristol, Mike Ingle, Trent Chatham, Tony Benfield.

Stock Four - Chad Dale, Alan Franklin, Tinker West Jr., Buster Duckworth, Dwayne Cline.

Limited Sportsman - David Hardin, Steve Bridges, Eddie Roane, Richard Fowler, Marvin Waters.

Pure Stock Four - Johnny Deal, Daren Bruce, C.B. Pritchard, Trevor Chatham, Josh Holden.

Love's
Publishing Co.

Opening June 2nd
Hour 9 - 5 Mon. - Fri.

Publishing Books, Poetry, Short Stories also acceptable. Interested in manuscripts from unpublished and published authors.

For More Information 829-9500
Fax 829-9555

Every Gardener wants to try new plants.

Shagreen is a major introducer of new plants - annuals, perennials, herbs and woody ornamental trees and shrubs to our area.

What's more, we've got trained staff to help you plan your garden or container ensemble.

With every \$25 purchase, receive a FREE Acuba or designer topiary pepper - while supplies last!

SHAGREEN
NURSERY & ARBORETUM
SHOWPLACE

1/2 Mile from Doctor's Park on N. Lafayette St.
Mon.-Sat. 8:30-5:00 • 482-2224

Universal
Tractor
Umbrella

Protects You From The Sun
And Allows Free Flow Of Air
At The Same Time

Wilson Tractor Supply
1403 S. Lafayette St. • Shelby
704-482-3167 or (864) 489-2779 (Gaffney)

ATTENTION
MAZDA CAR OWNERS
TUNE-UP SPECIAL

4 cyl.
\$29.95
some models slightly higher

Includes Replacement Of
Spark Plugs And 40-Point
Inspection
Expires June 20, 1997

FUEL INJECTION
SERVICE

10% off
WITH TUNE-UP
reg. \$79.95

Vester
mazda

Recipient Of Mazda President's
Award For Customer Satisfac-
tion Three Years In A Row

Shelby, NC 482-6771

Save time. Save energy.
Save up to \$25.

Doing it right the first time with Benjamin Moore paint saves a lot more than time and energy—it saves money. And right now, you can save even more with our special \$5 per gallon mail-in rebate on a large selection of interior and exterior paints. Buy the maximum 5 gallons, save \$25.

But hurry. This offer is available between May 19 and July 6, 1997.

\$5 Mail-In Rebate on select gallon cans of Benjamin Moore Paint. Up to \$25.*

*Offer valid 5/19-7/6/97. See participating dealers for details.

Best Paint.
Best Advice.

A Stroke of Brilliance.™

GAMBLE HARDWARE, INC.
Downtown Bessemer City
629-2691