



**MAJOR LEAGUE CHAMPS** - The Optimist Club Mountaineers won the championship in Major League (11-12 years old) baseball at Kings Mountain Recreation Department. The team had an 11-4 record to win for the second straight year. Team members include, front row, left to right, head coach Jeff Putnam, Tyler

Deaton, Jeremy Harrelson, Jake Lowery, Brooks Tate. Back row, assistant coach David Philbeck, Elan Philbeck, Brandon Roberts, Kenny James, Travis Bryant, Matt Bryant, Matt Pressnell, and assistant coach Kevin Lowery. Not pictured, Derrick Smith and Courtney Smith.

## Martin's SF in ninth inning gives KM win over Shelby

Scotty Martin's sacrifice fly in the top of the ninth inning gave Kings Mountain's American Legion Juniors a 6-5 Area Four Central Division win over Shelby Tuesday night at Shelby's Veterans Field.

The two teams were scheduled to play again last night at KM's Lancaster Field in the final regular season game. The Area IV playoffs begin Saturday.

Kings Mountain Coach Tony Leigh said the team will learn its first round opponent at a meeting Friday night. "If we don't receive a bye, at least we hope we can open up at home."

The first playoff round will be a best-of-three series with teams alternating home games.

Kings Mountain grabbed a 4-0 lead in the first inning Tuesday night but Shelby battled back to tie the game at 5-all

after seven innings.

In the top of the ninth, KM catcher Tony Stokes ripped a one-out double to right field. Rusty Putnam was intentionally walked to set up a double play situation, but a passed ball put KM runners on second and third. Shelby then elected to walk Jeremy Cooke to load the bases and set up a force at home plate, but Martin's lifted a long fly ball to bring home Stokes with the winning run.

Southpaw Seth Denton took the mound in the bottom of the ninth and retired Shelby three-up, three-down to earn a save. Ray Biddix was the winning pitcher.

Stokes, Putnam, Cooke and Biddix led Post 155 with two hits each, and Jay Beck had one hit.

The win evened KM's record at 7-7.

## Ducks R Us increase lead in duckpin bowling

Duck's R Us opened a six-game lead in Summer Mixed Duckpin League action Tuesday night by defeating the Duck Dodgers 6-2 at Dilling Heating.

The Dodgers, who were just two games off the pace last week, remained in a tie for second place with the Holy Rollers, who lost 6-2 to the Split Makers.

After three weeks of action, Ducks R Us are 16-8. The Duck Dodgers and Holy Rollers are 10-14 each and the Split Makers are 12-12.

Chris Hullender's 125 line and 336 set and Chuck Ruley's 121 line and 314 set led Ducks R Us to victory. R.W. Hullender of the Duck Dodgers led all scorers with a 121 line and 354 set, and Dusty Helms added a 113 line and 308 set.

Mark Abernathy's 114 line and 310 set led the Split Makers to victory over the Holy Rollers. Debbie Hullender also had a 114 line for the winners. John Dilling had a 120 line and 317 set for the Holy Rollers.

## Rabb promoted by Gardner-Webb

Marc Rabb has been named Executive Director of the Bulldog Club. The Gardner-Webb Educational Association is responsible for financial support of the university's 14 NCAA Division II teams.

Rabb, 25, spent the last two years as Assistant Sports Information Director at GWU after graduating from Pfeiffer

College in 1995. A four-year letter winner as a defenseman for the Pfeiffer lacrosse team, Rabb earned Most Improved Player honors in 1994 after helping the Falcons to a #5 national ranking in NCAA Division II. The Shelby native is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Physical Education at GWU and will graduate in August.

## Eng School notes 20th anniversary

This week marks the 20th anniversary of the Eng School of Self Defense in Kings Mountain.

June 15, 1997, upon completing his military service, Robert Eng opened the self-defense studio on East Gold Street. The Eng School began to grow as students from five counties began training.

Eng began giving martial arts demonstrations which he did while in the military for six years. He was featured in People, P.M. Magazine, Carolina Camera, ESPN, and local and national newspapers.

The Eng School began to gain notoriety and began sponsoring kickboxing events in Kings Mountain as that sport began to gain national exposure. He was the first person to promote kickboxing events sanctioned through the P.K.C. Professional Karate Association, and the World Karate Association, the leading recognized sanctioning bodies for kickboxing.

As the Eng School began to train local athletes they began to compete throughout the southeast. The fighters from the



ROBERT ENG

Kings Mountain area began to make their mark in the sport, winning over 50 state titles, 15 United States titles, and 10 world titles.

The Eng School began to fight internationally and became recognized in major magazines and newspapers in the U.S. and overseas. The Eng school was also the first in the area to promote Tuff-Man contests and compete in other events throughout the United States.

Eng School students have won over 200 contests in the 20-year period.

In 1990, The Eng School relocated and bought and built a new facility on Piedmont Avenue. The school has presently turned out over 1,200 black belts, some which teach the World Combative Arts System, a system of self-defense founded by Eng. Eng has students who have gone on to teach in all branches of the military, including the U.S. Naval Academy, West Point, and many schools throughout the southeast.

Eng said The Eng School is a Christian-based school that has never taught eastern philosophy or religion. "We have a family oriented environment," he said.

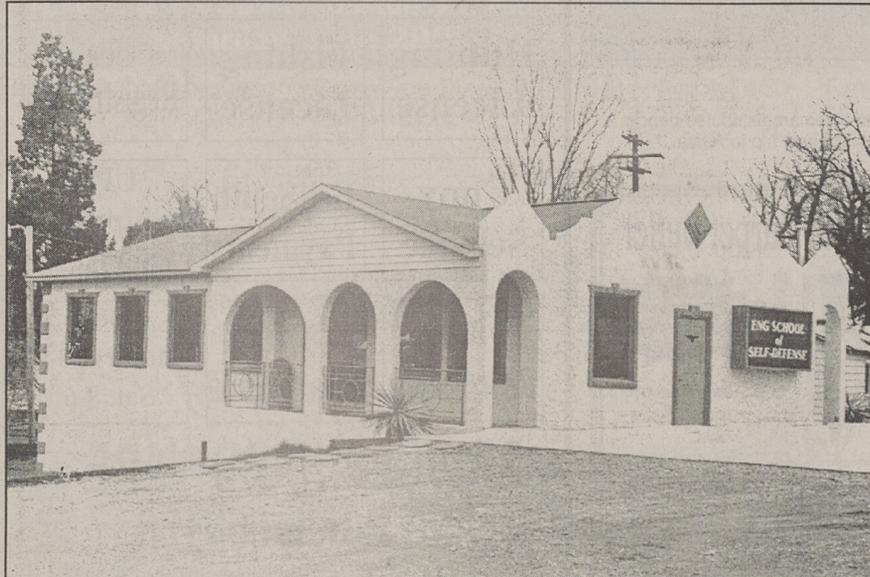
Eng is an ordained minister who holds a Doctor of Theology degree and is also working on a Ph.D in Christian Psychology. The Eng School is also an extension school for the Jacksonville Theological Seminary where Dr. Jack Fox teaches.

"The success of my business has been put God first, and putting Him in charge of the business," Eng said. "God has sent us great students and great instructors who really care about others and helping others."

To celebrate its 20th anniversary, The Eng School is running a "Back to the 70's" anniversary special throughout the month of June. Call 739-1872 for details.



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