SPORTS THIS WEEK

High School Tennis

Thurs., Apr. 29 - Kings Mountain at Forestview.
Fri., Apr. 30 - Sat., May 1 - Regional Qualifying Tournament, Gastonia.

High School Softball

Thurs., Apr. 29 - Kings Mountain at Country Day, 4:30
Fri., Apr. 30 - North Gaston at Kings Mountain, 4:30
Mon., May 3-Fri., May 7 - SWC Tournament, TBA

High School Boys Track

Thurs., Apr. 29 - SWC meet at Kings Mountain, 3:30 p.m.

High School Golf

Tues., May 3 - Regional Tournament, River Bend Golf Club, Shelby.

High School Baseball

Thurs., Apr. 29 - Forestview at Kings Mountain, 7 p.m.
Mon., May 3-Fri., May 7 - SWC Tournament at South Point, times TBA.

Junior Varsity Baseball

Fri., April 30 - Kings Mountain at Shelby, 4:30 p.m.

High School Soccer

Mon., May 3 - Kings Mountain at North Gaston, 6 p.m.

Middle School Baseball

Thurs., Apr. 29 - Kings Mountain at East Lincoln.
Mon., May 3 - Crest at Kings Mountain

Middle School Track

Wed., May 5 - Tri-County Conf. meet at Shelby

Middle School Tennis

Thurs., Apr. 29 - Kings Mountain at Burns

SCOREBOARD

(High School tennis results)

KMHS 8, BURNS 1
(Singles)
Kenny Houston (KM) d. Tripp Beam 3-6, 6-2, 6-4; Zach George (KM) d. Gabriel Peoples 6-3, 6-2; J Chapman (KM) d. Justin Elmore 6-2, 6-2; Basit Gangoo (KM0 d. Jason Elmore 6-0, 6-1; Chris Bennett (KM) d. Seth Steele 6-0, 6-0; Jeremy Owens (KM) d. Brian Philbeck 6-0, 6-0.
(Doubles)
Beam-Elmore (B) d. Houston-Bennett 8-2; Chapman-George (KM) d. Peoples-J. Elmore 6-0, 6-2; Owens-Shergill (KM) d. Steele-Philbeck 6-2, 6-1.

KMHS 9, SHELBY 0
(Singles)
Kenny Houston (KM) d. Lane Pearson 6-1, 6-2; Zach George (KM) d. Justin Brockman 6-0, 6-1; J Chapman (KM) d. Daniel Green 6-0 6-3; Basit Gangoo (KM) d. Everett Crosland 6-0, 6-1; Chris Bennett (KM) d. Kevin Myers 6-0, 6-0; Josh Rountree (KM) d. James Hart 6-0, 6-0;

See Tennis, 6A

Stars come out at KM Hall of Fame

By GARY STEWART
Editor of The Herald

Two of Kings Mountain High's greatest athletes and one of its most successful coaches were inducted into the Kings Mountain Sports Hall of Fame at its 12th annual ceremony Monday night at B.N. Barnes Auditorium.

James Gibson, a football and baseball star from the 1930s and '40s, was inducted posthumously along with 1980s tennis sensation Bryan Jones, and 1960's basketball and baseball coach Bobby Hussey.

Tommy John, a 26-year veteran of the major leagues and now Community Relations Director for the Charlotte Knights, was the guest speaker.

Special Achievement Awards went to the KMHS state championship volleyball team; North Carolina 3-A golf champion Michael Jolly, and North Carolina 3-A wrestling champions Julius Curry and Anthony Ash. Special Recognition Awards went to the KMHS football team which won the Southwestern 3A Conference and finished second in the state, and the KMHS women's swim team which won the SWC.

The Hall of Fame presented $500 scholarships to senior athletes Anthony Ash, Julius Curry and D Chapman; and the first Fred Withers Scholarship, given in honor of the former KMHS baseball coach and Hall of Fame member by his son, Grafton Withers, went to KMHS track and cross country star Chad Pearson.

All of the inductees were remembered fondly by their presenters.

Former KMHS baseball coach Barry Gibson said his uncle, who died over 30 years ago, left a legacy that will live on through the Hall of Fame.

"He was a great athlete, served the community, and was a successful businessman," Gibson said. "But more importantly, he put his church and his family first. He was a devoted family man and a Christian."

Gibson was remembered as a "gifted athlete," who played high school football and baseball from the time he was in the seventh grade. He was Kings Mountain's first All-State football player in 1940, was a member of the Western Conference championship baseball team in 1941, and played football and baseball at Appalachian and football at N.C. State.

"From all accounts he was a great offensive and defensive football player who loved making the big plays," his nephew noted.

Gibson's son, Jim Jr., who accepted the award for the family, said his father "would be so proud and would like to thank all of his teammates and coaches."

Bryan Jones, who was an All-American at both KMHS and the University of North Carolina, was introduced by his college coach, Allen Morris, now the athletic director at Presbyterian College. He called Jones "quiet...serious minded...a person who wants everything to be just right...and a good person."

Playing and excelling in sports came naturally for Jones, the son of former KMHS football coach Bob Jones, but it was noted that his accomplishments were also due to a lot of hard work and determination to succeed.

Jones took up the game of tennis at age 8. With coaching and advice from his father, he was highly successful in junior tournaments all across the southeast. He lost only one match in three years as a player a KMHS and won the state championship his junior year. He went on to UNC where he was All-ACC, ACC Rookie of the Year, ACC champion, ACC MVP, and All-American.

All of those accomplishments were made while he was also carrying a 3.2 grade point average and taking leadership roles in numerous campus activities.

"He was a hard worker, outstanding leader and a fierce competitor," said Morris. "The other players on our team always said if you'd cut him open all you'd find would be heart. I can truthfully say when you've had Bryan Jones on your team you've had it all."

In typical Bryan Jones fashion, he credited his success to other people - namely his parents, brother, Brad, his coaches, teachers and other people in the community.

He credited his father for being his lifelong coach and advisor, and Shelby's Jim Corn, another former UNC tennis star, for taking his game to a higher level.

"But the two most important people were my mother and father, Barbara and Bob Jones," he said. "I can't imagine two parents who could have been more

See Hall, 6A

Bryan Jones gives acceptance speech at KM Hall of Fame

Inductee Bobby Hussey, left, meets baseball legend Tommy John at Monday's Hall of Fame ceremony at Barnes Auditorium.

Barry Gibson, center, who inducted his late uncle Jim Gibson into the KM Hall of Fame Monday, is pictured with Gibson's wife, Virginia, left, and his son, Jim Jr.

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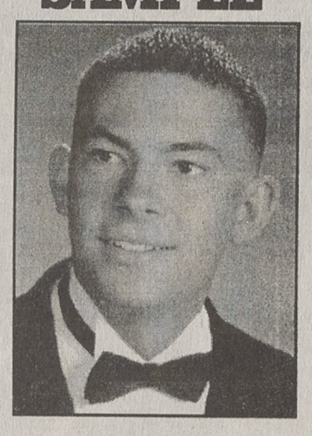

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