

**Soccer celebration set at Gardner-Webb**

All youth currently registered to play fall soccer in the Greater Cleveland County Soccer Association are invited along with their families to a day of games, soccer clinics, food, shopping for soccer gear, and watching the Gardner-Webb men's soccer team play its season opener Saturday, August 26 at the GWU soccer fields.

Players will also find out about their team and coach for the 2000-01 year. There will be food vendors, or families may bring their own picnic basket. There will be sporting goods booths offering socks, shorts, shoes, balls and other gear.

Starting times are:  
 U-16 mixed and girls, 11:30.  
 U-13 mixed and girls, 12:00.  
 U-10 mixed and girls, 12:30.  
 U-8 mixed and girls, 1:00.  
 U-6 mixed and girls, 1:30.  
 The first hour consists of player's clinics and coaches meetings. The teams will then be listed and coaches and players will be able to meet.

GWU will battle Elon at 3

See Soccer, 9A

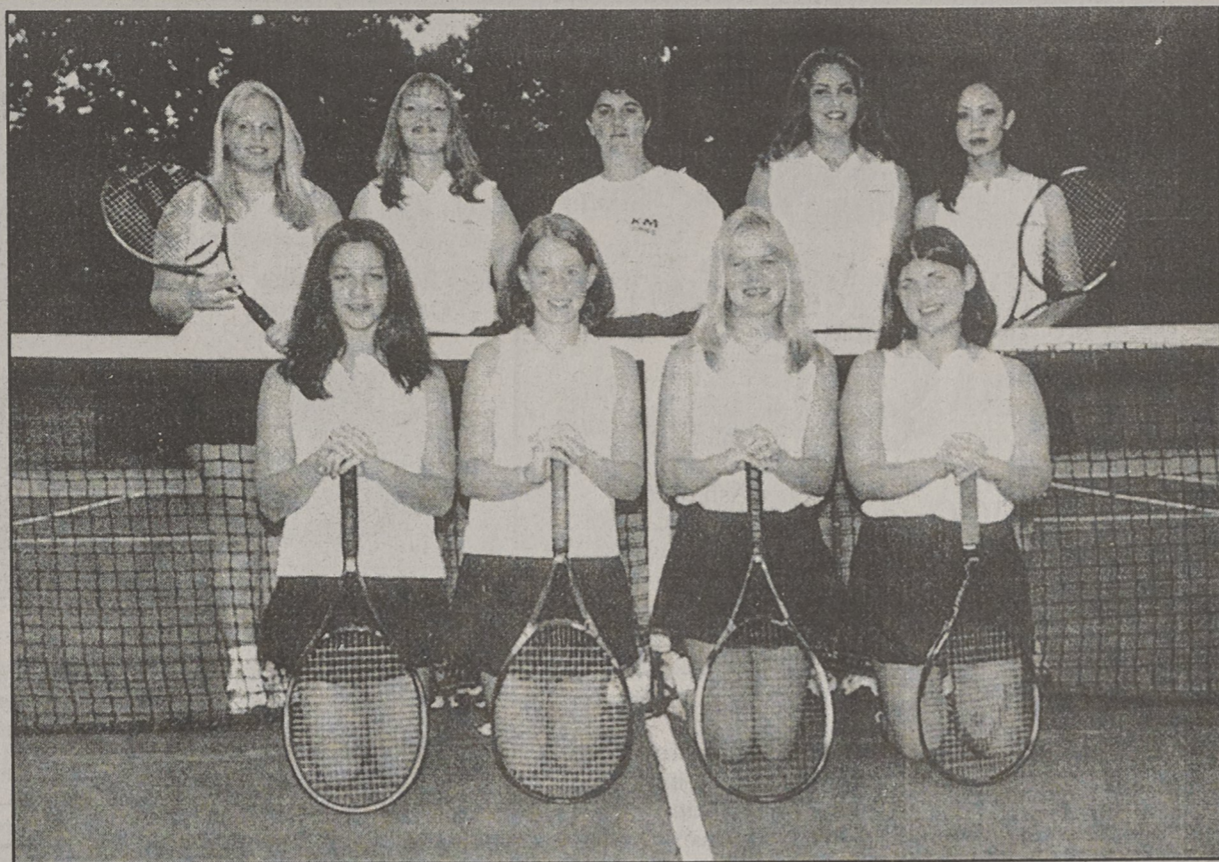


Photo Courtesy SportPix and KMHS Athletic Dept. Pictured above is the Kings Mountain High's girls tennis team for 2000. Front row, left to right, Maria Peralta, Stacey Costner, Jenny Bullington and Kim Jackson. Back row, Lacey Ulrich, Isha Simmons, Coach Mercedes Humphries, Melodie McSwain and Sou Thavysay. Not pictured, Jennifer Page, Corey Gist, Megan Arrowood, Jessica Farris.

**GARY**

From 6A

for area papers since 1964, and have watched SWC football longer than that. I've been privileged to see some of the great games and some of the great athletes.

One game that I witnessed prior to my association with newspapers is one of my most memorable.

In 1963, I was a high school senior when Kings Mountain was hosting Shelby in a battle of the unbeaten for the SWC title at old City Stadium. Expecting a huge crowd, I left home at 5:30 and finally got into the stadium and got a seat on the old wooden bleachers near the south end zone.

Although your memory fades with age, the game sticks out in my mind like it was yesterday. Shelby took the opening kickoff and drove downfield for a 7-0 lead. They kicked off and Steve Baker of the Mountaineers fielded the ball at about the 20 yard line, and in his patented style of head laid back and feet flying high, went right up the middle of the field to tie the score. After that the teams went into a defensive battle and neither scored again.

As the final seconds ticked off the clock, fans started leaving the stadium. To everyone's surprise, when the final horn blew and the game still tied, referees gathered with the coaches and then the two teams gathered at the 10-yard line.

Fans didn't know what was happening, but what they were witnessing was the first-ever SWC "sudden death" playoff. Prior to that season, the State ruled that conference ties would no longer be settled by a vote of the coaches or a special playoff game, but would be decided in a special 10-yard playoff. The only time a tie would be played off was if the two teams were in a position to share the conference championship. In that case, the game went into the record book as a tie, but the team that won the sudden death went to the association playoffs if the two teams ended

the season still tied for first.

Kings Mountain drew first blood in the sudden death, taking a 3-0 lead on a field goal by Hubert McGinnis. Thinking the game was over, many more people left the stadium.

But Shelby then got the ball on the 10-yard line. Three running plays didn't gain an inch (well, maybe a few!). On fourth down, Shelby's star running back, Charlie Peeler, took a pitch from the quarterback, ran to his right, stopped and threw a touchdown pass right through the arms of KM defensive back Bo Goforth. Needless to say, Kings Mountain players coaches and fans were in shock, and in tears.

Most KM fans - and, I dare say the coaches and referees - didn't fully realize what had gone on until the new sudden death rule was explained word-for-word in the Herald the following Thursday.

Shelby went on to represent the SWC in the Western NC High Schools Activities Association playoffs. Kings Mountain, which allowed only 40 points all year, stayed home with a 9-0-1 record. To date, there hasn't been another KMHS football team to finish the season undefeated.

After several years of the sudden death rule, the State began requiring that all conference games that end in a tie be played off, and that the game go into the record books as a win and loss. Teams do not have to play off nonconference games.

Several other games over the years were also memorable - like the 1979 championship battle between the Kevin Mack-led Mountaineers and the Jeff Williams-led South Point Red Raiders, and KM's 42-0 blowout of Shelby in the 1996 championship game at John Gamble Stadium.

In today's practice of realignment every four years, the new Southwestern Foothills Conference isn't likely to last 47 years. But every year brings more special memories. Get out to a high school near you every Friday night this fall and enjoy some of them.

**FOOTBALL**

From 6A

penalty, but the Patriots marched it right back in for a 7-0 lead.

In all fairness to the Mountaineer defense, they were playing without the services of four key players, including three starters. Kesario Adams, Chad Anderson, Daniel Mason, and Justin Early were all on the sidelines with injuries sustained in a scrimmage at Mooresville last Wednesday night.

Farquharson said all of the injured players should be back for the East Gaston game, except possibly Early, who has a hamstring injury.

"I was pleased with our defensive effort," noted Farquharson, "especially to be as young as we are and learning a new system and going up against a strong offensive team like Freedom. We made some

mistakes but it wasn't mistakes because of a lack of effort. They were hustling and they were getting after it pretty well."

Farquharson sees East Gaston as a quality opponent, despite last week's 34-14 loss to Forestview. Forestview is one of the top-ranked teams in the state, and East Gaston was minus some starters that should be ready to play this week.

"East Gaston does some things well," he said. "They had a couple of people hurt that didn't play against Forestview who I think would have made it a much closer ball game."

"Their team gets better each year," he added. "They finished strong in their conference last year, so it's going to be a game where we have to be fine-tuned. We can't go in there and make a lot of mistakes and have turnovers and penalties. If we give them that type of opportu-

nities they're capable of beating us."

Despite the loss of some talented running backs and receivers, the Warriors are expected to improve on last year's 5-6 record under second-year coach Ron Froneberger.

Junior quarterback David Morrison is a talented passer, and the word is that the Warriors may put the ball in the air more than they run it.

East Gaston has a veteran offensive line, led by 215-pound guard Jamie Lineberger and 229-pound tackle Matt Richardson.

Farquharson said he doesn't plan any major personnel changes, but may try to get big 6-5, 315-pound tight end Qwenshon Goode more involved in the offense.

"We're pretty much going to stick with what we've got going and just see if we can get everybody rolling," Farquharson

said. "We want to try to get the ball in Qwenshon's hands a couple times a game."

**ALL-TIME SCORES  
KM-EAST GASTON**

Year	KM	EG
1973	37	7
1974	29	0
1975	18	14
1976	21	14
1977	14	38
1978	0	19
1979	7	0
1980	0	24
1981	0	6
1982	21	14
1983	20	8
1984	14	33
1993	59	0
1994	28	7
1995	34	14
1996	46	8
1997	23	18
1998	33	6
1999	34	14



Pictured above is the "Mountain Sponsor Board" at John Gamble stadium.

The Kings Mountain High School Booster Club is excited again this year to offer what we feel is an attractive way to advertise your business as well as show your support for Kings Mountain High School athletics.

The "Mountaineer Sponsor Boards" are located at John Gamble stadium and also directly outside the gymnasium doors-inside the High School. For \$300.00 your company's name and logo will be displayed during all athletic events held at the school for an entire year.

Your contribution goes toward the Athletic Fund which benefits all of the sports programs at Kings Mountain High School. Some of the past projects that the Booster Club has participated in are Volleyball/Basketball Scoreboard, New Volleyball Nets, Natatorium Scoreboard, Lighting on girl's softball field, purchase of two new lawnmowers, equipment for all sports programs, trophies for all sports programs, ice machine for the athletic department, fees for various camps and leagues, helped with expenses when teams make it to state playoffs and many other worthwhile projects.

If you are interested in our "Mountaineer Sponsor Boards" or in becoming a member of the Kings Mountain High School Booster Club please contact one of the following: Danny Navy-co-president 739-1819, Tommy Barrett-co-president 739-7378, Dale Hollifield - treasurer 739-4904 or Stella Putnam - member 739-9080.

**GO MOUNTIES!!!!**