

CATCH OF THE DAY



GARY STEWART / THE HERALD
Dean Smith holds a 30-pound, 38-inch Striped Bass he caught last week at Lake Murray, SC. He was fishing with Ewin Dalton.

Goforth's 4-hitter beats Shelby in season opener

Senior righthander Brad Goforth hurled a complete game four-hitter and his teammates backed him with a 10-hit attack as Kings Mountain's Mountaineers opened their 2002 baseball season Tuesday at Shelby with a 8-2 win over the Golden Lions.

Tony Leigh's charges travel to Hunter Huss Friday for a 4:30 p.m. game, and their first home game is a JV/varsity doubleheader Monday at 4 p.m. against East Gaston's Warriors.

Goforth struck out nine batters and walked only one in Tuesday's win. Both of Shelby's runs were unearned, coming as a result of a two-out error in the sixth inning. Shelby collected three of its four hits off Goforth in the sixth - two of them after the two-out error.

Warren Shirey and David Brinkley led the KM hitting with two hits each. Goforth, Ross Ellis, Trent Hopper, Josh Patterson, Matt Echols and Elan Philbeck added one hit each.

Kings Mountain grabbed a 1-0 lead in the second inning when Shirey walked, Brinkley singled to right, and Philbeck hit a sacrifice fly to left.

The Mountaineers added another run in the third as Hopper singled with one out and later scored as a result of two Shelby errors.

The Mountaineers broke the game open with three runs in the third, highlighted by singles by Goforth, two Shelby errors, and a two-run single by Shirey.

Kings Mountain added their final runs in the seventh on a walk to Hopper, and singles by Patterson, Echols, Shirey and Brinkley.

■ Kings Mountain's junior varsity team opened its season Monday with a 5-4, 8-inning win over Shelby at KM's Lancaster Field.

Tyler Leach pitched five strong innings for the Mountaineers, and C.J. Austin pitched the final three innings to get the win.

Weston Taylor had two hits to lead the KM plate attack.

The JV Mountaineers host Hunter Huss Friday at 4:30.

Pats open at Crest

Kings Mountain Middle School's baseball team opens its 2002 season Saturday with a doubleheader at Crest Middle School.

The first game begins at 11 a.m. and the second game begins at 2 p.m. In between, the two teams will have lunch. All other games this year will begin at 4 p.m.

Veteran Coach Monty Deaton has 10 players returning from last year's team, which finished 13-2-1 overall and second to Burns in the Tri-County Conference. Deaton's teams have won over 50 games and lost only 10 in the past four years.

Only two of those returning players saw extensive playing time last year, though, and Deaton says the players still have a lot of work to do.

"The guys have all been working hard, but we still don't know who's going to be

playing where," Deaton said. "The defense still has some work to do. Pitchers will probably get about two or three innings of work apiece until we get on into the season."

"But we do have a lot of players back even if they don't have a lot of game experience. We're still going to be trying to improve on our record."

Members of the team are Cody Barrett, Kevin Bell, Ryan Bolin, Alan Breakfield, Ryan Burton, Tyler Cannon, Miles Galloway, Trey Glass, Sidney Goode, Logan Hardin, Stacey Hopper, Ryan Leach, Drew Martin, Casey Melton, Chris Miller, Isaac Proctor, Trey Robinson, Junior Ruff and Adam Sellers.

The Patriots will play their first home

game on March 5 at 4 p.m. against Clover. Their first conference game is March 7 at Burns.

"We're looking for another successful year," Deaton said. "The last four years have been very good and hopefully we can keep that tradition going."

THE SCHEDULE

March 2 - at Crest (doubleheader 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.); March 5 - Clover; March 7 - at Burns; March 14 - at West Lincoln; March 18 - Shelby; March 21 - Burns; March 25 - Lincolnton; March 28 - at Pumpkin Center. April 9 - East Lincoln; April 11 - West Lincoln; April 15 - at Shelby; April 18 - at Lincolnton; April 22 - Pumpkin Center; April 25 - at East Lincoln.

Evans bowls another 400 series

Greg Evans turned in another 400 set in mixed duckpin bowling league action Thursday night at Dilling Heating.

He had single games of 148, 147 and 127 for a 422 series, which led his team, Strike Force (38-18), to a 4-4 split with Ed's Raiders (22-34).

Ed Philbeck led the Raiders with a 125 line and 351 set, and Bonnie Warren added a 109 line

and 300 set.

In another match, opponents Chris Hullender and Tommy Barrett flirted with 400 sets.

Hullender bowled a 160 line and 391 set to lead his Hard 8 team (33-23) to a 8-0 sweep of Barrett's All-Americans (19-37). Barrett led his group with a 135 line and 386 set.

Balanced scoring was the key for Hard 8, though, as all mem-

bers of the team topped 300. Zeke Rybczyk had a 117 line and 336 set, John Dilling had a 113-318, and Joey Whitaker had a 124-304.

Scores slipped a bit on Tuesday night, as Chris Hullender's 336 set was the top score turned in.

Hullender had a 130 line during that set to lead the first

place KM Warriors (37-19) to a 6-2 win over R2 (18-38). Ed Philbeck added a 113-324. Zeke Rybczyk bowled a 116 line and Irene Ruley had a 300 set for R2.

Mark Midgette bowled a 109 line and 325 set to lead No. 2 Prisoners (32-24) to a 6-2 win over S&M (25-31). John Dilling had a 106 line and Mark Abernathy added a 296 set for S&M.



GARY STEWART / HERALD
David Hughes holds a 3-pound Crappie he caught last week in South Carolina. Hughes and his brother, Bill, landed several other Crappie in the one to two-pound range.

MOUNTIES

From 6A

points and Matt Teague added 12.

South Point, the #4 seed from the Big South 3A, ended its season with a 9-12 record. Dusty Baskett led the Raiders with 15

KM (71) Gash 14, Roberts 12, Burris 11, S. Blair 11, Houze 9, G. Blair 6, D. Smith 3, Hardin 2, Roebuck 2, C. Smith 1.

SP (66) - Baskett 15, Teague 12, Brown 11, Camp 11, Stowe 9, Williams 8.

KMHS SPRING SPORTS SCHEDULES

KMHS SOFTBALL

March 2 - Multiple scrimmage at KMHS (TBA); March 12 - East Burke 4:30; March 15 - at East Gaston 4:30; March 19 - Cherryville 4:30; March 23 - Players Invitational tournament at Cherry Park, Rock Hill, SC 3 games TBA; March 28 - Hickory 5:30. March 31-April 2 - at Azalea Invitational, Summerville, SC 4 games TBA.

April 9 - at Burns 4:30; April 12 - RS Central 5:30; April 13 - Cleveland County Tournament at KMHS TBA; April 16 - at St. Stephens 4:30; April 19 - at Crest 4:30; April 23 - Fred T. Foard 5:30; April 30 - at Hickory 4:30.

May 3 - Burns 5:30; May 7 - at RS Central 4:30; May 10 - St.

Stephens 5:30; May 14 - Crest 5:30; May 17 - at F.T. Foard 4:30. State Playoffs - 1st round May 24; District May 28; Sectional May 31; Regional/State June 7-8.

KMHS TRACK

March 13 - F.T. Foard and Crest at KM; March 20 - KM and Hickory at RS Central; March 27 - St. Stephens at KM.

April 10 - KM at Hickory; April 16 - Boys Invitational at Shelby; April 17 - F.T. Foard and KM at Hickory; April 24 -25 -

Conference meet at Crest; April 30 - County meet at KM; May 4 - Regionals TBA; May 11 - State at NC State.

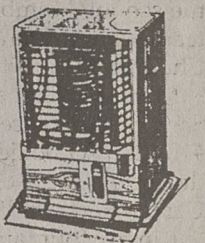
KMHS MEN'S TENNIS

March 13 - Shelby; Mar. 14 - at Forestview; Mar. 18 - Crest; mar. 21 - at Huss; Mar. 26 - Forestview.

April 8 - at Hickory; Apr. 10 - burns; Apr. 15 - at RS; Apr. 17 - St. Stephens; Apr. 22 - Crest; Apr. 24 - at Foard; Apr. 27 - Conference tournament at Hickory.

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