

Mountaineers outscore Foard 11-10 Tuesday

Kings Mountain's Mountaineers had their biggest offensive production of the season Tuesday night but still had to hang on to defeat Fred T. Foard 11-10 in a Southwestern Foothills 3A Conference game at Lancaster Field.

The Mountaineers carried an 11-8 lead into the final inning but Steve Mahnke's second home run of the game sparked a two-run rally for the Tigers. Foard had the potential tying run on second base when the game ended.

The Mountaineers collected 17 hits to back a route-going mound performance by senior righthander Brad Goforth, who posted his sixth win in nine decisions. Ross Ellis, Matt Echols and David Brinkley had three hits each; Josh Patterson and Trent Hopper added two apiece, and Goforth, Warren Shirey, Caleb Williams and Elan Philbeck had one hit each.

The teams swapped runs for almost the entire ball game.

Foard grabbed a 1-0 lead in the top of the first inning, but Patterson followed Hopper's single with a home run to put the Mountaineers on top 2-1 in the bottom of the inning. Singles by Echols, Shirey and Brinkley produced two more runs for a 4-1 KM lead.

A three-run home run by Travis of Fred T. Foard tied the game in the top of the third inning, then Mahnke followed with a solo shot to put the Tigers on top 5-4.

In the bottom of the inning, KM got a double by Patterson with one out, and Echols singled him home to tie the game at 5-5. After Shirey reached on an error, Echols scored on a passed ball to give KM the lead again.

But Foard came right back in the top of the fourth and scored on an infield out to tie the

game at 6-6.

In the bottom of the fourth, Ellis singled with one away, stole second and scored on a double off the wall by Hopper. Hopper moved to third on a balk and scored on a sacrifice fly by Goforth.

In the bottom of the fifth, Brinkley singled, stole second and scored on a single by Philbeck.

KM tallied its final run in the bottom of the sixth as Brinkley doubled with two away and scored on a single by Williams.

Foard finished with eight hits off Goforth, and he struck out four.

In a makeup game Monday, the Mountaineers fell to Crest 5-2.

Crest grabbed a 1-0 lead in the first inning, but KM came back to tie the game in the second on a double by Echols and sacrifice fly by Williams.

David Bowling's three-run home run in the third inning put the Chargers on top 4-1, and they added an unearned run in the fourth to make it 5-1.

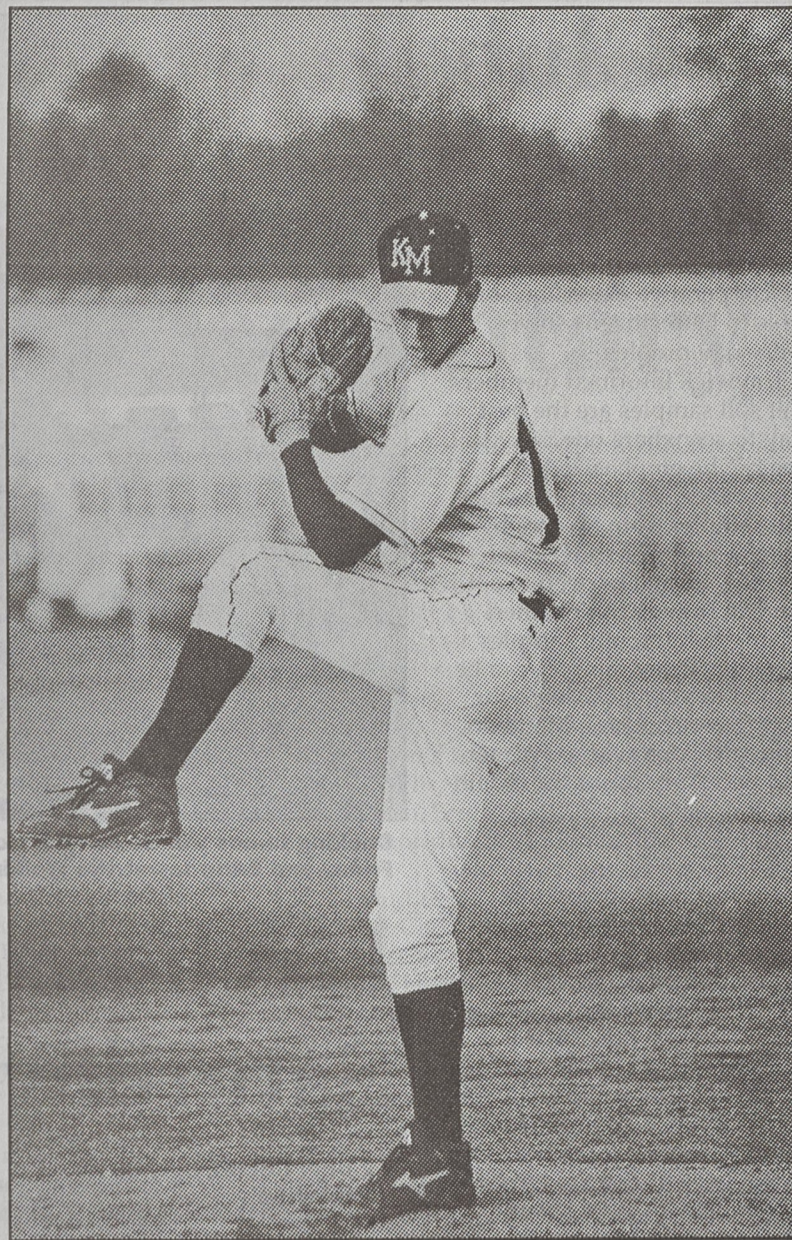
Williams homered for KM's final run in the fifth inning.

Matt Lovelace went the distance for the Chargers, limiting the Mountaineers to just four hits. Williams was 1-for-2 and had both of KM's RBI. Goforth, Echols and Philbeck also had a hit each.

Ross Ellis went the distance for the Mountaineers.

The Mountaineers are at home Friday for a JV/varsity doubleheader with Kannapolis A.L. Brown, and they host Bessemer City in a JV/varsity doubleheader on Monday.

They begin the second round of SWFH play Tuesday night at Hickory.



Kings Mountain's Brad Goforth went the distance and scattered eight hits to pick up his sixth pitching win against three losses in Tuesday night's game with Fred T. Foard at Lancaster Field. The Mountaineers host A.L. Brown Friday and Bessemer City net Monday.

BRIEFS

From 6A

In addition, players also compete in an invitation only basketball tournament.

Mountaineers third in KMCC golf match

Kings Mountain's Mountaineers finished third in a Southwestern Foothills Conference golf match Monday at Kings Mountain Country Club.

Crest won the event with a 591 score, followed by Hickory at 609. KM shot 617, followed by R-S Central 623, Fred T. Foard 634, St. Stephens 673, and Burns 695.

Josh Thackerson and Josh Philbeck of Crest shared medalist honors with even par 36s. John Clark had a 38 and Jake Hamrick 39.

Lane Echols led the Mountaineers with a 37, followed by Gray Howard 38, Chris Jolly, Sam McGinnis and Russ Putnam 41 each, and Josh Eitters 48.

Kent Copeland led Hickory with a 37. The only other players under 40 were Taylor Lutz of Foard with a 38, Chris Brauns of Foard with a 39, and Lee Nejberger of Burns with a 39.

The SWFH teams play at St. Stephens next Monday.

KMHS softball team defeats Burns 22-18

Kings Mountain outscored Burns 22-18 in a Southwestern Foothills Conference softball game last Tuesday night at Burns.

Kings Mountain scored 14 runs in the first inning but still had to hold on as the Lady Bulldogs mounted several comeback attempts.

Pam Parker hurled the win for the Lady Mountaineers and also went 3-for-4 with four runs batted in. Rachelle Stroup was 3-for-5 with five runs batted in.

Brooke Blackburn added three hits, Kristin Hardin had two hits and three RBI, and Carrie Brinkley had two hits for the Mountaineers.

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Mountie kickers tie St. Stephens

Kings Mountain High's fourth-ranked women's soccer team faced two of the most powerful teams in North Carolina during the past week, and tied both of them.

In a head-to-head battle for the Southwestern Foothills Conference lead Wednesday night in Hickory, the Lady Mountaineers and Lady Indians fought to a 1-1 tie in double overtime.

Both carried 4-0 conference records into the match.

The Mountaineers' game with 4A power North Mecklenburg Monday night ended in a scoreless tie.

Although St. Stephens scored 11 minutes into the match, the KM ladies controlled most of the possessions. But many of their scoring opportunities were from long range and they couldn't find the goal in the first half.

The second half saw the KM ladies jump all over the Indians again, but couldn't finish the final shot.

With 20 minutes gone in the second half, Meghan Potter converted a penalty kick as Katie Bennett was fouled in the box.

The game see-sawed back and forth for the next five minutes before the Mounties again applied the pressure. Emily Owens just missed a header off a super cross from Lesley Potter. Jenni Wilson created several great chances out of the right midfield. Emily Edwards played a very dangerous ball that almost beat the keeper to the back post.

With just seconds remaining in regulation, Blair Heffner made a super run and beat the keeper, but hit the goal post with the open net in front of her.

The Mountaineers out-shot the Indians with more than an over 30 to 8 advantage. In overtime, the ladies applied more pressure but the bad luck continued as the Indian keeper came off her line to make a great save on a breakaway attempt from Lesley Potter.

"There was truly a championship type atmosphere and a very high level of intensity



Jenni Wilson scored two goals and had three assists to lead Kings Mountain High's women's soccer team to a 7-0 victory over South Point Friday. The Lady Mountaineers, tied for first place in the Southwestern Foothills Conference, hosts Newton-Conover Friday and travels to Hickory Monday.

displayed," said Coach Dan Potter. "I couldn't be any prouder of the players for their effort. We are just very frustrated in our ability to finish the last shot, but look forward to playing them a second time for all the marbles."

Potter said the game with North Meck was also a great experience for his team. "They have a great tradition and we are beginning to build ours to the point where our girls have confidence in themselves and are not being intimidated by a name," he said.

This game also was played out to pre-match expectations. North Meck came out

strong and physical and it took some time for the Mountaineers to adjust. Pressure from the midfield prevented the Mounties from building a dangerous attack.

"Once our girls saw how much quicker and physical the game was being played, we picked up our game and became more effective," Potter said. "Credit has to be given to the Lady Vikings, but credit also needs to be given to our ladies for adjusting to the rough play and meeting the challenge of playing such a tradition rich 4A school. This game had all the atmosphere of a playoff game and intensity to match it. Scheduling a team like North Mecklenburg is good to measure our intensity and ability to adjust to tough physical play which will be indicative of the playoffs. Our team was shaky at first but improved as the game lengthened."

Stacey Spicer was in goal and recorded the shutout as the Lady Mounties have now denied their opponents a goal in six of their 13 games. Heather Kubu, Katie Bennett, Emily Edwards, and Lauren Horne solidified a strong back line. The midfielders also put in some tough play and were led by Emily Owens, Stephanie Edwards, Meghan Potter and Jenni Wilson.

Between the two ties, the Lady Mounties blanked South Point 7-0 Friday night. Lesley Potter scored the first of her three goals at the 7-minute mark of the first half to get the Mounties rolling to their 11th victory.

Sophomore Jenni Wilson had a terrific night as she found the back of the net twice, and added three assists.

Blair Heffner contributed a pair of goals and Emily Owens, Meghan Potter and Selena Owens had assists.

The defense was extremely solid as South Point was offered only one good scoring opportunity. Jennifer Martin rattled a long shot off the far goal post.

Spicer recorded the shutout at goal.

Kings Mountain hosts Newton-Conover Friday at 5 p.m. and travels to Hickory Monday for a 6:30 game.

COACH

From 6A

best things Thompson will bring to the KM program is stability on the defensive side of the ball. Over the past two seasons, the Mountaineers have had three different defensive coordinators.

"He's going to bring stability in the fact that he wants to be a defensive coordinator," Farquharson said. "That's the side of the ball that he enjoys and the side of the ball he's worked a while at, and he wants to perfect his game plan on the defensive side of the ball."

Farquharson said he expects Thompson to be a part of the Mountaineers' mini-camp May 20-23. Thompson plans to move to Kings Mountain after Pasquotank's school year ends the second week of June.

"I'm really looking forward to it," Thompson said.

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Mounties lose to Indians 4-3 in SW Foothills game

Kings Mountain High's women's softball team fell to St. Stephens 4-3 in 10 innings Tuesday night.

Kristin Hardin went the distance for Kings Mountain, scattering six hits and striking out five.

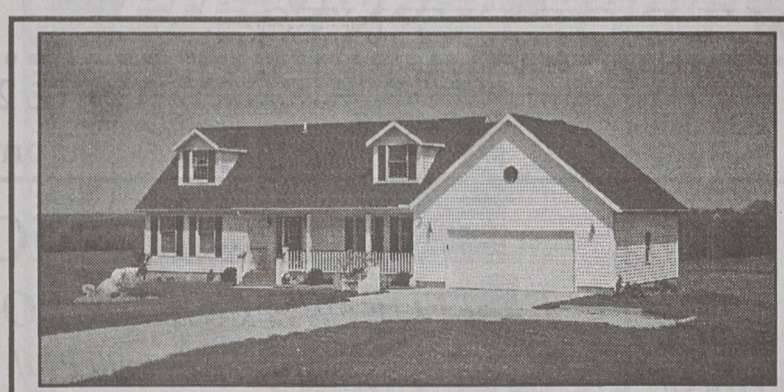
Rachel Hughes led the Mountaineers at the plate with 3-for-4. Richelle Stroupe had two hits and Brooke

Blackburn, Carrie Brinkley, Ashley Leigh and Hardin added one hit apiece.

The loss left the Mountaineers with a 1-3 conference and 6-8 overall record.

Kings Mountain travels to Crest Friday at 4:30.

The Cleveland County Tournament, which was rained out last week, will be made up on May 11 at Kings Mountain.



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