

▶ AT A GLANCE

Prep Schedule

Friday
TBA - KMHS in Great 8 volleyball tournament at Guilford College. (Continues Saturday)

Monday
4 p.m. - KMHS girls tennis at Burns

Tuesday:
4 p.m. - KMHS cross country at Crest.

Wednesday
4 p.m. - KM girls tennis at RS Central
6:30 - KM soccer at S. Point.
4:30 - KM volleyball at Shelby



YUUKI NISHYAMA

Nishyama competes in Australia swim event

Some students spend their summer working, playing or practicing sports but this summer Kings Mountain swimmer Yuuki Nishyama decided to compete in an international sporting event in Australia.

In July, Nishyama attended a two-week summer sporting event that allowed him to travel the eastern coast of Australia.

The opportunity was sponsored by International Sports Specialists. Nishyama was one of 16 North Carolina student athletes to be selected to attend the unique swimming experience.

Top student athletes from 26 other states in the U.S. and a variety of Australian club teams practiced and competed against each other.

Nishyama had an outstanding performance and captured a third place medal in both the 50 butterfly and 50 freestyle events.

Nishyama is a junior at Kings Mountain High School where he competes for the Mountaineer swim team. He also swims with the Kings Mountain Aquatics Cyclones.

CLEVELAND COUNTY JAMBOREE



Kings Mountain quarterback Derek Smith (top photo) looks for receiver in-scrammage with East Burke. Bottom, defensive back Adrian Parker "chilling" on the sideline.

GARY STEWART / THE HERALD



Mountaineers play Freedom in opening game in Shelby

By GARY STEWART
Editor of The Herald

Eight of the top football teams in Western North Carolina will compete in the fourth annual Cleveland County Jamboree Friday night at Shelby High School.

The field - the same as it has been during the first three years of the event - features five teams that have won at least one State Championship and three others that are traditional playoff participants.

Kings Mountain's Mountaineers and the Freedom Patriots get the event under way at 6 p.m. There will be one game per hour.

This scrimmage is different from the previous two Mountaineer scrimmages,

THE LINEUP

6 P.M. - Kings Mountain vs. Freedom
7 P.M. - Crest vs. East Rutherford
8 P.M. - Burns vs. Kannapolis
9 P.M. - Shelby vs. Hickory

Admission: \$5

in that except for kickoffs and kick returns it will be exactly like a regular football game.

"This is our pre-season," says KM Coach Dave Farquharson. "We've watched film from last year and have taken a look at what we've done so far. This is our first opportunity to see what we do in a

game situation. There will be no coaches on the field telling the kids what to do and how to line up. We'll see how well we're going to communicate.

"The atmosphere will be different. We'll have game gear on rather than practice gear. There will be tons of fans. It's a great opportunity to get ready to go into our season opener as opposed to opening up in a regular game."

Farquharson's Mountaineers scrimmaged North Piedmont Conference power Mooresville last week in Mooresville, and despite a slow start he said he was pleased with his team's progress.

"We did alright," he said. "It was a little better
See Jamboree, 7A

Let's get ready...for losers' playoffs

Friday night many high school football teams in North Carolina will begin regular season play.

Next week, most of them will be in action.

On the first Friday night in September, the few that do not play endowment games and have open dates on the first two playing dates, will take the field.

But what will they be play-

ing for?

Nowadays, the regular season means absolutely nothing.

Except money.

It's sad to say, but high school sports, just like the pros and for the most part, college, has boiled down to money.

Beginning this year, almost every high school football team in North Carolina will

qualify for the State playoffs. Last year, the State's athletic directors and principals voted to "sub-divide" the State playoffs, mean-



GARY STEWART
EDITOR

ing North Carolina will crown eight state champions (two each in all four classifications) instead of four.

For the most part, setting goals and motivating players are out the window. At least until the playoffs start.

Like in anything else, people have mixed views on this issue. Some are for it, some hate it.

As you've probably gath-

ered by now, I hate it.

I can remember a time when a team had to win its conference championship to make the State playoffs. Now, almost everybody's in. Go figure.

Of all the people I've talked to, only a handful like it. Almost all of the coaches with established winning traditions are against it, and

See Gary, 7A



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