

▶ AT A GLANCE

Prep Schedule

Thursday

5 p.m. - KMHS volleyball at Hickory.
4 p.m. - KMHS girls tennis at East Gaston.
7 p.m. - South Point JV football at KMHS.

Friday

7:30 p.m. - KMHS varsity football at South Point.

Monday

6:30 p.m. - KMHS soccer at Shelby.
4 p.m. - KMHS girls tennis at Fred T. Foard.

Tuesday

5 p.m. - KMHS volleyball at Burns.
4 p.m. - KMHS girls tennis at East Gaston.

Wednesday

5 p.m. - Middle School football, East Lincoln at Kings Mountain.
6:30 p.m. - Hickory soccer at Kings Mountain.

Prep Standings

SOUTHWESTERN FOOTHILLS 3A

Teams	Conf.	All
Burns	0-0	1-0
Hickory	0-0	1-0
F.T. Foard	0-0	1-1
Crest	0-0	0-0
K. Mtn.	0-0	0-1
St. Stephens	0-0	0-2
RS Central	0-0	0-2

Last Week's Games

E. Gaston 30, K. Mtn. 20
Burns 55, McDowell 6
Hickory 49, E. Burke 12
Bunker Hill 35, Foard 21
Bandys 55, St. Stephens 15
E. Ruth. 43, RS Central 12

Friday's Games

K. Mtn. at South Point
Burns at Shelby
Anson County at Crest
Hickory at Statesville
St. Stephens at Bunker Hill
Chase at RS Central

BIG SOUTH 3A

Teams	Conf.	All
Ashbrook	0-0	1-0
Forestview	0-0	1-0
Huss	0-0	1-0
S. Point	0-0	1-0
E. Gaston	0-0	1-1
E. Lincoln	0-0	1-1
N. Gaston	0-0	0-1

Last Week's Games

Huss 42, Cherryville 21
S. Point 55, Lincoln 21
Ashbrook 35, Clover 20
E. Lincoln 48, W. Lincoln 0

Friday's Games

E. Gaston at E. Meck
Highland at E. Lincoln
Sun Valley at Forestview
Forest Hills at Ashbrook
Lincolnton at N. Gaston
Huss at York

SOUTHERN FOOTHILLS 1A

Teams	Conf.	All
Maiden	0-0	1-1
Bess. City	0-0	0-1
Hen'vle	0-0	0-1
Polk Co.	0-0	0-1
Ch'ville	0-0	0-2
Highland	0-0	0-2

Last Week's Games

Chase 25, B. City 12
N. Henderson 21, H'ville 7
Rosman 21, Highland 0
Newton 22, Maiden 14

Friday's Games

B. City at West Lincoln
Cherryville eat Huss
W. Henderson at H'ville
Highland at E. Lincoln
Bandys at Maiden
Landrum, SC at Polk Co.

KM at South Point Friday

Red Raiders one of top ranked 3A teams in North Carolina

By GARY STEWART
Editor of The Herald

With an unexpected 30-20 loss to East Gaston behind them, Kings Mountain's Mountaineers hope to show improvement this week when they travel to Belmont's Lineberger Stadium to take on one of the most explosive 3A football teams in the State.

South Point's Red Raiders, who have won or shared their conference championship for the past three years and have gone deep into the State playoffs each of those seasons, got their year off to a rip-roaring start last week with a 55-21 victory over last year's 2A state semifinalist Lincolnton.

The Red Raider faithful, who saw their team make it to the Western finals two years ago and to the semifinals last year, feel they have the team that can compete for the State championship this year.

Led by junior quarterback Javar Williams, the South Point "Red Bone" offense is a threat to score from anywhere on the field. Kings Mountain Coach Dave Farquharson sees them as a big challenge to KM's young defense.

"They haven't changed a bit in what they do, and they're a year older," he says. "They're going to run that option, and they have real good team speed which represents a real test for us defensively as far as responsibility football. When you play a team that runs the option like they do, everybody's got a job to do and regardless of what else happens you have to do your job. If your job's to take the quarterback you better take him every time. If it's to take the dive you have to take the dive every time, and if it's to take the option you have to take the option every time."

Keeping focused on those responsibilities will be difficult for the KM defense, which was riddled for almost

400 yards total offense last week by an East Gaston team that was picked in pre-season to finish last in the Big South 3A, where South Point was picked to finish first.

"I think our youth on defense showed up last week," Farquharson said. "We couldn't come up and make a third down stop when we needed to."

Farquharson credited East Gaston's offense for its long, sustained drives that ate up the clock and kept Kings Mountain's highly-touted offense off the field.

"That's what we'd like to do when we have the ball," he said. "But we just were not able to get anything on track defensively, and offensively we did some good things but we also did some bad things. We shot ourselves in the foot with turnovers and not executing properly on some plays that ended up being losses."



Jadarian Moore scores on 11-yard quarterback sneak for East Gaston in 30-20 win over Kings Mountain.

FOOTBALL OPENER



Cortney Smith returns a kickoff for Kings Mountain's Mountaineers in Friday's 30-20 loss to East Gaston on the Warriors' turf.

Latham's Warriors defeat KM 30-20 in season opener

BY GARY STEWART
Editor of The Herald

With three minutes left in Friday's Kings Mountain-East Gaston football game at the Warriors' Stadium, a chorus of "boos" rang out of the East Gaston bleachers.

The Warrior followers weren't stating their dissatisfaction with their team's performance, they were applauding a sack of Kings Mountain quarterback Derek Smith by Warrior linebacker Jared "Boo" Hogan.

That play basically marked the end of any comeback hopes by the highly-favored Mountaineers, who saw their season get off to a disappointing start in a 30-20 defeat.

East Gaston, which had fallen miserably to West Mecklenburg 35-10 a week earlier, carried out first-year coach Mark Latham's game plan to perfection. The Warriors did not commit a single turnover, they put forth a tremendous 1-2 offensive punch led by quarterback Jadarian Moore and running back Jarnard Abernathy, and probably most important of all, they kept Kings Mountain's explosive offense off the field most of the game.

The Warriors kept the ball for 60 offensive plays compared to only 37 for the Mountaineers. Moore, who had misfired on several deep passes at West Meck and had three interceptions, focused on targets underneath the KM coverage and hit 9-of-10

passes for 144 yards.

Abernathy, a quick, 179-pound senior running back, rambled around and through the KM defense almost at will in running up his second straight 100-yard performance with 34 carries for 141 yards.

The East Gaston defense, meanwhile, completely shut down Kings Mountain's power running game. Aquino Simmons, the leading returning rusher in the Southwestern Foothills Conference who gained 198 yards rushing in a 17-0 win over East Gaston last year, was held to 56 yards in 11 carries.

Things looked good for the Mountaineers early, as Simmons took the opening kickoff and raced 65

See Warriors, 8A

KM spikers beat Lions, Freedom

Kings Mountain High's women's volleyball team won two non-conference games last week to run their record to 5-1.

The Lady Mountaineers open Southwestern Foothills Conference play Thursday at Hickory.

Kings Mountain swept Shelby 15-11, 15-3, 15-4

Wednesday at Shelby.

Shonda

Cole had

another big

game along

the nets for

the Lady

Mounties.

She regis-

tered 25 kills and had three

digs, one block and was 4-

for-7 serving

She got plenty of help up

front from Alex Dawson

and Pam Parker. Dawson

had nine kills and one dig;

Parker had three kills, two

digs, two blocks and was

11-for-11 serving.

Setters Blair Heffner and

Courtney Osteen continued

to play well, also. Heffner

had 17 assists, six digs and

was 11-for-11 serving.

Osteen had eight assists,

four digs and was 11-for-13

serving.

Lauren Horne added six

digs and was 12-for-13 serv-

ing. Ashton Teague had two

kills, one dig and was 5-for-

5 serving.

The Lady Mountaineers

had to go five games

Thursday to beat Freedom

in Morganton 11-15, 15-6, 3-

15, 15-5, 16-14.

Cole was again strong

around the nets, with 25

kills and a block. She also

had three digs, three service

points and was 4-of-7 serv-

ing.

Dawson had nine kills,

See Spikers, 9A



Antwain Ross of Kings Mountain dives across the goal line for a touchdown in Wednesday's victory over Pumpkin Center in a Tri-County Middle School Conference game at KM's John Gamble Stadium.

By GARY STEWART
Editor of The Herald

Kings Mountain Middle School's Patriots shut down Pumpkin Center's offense in the second half and came from behind to post a 34-26 victory in their Tri-County Conference opener Wednesday afternoon at John Gamble Stadium.

First-year head coach Monty Deaton was scheduled to take his charges to West Lincoln yesterday. They return home next Wednesday at 5 p.m. against East Lincoln.

Both teams fired some offensive fireworks in the first half, especially Pumpkin Center which featured an impressive passing game from Shelton to Skidmore.

But Kings Mountain's speed took over in the second half, and the young Patriot defense made some adjustments that took some of the sparkle off PC's attack.

Coach Deaton explained that the Patriots have had to overcome some adversity this season, especially on defense, but he is confident their performance will continue to improve each week.

"Our defense is going to get better," he said. "We lost three coaches early in the pre-season due to work schedules. Maury Williams was called into active duty with the National Guard.

Craig Cavender took another job at school which requires him to work in the afternoon. And, volunteer coach Tim Waters took

See Patriots, 10A