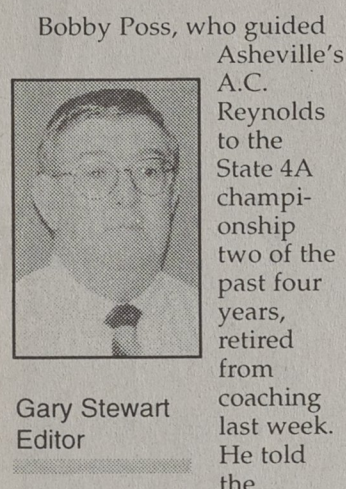


Poss retires, Gaffney hires football coach

Short cuts from the world of sports:



Gary Stewart Editor

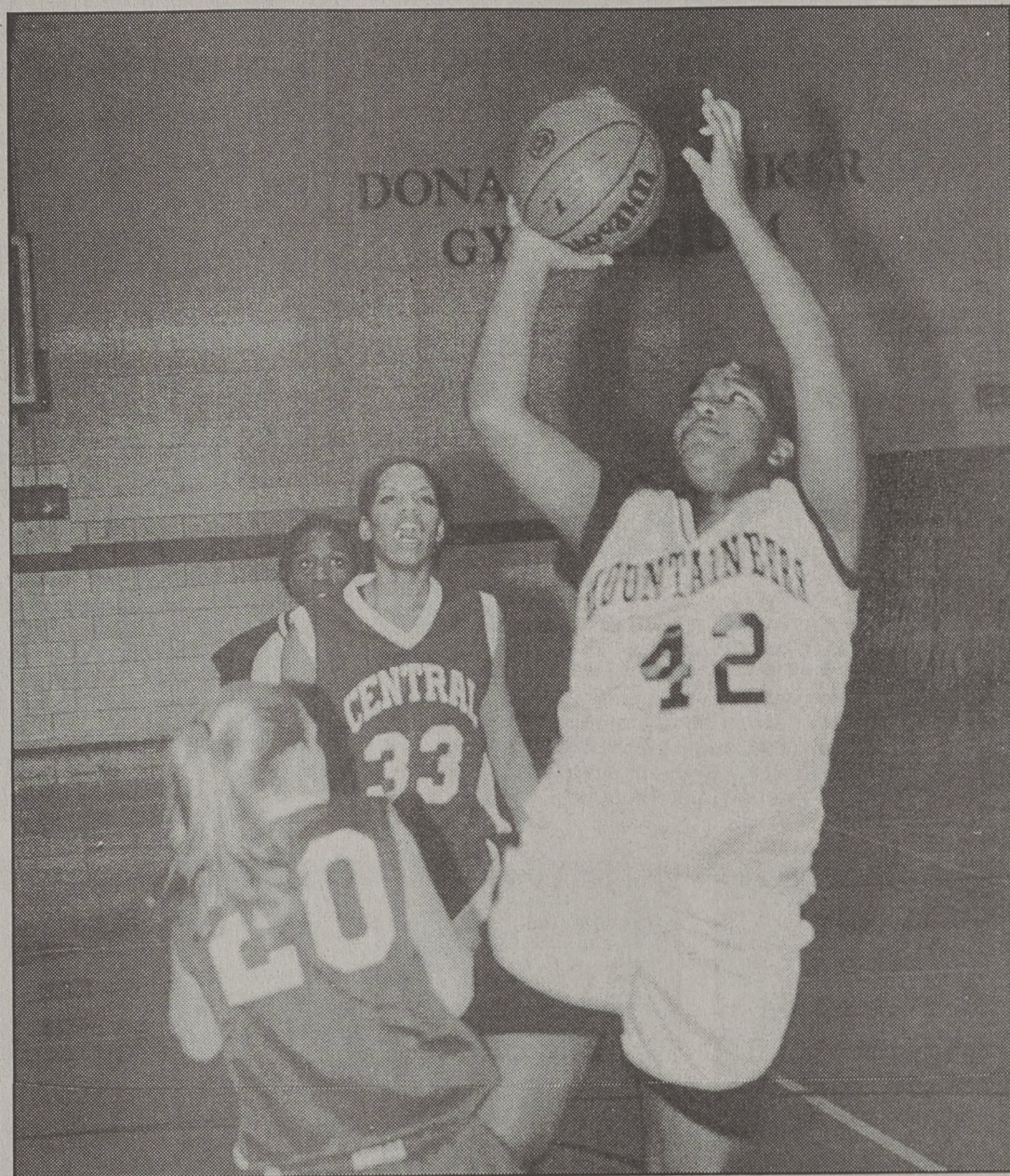
Bobby Poss, who guided Asheville's A.C. Reynolds to the State 4A championship two of the past four years, retired from coaching last week. He told the Asheville Citizen-Times that there's a good chance he will return to coaching, but if it's in North Carolina he has to sit out at least six months to keep his retirement intact.

According to the Gaffney Ledger, the front runner for the Indians' head job is Batesburg-Leesville head coach Phil Strickland, who has coached the Panthers to two State championships and a 131-25 overall record. The Cherokee County School Board was to hear a recommendation to hire Strickland at last night's meeting, according to the paper. The paper also said Strickland will be paid between \$70,000 and \$75,000 per year and will not teach any classes...

Meanwhile, coaching vacancies that are being filled at other NC schools are creating more openings. Scott Stein has announced that he's leaving East Mecklenburg for Sun Valley, and former Bessemer City coach Barry Shuford is leaving Butler for Parkwood. Shuford coached the Bulldogs to a 50-27 record in their first six seasons as a high school, and got them into the 4A state playoffs four times, including this past year when they were eliminated in the third round by eventual State champion Independence...

Dallas native Dr. William Friday, president emeritus of the University of North Carolina, will be inducted into the NCHSAA Hall of Fame at next fall's UNC-Clemson football game at Kenan Stadium. Other inductees this year are Cliff Brookshire, former football coach at Owen, Brevard, Tuscola and Enka high

See Gary, 7A



Kings Mountain's Candace Springs fires for two of her 15 points in Friday's win over R-S Central at Donald L. Parker Gymnasium.

GARY STEWART / HERALD

Mounties sweep R-S

By GARY STEWART Editor of The Herald

Victory came easy for Kings Mountain High's basketball teams in a Southwestern Foothills 3a doubleheader Friday night at Donald L. Parker Gymnasium.

Kevin Moss' ladies, sparked by 3-point field goals by Brittany Dee and Tisha Bell, jumped out to a 12-6 lead and never looked back in winning their third game in four conference outings, 43-29.

Danny McDowell's Mountaineers blazed to a 15-0 lead in the first quarter and then reeled off 18 consecutive points in the second period to rout the Hilltoppers 64-29.

McDowell had cleared his bench by the end of the first quarter as the Mountaineers won for the third time in four conference games. The Mounties led 18-3 after the first quarter, 41-7 at halftime and 49-16 going into the

fourth quarter.

"I was pleased that everybody got to play and everybody contributed," McDowell said. "The kids played real hard from the beginning to the end. I was real impressed with that."

Dashaun Young led the Mountaineers in scoring with 16 points, and D.J. Byrd added 10. All 12 of the Mountaineer players scored.

"It was a total team effort...a total team win," McDowell said. "We were a little quicker than we'd been in the last couple games, but we're still not all the way back. The kids are improving every day."

"I've been real pleased with the effort we've been getting in practice," he added. "I just knew they were going to be ready to play. You could see the gleam in their eye."

Candace Springs scored 15 points, including 10 in the second half, as the KM girls remained in a tie for second place in the SWFH.

After the early burst, the Lady Mounties built a 25-12 halftime lead and led 37-22 going into the fourth quarter. R-S managed to cut the

margin to nine points late in the game before KM pulled away again.

"Candace Springs has really been playing well the past three games," Coach Moss said. "She is beginning to realize that she can benefit from Shonda Cole being double and triple teamed by our opponents."

"Danielle Gill is also playing very well," he added. "She is not scoring the points but she is leading the team in steals and is our second leading rebounder behind Shonda."

"Our reserves have really stepped up. They are giving the starters quality rest during the game."

"We are really playing well right now."

GIRLS GAME

KM (43) - Bell 5, Gill 8, Springs 15, Cole 6, Lappe 1, Dee 6, Welch 2.

RS (29) - Ross 8, Henry 4, Wilkerson 10, Flack 1, Hamrick 4, Littlejohn 2.

BOYS GAME

KM (64) - Young 16, Byrd 10, C. Smith 8, Crosby 8, Walker 4, Odems 4, Lipscomb 3, Houze 3, McClain 2, D. Smith 2, Johnson 2, Roebuck 2.

RS (29) - Quarles 8, Eppley 5, Cook 5, Smith 2, Hankey 2, Shook 3, Littlejohn 1, Martin 1.

St. Stephens sweeps KM

Kings Mountain High's basketball teams had trouble holding onto the ball - and the Mountaineers also got into early foul trouble - and it cost them dearly in Tuesday's Southwestern Foothills 3A Conference twinbill with St. Stephens.

The visiting Indians swept the Mounties, 43-32 in the girls game and 85-79 in the boys game. It was the first home loss for the Mountaineers since 2001.

The two KM teams carry 3-2 conference records into the final game of the first round Friday night at Hickory. Only the top four teams in the conference qualify for the State playoffs.

The St. Stephens girls (4-1) came into the contest averaging over 60 points per game. Kings Mountain held them to six points in the first quarter but turnovers kept the Lady Mounties from building a lead. KM led 12-6 after the first eight minutes but St. Stephens came back to lead 20-18 at intermission and 29-22 going into the fourth quarter.

"We started off really well," said KM Coach Kevin Moss. "We played one of our best defensive games of the year. But our problem was the turnovers we committed in the second half which led to a lot of baskets for St. Stephens."

"I was proud of the way we came out and played against a very good team. But we just can't give the ball away."

Holly Krogman led the Lady Indians with 17 points. Shonda Cole scored 10 for Kings Mountain.

Kings Mountain's boys also got off to a fast start, but before the end of the first quarter two of Danny McDowell's starters - Dashaun Young and Dominique Odems - were on the bench with foul trouble.

That helped St. Stephens turn a 24-13 deficit at the end of the quarter into a 39-31 halftime lead.

Odems and Young re-entered the game in the second half and the Mounties came back to take a 56-55 lead after three quarters. But with five minutes left in the game Odems fouled out and the Indians stormed back for their fifth straight conference win.

"When those guys went out nobody replaced them," McDowell said. "It's hard to ask young guys to step it up in a game like that."

Cory McAlpin led the Indians with 19 points. Young had 22 and D.J. Byrd 10 for the Mounties.

"We played good enough to win offensively," McDowell said, "but defense and turnovers killed us. When we lost those two guys our press and man-to-man weren't as effective. St. Stephens was big and talented and we needed all of our starters out there."

Things won't get easier Friday at Hickory. Like KM, the Red Tornadoes have dropped close games to unbeaten St. Stephens and Burns and need a win Friday to stay in the thick of the battle for a playoff berth.

"This is a tough league, night-in and night-out," said McDowell. "We need all of our weapons. When you play a good quality team you can't get into foul trouble and turn the ball over."

BOYS GAME

KM (79) - Young 22, D. Smith 9, Byrd 10, C. Smith 9, Odems 7, Roebuck 7, Houze 6, Crosby 7, Malensinski 2.

SS (85) - McAlpin 19, Montez 13, Weaver 11, Brown 12, Cross 5, Farmer 4, Owensby 7, Weak 2, Young 12.

GIRLS GAME

KM (32) - Bell 2, Gill 4, Jarvis 2, Springs 5, Cole 10, Petty 4, Dee 5.

SS (43) - Combs 7, Krogman 17, Parham 9, Queen 6, Forbes 2, Huff 2.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Mat Mountaineers edge Crest 39-36

Kings Mountain High's wrestlers picked up two forfeits and edged Crest 39-36 in a Southwestern Foothills 3A Conference match last week.

103 - Strom (C) p. Ryan Bolin; 112 - Morrison (C) d. Isaac Proctor 6:00; 119 - Young (C) p. Asa Harris 3:52; 125 - Brooks Tate (KM) p. Fox 48 seconds; ; 130 - Vincent Keller (KM) won by forfeit; 135 - Brandon McClain (KM) d. Martin 10-5; 140 - Chris Patrick (KM) p.

Alevedo 1:20; 145 - Lemmon (C) p. Pierre Goode 1:18; 152 - Carter (C) p. Jamarl Barrino 5:12; 160 - Chandler (C) d. Steven Grant 2-1; 171 - Marquiz Norris (KM) p. Kernicky 29 seconds; 189 - Johnny Gilliard (KM) p. J. Kernicky 49 seconds; 215 - Josh Yon (KM) won by forfeit; 275 - Smith (C) p. Skyler Warren 1:53.

KM wrestlers beat R-S Central

Kings Mountain High's wrestlers defeated R-S See Briefs, 7A

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Making Disciples Ministry

WINTER 2003 Bible Study Schedule

This winter there will be twelve opportunities to learn and grow in the Lord.

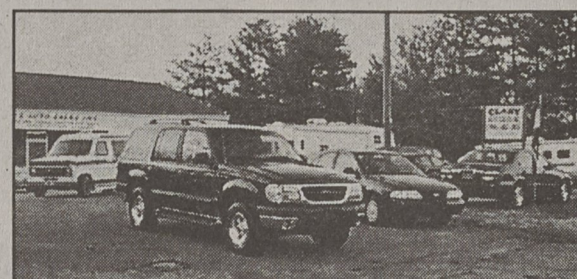
Bible Study	Day & Time	Start Date	Teacher
Jesus on Leadership	Sun. 5:30 PM	Feb. 2nd	Kyle Sheppard
Crown Ministries	Sun. 5:00 PM	Feb. 2nd (12 wk)	Nile & Cynthia Wilson
Crown Ministries	Wed. 6:00 PM	Feb. 5th (12 wk)	Don & Sherry Sellers
Precept Study (Joseph)	Sun. 10:30 AM (Sunday School)	Feb. 2nd	Michael Ware
Beginning Steps (New Believers)	Sun. 10:30 AM (Sunday School)	Feb. 2nd (6-8 wk)	Rusty Bridges
Called and Accountable	Wed. 6:00 p.m.	Feb. 19th	Mark Toney
"Follow Me" Prayer Walk	Tuesday 6:00 p.m.	Feb. 4th	Katie Gray & Buffy Gray
True Love Waits (YOUTH)	Wednesday 6:30-8:00 p.m.	Jan. 29th (5 wk)	Jarius & Jennifer Laughter
(Precept Study) Morning Study for Ladies 1 Year Study	Tuesday 9:00-11:00 A.M.	Jan. 7th-May 6th	Ashley Sullens
First Place (Beginners)	Wed. 6 P.M.	Feb. 5th	Audrey Toney
First Place (Repeaters)	Wed. 6 P.M.	Feb. 5th	Judy Walker
Experiencing God as Couples	Sunday 5:00 P.M.	Feb. 2nd	Vince & Ashley Sullens

ORIENTATION & REGISTRATION DATES: Sunday, Jan 19th & Jan 26th at 3:30 p.m.

Location: Christian Freedom Baptist Fellowship Building. All studies will be small group, classes will fill up quickly. An orientation for each study will be held on these dates, to introduce you to the studies. **Registration** will immediately follow orientation. Here you will be able to sign up for the study the Lord has led you, through prayer, to take. At this time, you will pay for the materials needed for the study. If you have any questions concerning the studies contact Vince & Ashley Sullens. 704-734-0964

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