

ABIGAIL WOLFORD / HERALD
Trey and Hunter Fulbright went fishing at Lake Wylie with their aunt and uncle last week. They are displaying their biggest catches.

Mounties qualify for State

Four Kings Mountain High students will compete in the State 3A track meet Saturday at Carter-Finley Stadium in Raleigh.

They qualified by finishing in the top four in the Western Regional Meet last week at Hickory.

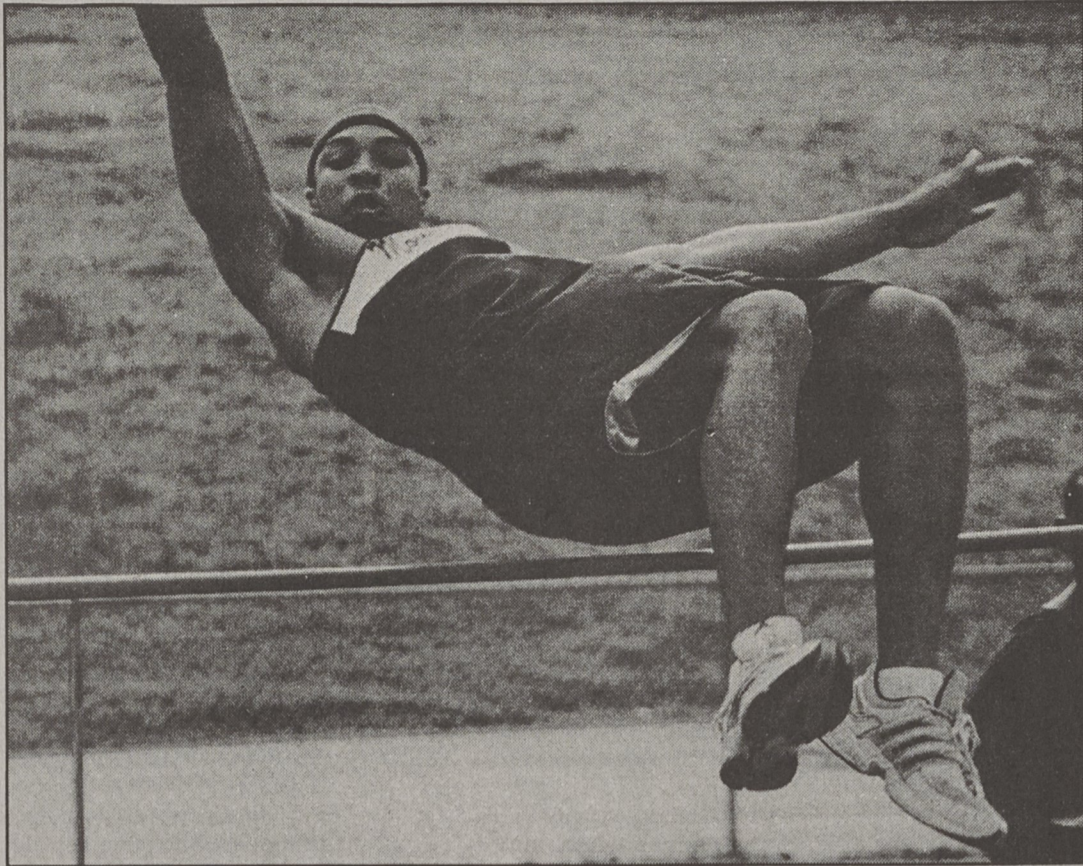
Tiffany Williams finished fourth in the 100 meter hurdles, and Hayley Mills was third in both the 1600 meter and 800 meter runs.

Montrell Banks won the triple jump and Courtney Smith ran third in the 100 meter dash.

Also competing were Adrian Parker, who finished sixth in the triple jump and competed with Smith, Martrice Love and Grayling Elliott on the 4 x 100 relay team, which also placed sixth.

Soccer tryouts slated May 19-24

GCCSA Cobra Classic and Challenge soccer team tryouts will be held the week of May 19-24. An informational meeting will be held Monday, April 28 at 7 p.m. at Brown Auditorium on the campus of Shelby High. Go to www.gccsasoccer.net or call 704 406-3849 for more information.



GARY STEWART / HERALD
Courtney Smith was All-Conference in the high jump and three other events in last week's Southwestern Foothills 3A Conference meet. He and several of his teammates will compete in the State 3A Meet Saturday at NC State.

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Hayes receives letter from Knight, Barrett suffering from broken leg

Retired Kings Mountain police chief Bob Hayes is one of the biggest sports fans around, and he appreciates outstanding efforts by athletes and coaches.

He's been big on football for years, and purchased seats at Ericson Stadium shortly after the Richardson family was awarded an NFL franchise in Charlotte.

As a PSL holder he receives the monthly magazine "Carolina Panther Roar" and recently was reading the special feature titled "Quick Hits." That's basically a profile on players in which each one is asked questions about his favorite food, movie, hobbies, etc.

In a recent issue an answer by Kemp Rasmussen caught Hayes' attention. Asked who he'd like to be reincarnated as, Rasmussen, former player at the University of Indiana, said "Bobby Knight."

Knight, one of the nation's most successful and most controversial coaches, recently posted his 800th collegiate basketball career victory with Texas Tech. Knight, who says what he thinks and has been known to get in players and offi-

cial's faces and throw a few temper tantrums (and chairs) now and then, coached most of those victories at Indiana before being relieved of his duties after a run-in with a student.

Hayes clipped the article about Knight's 800th win and also sent him a copy of the Panther Roar, calling special attention to the quote by Rasmussen.

"I've just always thought Bobby Knight was a great coach and that 800 wins is a milestone, and that he might get a kick out of someone saying he'd like to be reincarnated as Bobby Knight," Hayes said.

Hayes recently received a letter from Knight noting his appreciation for Rasmussen's remarks and Hayes' support.

It's not the first time Hayes has communicated with famous coaches. Several years ago - before the overtime rule was put

into college football - Tom Osborne's Nebraska Cornhuskers were undefeated and ranked #1 in the nation. In the national championship game, Nebraska was trailing in the final seconds when they scored to cut the game deficit to one point. Nebraska only needed to kick the extra point to achieve a tie and the National Championship, but Osborne elected to go for the win and a two-point conversion pass was incomplete, losing both the game and the national title.

Osborne's decision drew boos from all over the stadium and criticism from the press and fans all over the United States.

But Hayes wrote him a letter supporting the call, because he felt players and coaches shouldn't work their butts off all week to settle for a tie. Osborne showed his appreciation of Hayes by replying to the letter.

Osborne, who is now retired from coaching and is a U.S. Congressman, won several National Championships after that but the Cornhuskers, although still one of the best football teams in the nation, haven't competed for the National Championship lately and would probably love to be in position two win one with a two-point conversion.

Kings Mountain High Booster Club President Tommy Barrett was quite an athlete during his heyday at Bethware and Kings Mountain high schools.

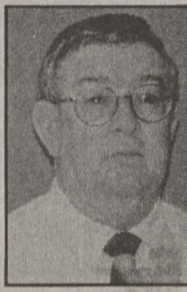
From the first day he started playing organized sports as a Little Leaguer, on through his high school baseball and basketball careers and even in adult basketball and softball leagues, he never suffered an injury.

But a recent carp fishing trip to Midway Lake resulted in a broken leg and subsequent surgery, and has Barrett on the sidelines (well actually, in bed) for about eight weeks.

Barrett had already loaded most of his gear in his van and was within minutes of leaving the lake when he heard the cork pop on one of the fishing rigs he still had in the water. When he made a quick move to reel in the fish his foot hit the wet grass and his leg buckled under. He later found out it was broken in two places.

It was a week later when he had the surgery and the pain is just now beginning to wear off, but he still has to stay off of it so he basically stays in bed and watches TV. As much as he loves watching sports, that can get old very fast.

Get well soon, Tommy, and don't get hooked on soap operas.



GARY STEWART
Editor

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