Page 6A

#### June 19, 2003

# Seth Denton enjoys record breaking season at UNC-A

Former Kings Mountain High standout Seth Denton enjoyed a sensational and record-breaking season for the UNC Asheville Bulldog baseball program this spring.

Denton was UNCA's closer . He set a school record for saves in a season with eight and also set a single-season record for lowest ERA with a 1.37 mark.

The senior left-hander was 1-0 with 14 strikeouts and just one walk in 20 appearances. In Big South Conference play, Denton was simply dominating in six appearances with four saves and a 0.00 ERA, striking out five nd walking none.

Denton finished his college career in grand fashion by picking up a save against regular-season champion Winthrop. He retired all seven hitters he faced to get the school-record eighth save.

Bulldog coach Matt Myers applauded the season that Denton had.

"I don't know where we would have been without Seth Denton this season," Myers said. "He's a great example of what you can do if you work hard. Seth had a very good work ethic and just got better each year he was with us. This season he simply dominated games. When we were in a save situation and we brought Seth in our chances to win became very good.

"The great thing about the season he had is that it couldn't have happened to a better person than Seth Denton," added Myers.

"He is one of the most pleasurable studentathletes I've ever had the chance to be associated with. Seth is what a student-athlete is all about. We were lucky to have him, and we'll miss his contributions. I think the records he set this year will be hard for anyone to break."

## Lightening takes second place

The Kings Mountain Lightening took second place this weekend in a **USSSA** Charlotte tournament with a record of 3 and

The Lightening beat the Carolina Attitude 5 to 1. Kristyn Funderburke was the winning pitcher. she gave up four hits and struck out eight.

Amber Milwood got two hits and Kristyn Funderburke, Morgan Childers and Laura Weigel took one hit each.

The Lightening beat the St. Stephens Hit and Run six to one.

Morgan Childers was the winning pitcher giving up

two hits with nine strike outs. Kala Buchanan, Kristyn

Funderburke and Brittney Thornburg each got two hits

Morgan Childers, Tianna Whitiker, Laura Weigel, Jessica Yarbro, Lauren Gaffney and Courtney Tate each got one hit.

In the second game of the week, The Lightening lost eight to zero to the Red Magic.

Kristyn Funderburke was the losing pitcher. She did get two hits while at the plate.

Laura Weigel and Lauren Gaffney got a hit a piece. The Lightening also beat

the Carolina Angels two to

**ARE YOU TRYING TO START** 

**FRESH FINANCIALLY?** 

NEED A LOAN, AND NO ONE WILL HELP?

WE PROVIDE MORTGAGE LOANS,

COMMERCIAL BUSINESS LOANS,

**PERSONAL & DEBT LOANS** 

BAD CREDIT IS NOT A PROBLEM.

FAST APPROVAL! NO APPLICATION FEES

TOLL FREE FRESH START FINANCIAL GROUP

1-866-227-7818

**STARTING FRESH IN THE WORLD!** 

zero

Morgan Childers was the winning pitcher, giving up three hits while striking out 15.

Kala Buchanan, Kristyn Funderburke, Amber Milwood and Tianna Whitiker each had one hit.

The Lightening lost the championship game two to one. Amber Milwood had two hits. Brittney Thornburg, Lauren Gaffney and Jessica Yarbro each had a hit each.

In total play, leading hit-ters were Kristyn Funderburke at .500, Amber Milwood at .385, Lauren Weigel at .286 and Kala Buchanan at .273. The team will play next in the state NSA championship June 27-29.

**Happy Birthday Travis Causby** We Miss You. Love, Mama, Jeff, Maw & Paw and The Whole Family.

#### **KM** Wildcats travel to New York for tournament Team records and photo-The Wildcats of Kings nament.

Mountain will play in the Cooperstown Dreams Park National Invitation Tournament June 28-July 4 in the mythical home of baseball - Cooperstown, NY.

In addition to competing against teams from around the country, the Wildcats will be enshrined into the prestigious American Youth Baseball Hall of Fame.

This is the fifth year the Wildcats, who also go by the name of Carolina Sting, will compete in the Cooperstown event.

The Cooperstown Dreams Park Experience, since 1996, has offered young people an opportunity to play baseball in the legendary city, but also cultural experiences and memories that will last a lifetime.

Players and coaches visit the National Baseball Hall of Fame, share hometown stories, trade pins and compete with players from across the U.S. for a national title.

graphs will be displayed in the American Youth Baseball Hall of Fame.

**Cooperstown Dreams** Park has 14 professionally groomed and lighted fields, situated on 150 acres. The parks feature grass infields and eight-foot high stadium walls.

Teams spend a week in Baseball Village clubhouses and eat in the team dining hall. Each team plays eight games and earn a seed into the single-elimination tour-

Players receive a Cooperstown Little Majors home and away jersey,

socks, hat and an American Youth Baseball Hall of Fame ring. They also receive personalized baseball cards.

Eleven weekly tournaments are planned during the summer. Nine weekly champions and 55 other championship teams will earn the right to participate in the National American Tournament of Champions August 23-29.

### **Diamond Chevrolet wins** fourth straight tournament

The Diamond Chevrolet Men's slow pitch softball team won its fourth consecutive tournament last weekend. The USSSA Class D tour-

nament was held in Rock Hill, S.C. Harold Kester was the

tournament most valuable player with a .736 batting average.

Other leading hitters include Mike Hester, .666, Tommy Jones, .611, Eddie Rochester, .578, Steve Lanars, .562 and Billy Ramsey, .555.

**CONTRIBUTED PHOTO** 

The Wildcats baseball team will play in the National Invitational Tournament the week of June 28 in Cooperstown, NY. Front row, left to right, Hogan Sellers, Kyle Bell, Mitchell Hinson, Justin Heinbach, Jamie York and Caleb Henderson. Second row Brantley Blalock, Rai Robinson, Jared Spicer, Jeffry Howell and Tyler Ross. Back row Coaches Todd Blalock, Rodney Sellers, Scott Howell and Manager Ray Robinson.

