SPORTS

The Kings Mountain Herald

November 4, 2004

'GREAT JOB'

Southwestern Foothills 3A

STANDINGS

PREP

	Conf. W-L	All WL
Crest	5-0	8-1
Burns	4-1	8-2
Hickory	3-2	7-3
R-S Central	3-2	5-5
Kings Mtn.	2-4	4-6
Foard	1-4	1-9
St. Stephens	0-5	0-10

Last Week's Results Hickory 17, Kings Mountain 14

Crest 42, Burns 35 R-S Central 42, Foard 7 Friday's Games Kings Mountain at Maiden **R-S** Central at Crest Burns at St. Stephens Foard at Hickory

Big South 3A

	Conf.	All
	W-L	W-L
South Point	5-1	7-2
Ashbrook	5-1	7-3
Forestview	5-1	7-3
East Gaston	4-2	6-4
N. Gaston	1-5	3-7
E. Lincoln	1-5	2-8
Berry	0-6	0-10

Last Week's Results East Gaston 35, East Lincoln Ashbrook 69, Berry 28

Forestview 27, Huss 21 (OT) South Point 20, North Gaston 6

Friday's Games

East Gaston at Forestview South Point at East Lincoln Huss at Ashbrook Berry at North Gaston

Southern Foothills 1A

V-L W	L
-0 10-	-0
-1 9-	1
-2 4-	6
-2 8-	2
-4 3-	7
	V-L W -0 10- -1 9- -2 4- -2 8- -4 3-

Last Week's Results

GARY STEWART / HERALD Kings Mountain's John Gwinn (23) goes over the top of the Hickory defense for a touchdown in Friday's game at Frank Barger Stadium in Hickory. The Red Tornadoes had to hang on for a 17-14 win.

Mounties play best game of year but fall to Red Tornadoes 17-14

By GARY STEWART Editor of The Herald

Bessemer City 26, Hendersonville 23 Maiden 18, Polk County 14 N. Lincoln 42, Cedar Ridge 40 (2OT)

Friday's Games

Camden Military at **Bessemer** City Kings Mountain at Maiden North Lincoln at Cherryville Polk County at Hendersonville

Midwest 2A

	Conf. W-L	All W-L
Shelby	6-0	9-1
E. Rutherford	5-1	8-2
Bandys	4-2	7-3
Lincolnton	4-2	6-4
Bunker Hill	3-3	6-4
Chase	1-5	2-8
Newton	1-5	2-8
W. Lincoln	0-6	4-6

Last Week's Results

Shelby 35, Bunker Hill 13 East Rutherford 44, W. Lincoln 27 Chase 33, Newton-Conover 28 Bandys 29, Lincolnton 0

Friday's Games

Newton-Conover at Shelby East Rutherford at Lincolnton West Lincoln at Chase Bunker Hill at Bandys

Kings Mountain's Mountaineers probably played their best overall game of the season Friday night at Hickory but fell to the Red Tornadoes 17-14 in their final Southwestern Foothills 3A Conference game.

The Mountaineers completed their conference season with a 2-4 record and in fifth place in the seven-team conference. They take a 4-6 overall record to Maiden Friday for an endowment game, and then will await word on Saturday to see if they are accepted as an atlarge team in the State 3AA playoffs.

Kings Mountain dominated the game statistically, running 71 plays to 54 by the Red Tornadoes and out-gaining them 347 yards to 239. But the Mountaineers had one touchdown called back, as did Hickory, and failed to cash in on a couple other scoring opportunities deep in Hickory territory.

"I thought that was probably the best defensive effort we've put together all year," said Mountaineer Coach Dave Farquharson. "Our kids came out and knew we had something on the line and played just as hard as they could play. I think it kind of surprised Hickory that we played as well as we did on defense. It wasn't anything we did different, we just did things better. I thought our defensive line played well and I thought Chris Patrick played extremely well.

"It was just an overall great job of playing assignment football. We took care of the gaps, didn't lose contain, and tried to get eleven players to the football. They just did a great job.'

From the outset, it was obvious the Mountaineers were determined to upset the Red Tornadoes, a team they haven't beaten since joining the SWFH. They drove the opening kickoff to the Hickory 27 before a holding See Hickory, 2B



GARY STEWART / HERALD Kings Mountain quarterback Brandon McClain sets up to fire a pass in Friday's Southwestern Foothills Conference football game at Hickory.

Mountaineers end regular season at Maiden

By GARY STEWART Editor of The Herald

Kings Mountain's Mountaineers will travel to the "biggest little football town in the world" Friday night to take on traditional state 1A power Maiden.

It's the first-ever varsity meeting between the Mountaineers and Blue Devils and should be a treat for the fans.

Maiden, the #2-ranked 1A team in the State and the top-ranked team in the West, wrapped up the Southern Foothills Conference championship Friday with a 18-14

win over previously undefeated Polk County. The Blue Devils are 10-0 overall under North Carolina coaching legend Tom Brown.

Kings Mountain played its best game of the season last week against another Catawba County power, Hickory, but lost 17-14 to finish 2-4 in the Southwestern Foothills 3A. The Mountaineers carry a 4-6 overall record into the game, which will serve as a nonconference game for the Blue Devils and an endowment game for the Mountaineers.

The game came about because Highland Tech dropped out of the

Southern Foothills Conference, leaving Maiden with an open date on the last playing date of the season. Kings Mountain has had an open date on the last playing date since joining the SWFH 3A, except for one year when they played North Gaston in an endowment game.

Friday's game should feature two of the top running backs in the area. Tommy Henry of the Blue Devils has rambled over, around and through most of Maiden's opponents, and in the last couple weeks John Gwinn has emerged as Kings Mountain's bread-and-butter back. He carried 33 times last week at Hickory for 144 yards rushing and one touchdown.

Kings Mountain needs a victory Friday to improve its chances of gaining an at-large berth in the State 3AA playoffs. Selections will be announced by the NCHSAA on Saturday.

Mountaineer coach Dave Farquharson believes his team will give Maiden a good game if it gives the same kind of effort it did last week at Hickory.

"We're going to have to duplicate last Friday night," says Farquharson. "We're going to have to come in on defense and play at that level again.'

Kings Mountain held Hickory's offense to just 10 points last week, by far its best effort of the season. One of Hickory's touchdowns was scored against the KM offense on a fumble return.

"That's the level we're capable of playing," Farquharson remarked. "On offense we're going to have to use our execution very well. We've got a good corps of receivers, good speed, and John Gwinn has established himself as the running back. Hopefully he'll be able to carry the

See Maiden, 2B

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