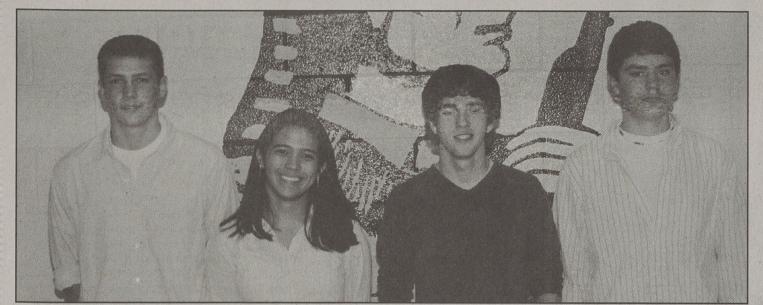
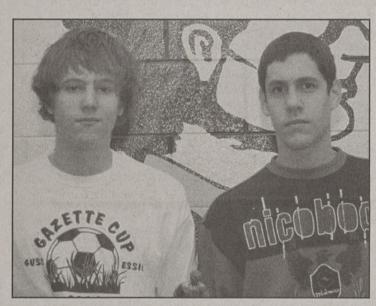
SPORTS



The KMHS athletes pictured above received awards at last week's fall sports banquet. Left to right, Chris Clearman, best offensive player award in soccer; Kara Fujita and Thomas Reid, All-Conference and MVP in cross country), and Chris Skibo, most improved player in soccer.



The KMHS volleyball players pictured above received All-Conference awards at last week's fall sports banquet. Left to right, Jessica Yarbro, Kristyn Funderburke, Alex Dawson, Kala Buchanan. Not pictured, LaRonda McClain. Dawson also was voted Southwestern Foothills Conference Player of the Year for the second straight year.



Tobias Etzold, left, and Ian Gomes received All-Conference awards for soccer at last week's fall sports banquet at KMHS. Etzold was MVP and Gomes was named best defensive player.



Tennis players Lindsay Taylor, Brittany Ramey and Steffie Collis, left to right, won awards at last week's fall sports banquet at KMHS. Taylor and Ramey were named MVP in doubles, and Collis was MVP in singles. Ramey and Collis were also All-Conference.

KMHS basketball teams to host Huss on Monday

Kings Mountain High's basketball teams were scheduled to open their season last night at Shelby and will host Hunter Huss in a non-conference game Monday at Donald L. Parker Gymnasium.

The Shelby game was originally scheduled for Friday but was moved up two days because of the Golden Lions' home football game on Friday.

Kings Mountain's girls, who finished last in the Southwestern Foothills 3A last winter, hope to improve this year but they are still young. Gerica Vinson, a 5-11 sophomore forward, is the only returning player.

Other members of the team are Dymon Adams, Nataisha Cannedy, Samantha Doe, Chasity Edwards, Marsha Meeks, Brittany McClain, Jalisa Patterson, Nikita Scotland, Chaquita Sims, and Angel Smith.

Kevin Moss says this year's team will be the quickest he's had in his six years as head coach, but it will also be the smallest.

"Hopefully, we will be able to press and cause turnovers to help equalize for our lack of height. We will definitely have to rely on our speed and quickness."

Moss doesn't have a senior, and has only two juniors on the varsity this year, so the Lady Mountaineers are definitely green.

"We are practically starting from scratch," he says.
"I don't have the luxury of any upper classmen to help guide and teach the under classmen along the way. But the girls have really responded well thus far into the season. They realize they have a lot to learn in a short amount of time. They have come in each day ready to work hard and get the most out of each practice.



KEVIN MOSS

Hopefully, this will continue and we can be a competitive team this season."

As usual, the Mountaineers face a tough schedule, not only in the SWFH but in their non-conference games as well. Freedom is traditionally one of the teams to beat for the 4A state championship in North Carolina, Hunter Huss has a veteran team that should go far in the 3A ranks and Clover is one of the top teams in South Carolina.

In the SWFH, the Mounties will face two teams (Hickory and Fred T. Foard) which are ranked in the top ten.

"We will probably have some tough losses this season due to the top caliber teams we will be playing," Moss said. "Hopefully, we won't get discouraged as a team if that happens. One of the goals for this team is to work hard throughout the season regardless of records and gain as much varsity playing experience as they can. This team has the capability of really being successful for the next few vears, but we have a lot of hard work to do. The advantage of having a young team is having a few years to coach the same group of players."

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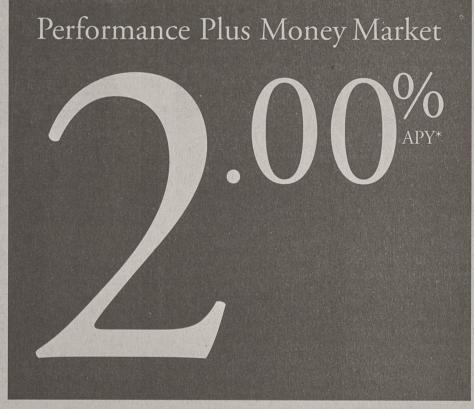
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