

Leach to play in State Games

Kings Mountain's Ryan Leach has been selected to play for the Region 6 team in the 2006 State Games of North Carolina baseball games June 21-25 at NC State University in Raleigh.



RYAN LEACH

Leach, a junior at KMHS, has been an All-Conference pitcher and infielder for the Mountaineers for the past two seasons. He is currently 3-0 with the Gaston Post 23 American Legion baseball team.

The Region 6 head coach is Danny Hight of Providence High School in Charlotte. Assistants are David Wright of Concord, David Lee of West Stanley and Jamie Billings of Hopewell.

The underclassman tournament is an 8-team event featuring some of the top rising juniors and seniors in the State. The only other area player chosen for the Region 6 team is pitcher Jake Buchanan of North Gaston.

There is separate competition for graduating seniors which is broken into an East versus West format.

The graduating seniors will play a three-game series on June 21-22 and the underclassmen tournament is a four-game, round-robin event June 22-25. Players will go through a workout in front of scouts on June 22.



Joey Proctor, KG Etters, Randy Moss and Allen Van Dyke won the annual Mary Ann Hutchins Golf Tournament at Kings Mountain Country Club. Proceeds go to provide a scholarship to a student planning a career in medicine. Below, Justin Etters, who scored his first hole-in-one on the par three #8 hole.

Etters scores hole-in-one in Hutchins golf tournament

The Mary Ann Hutchins Memorial Golf Tournament took place June 3 at Kings Mountain Country Club. The event raises money for a scholarship to be given to a senior pursuing a career in the medical field. This year's winner of a \$1,000 scholarship was Summer Gregory.

Winners of the tournament were Joey Proctor, KG Etters, Randy Moss and Allen Van Dyke.

One of the highlights of the tournament was a hole-in-one by Josh Etters on hole #8, a 200-yard par three. This was his first hole-in-one.

Etters' grandfather, Stoney Jackson, has had 10 holes-in-one during his stellar golfing career.

Buffy Murphey, daughter of Mary Ann Hutchins, said the family is grateful for the players and sponsors of the tournament.

"Without them the tournament could not be successful," she said.



KM stars head All-Conference softball team

Childers player of year, Grayson coach of year

Kings Mountain placed seven players on the All-Southwestern 2A/3A Conference softball team.

In addition, pitcher Morgan Childers was selected SWC Player of the Year and Suzanne Grayson was named Coach of the Year.

Joining Childers on the All-SWC team were catcher Kala Buchanan, first baseman Brittney Thornburg, shortstop Casey Camp, outfielder LaRonda McClain, designated hitter Courtney Tate, and third baseman Kristyn Funderburke.

The seven all-conference standouts and their teammates won their second straight state championship and fifth straight conference crown.

Childers posted a 27-1 record with 413 strikeouts in 184 innings of work. She pitched nine no-hitters, including five perfect games. She pitched all 37 innings in the state tournament, fanning 58 batters.

Childers also had a big year at the plate, hitting .404 with a team-leading nine home runs, 12 doubles and

49 runs batted in.

Buchanan hit .282 and made only one error behind the plate. She had only three passed balls in 203 innings.

Camp hit .430, scored 34 runs, stole 19 bases and committed only three errors in 187 innings.

Funderburke hit .260 and committed only seven errors in 194 innings.

McClain led the team in hitting with a .477 average and in hits with 51. She also scored 34 runs and had 22 stolen bases.

Tate hit .468 and led the team in runs scored with 38 and stolen bases with 24.

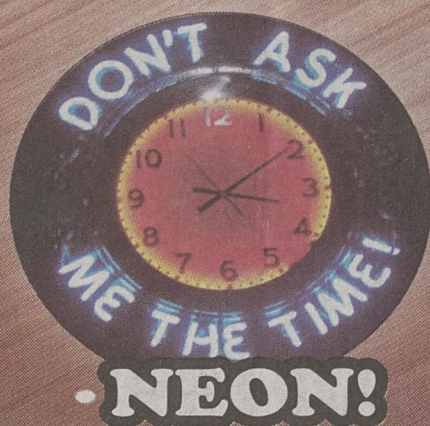
Thornburg hit .346 and made only two errors in 203 innings.

Other players on the All-SWC team were Grace Sylvester, Casey Wright, Ashton Henderson, Rachel Stevens and Tiffany Vockerodt of R-S Central; Alex Park, Jessica Jolley, Bobbie Jo Wood and Leslie Brooks of East Rutherford; Brittany Buchanan, Michelle Dalton and Amber Jones of Chase; Kaley Williams and Megan Crow of Burns; and Stephanie Beaver of Shelby.

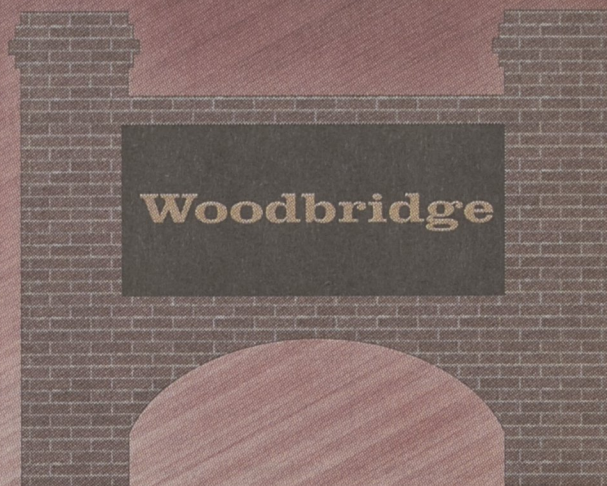
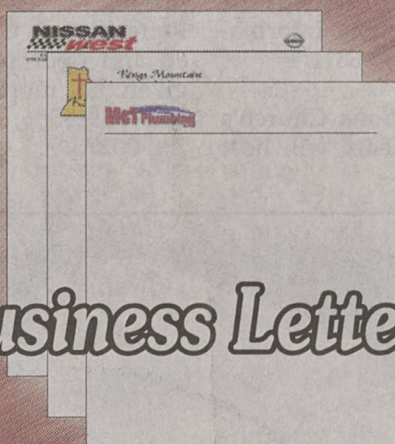
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