## SPORTS

# Enka ousts KM spikers from state playoffs

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The Lady Mountaineers were delighted in a 3-0 victory and were devastated in a 3-0 loss on Thursday and Saturday in the third and fourth round of state 3A playoffs in the KMHS gym.

On Tuesday's semi-final match against Fred T. Foard, the Lady Mounties served up a mighty victory with a dig of success. They needed to win the best three out of five games to stay in the running. The first game was a close match in the beginning with points adding up on both sides. The Foard ladies gained a six-point lead and the first win seemed eminent. But the lady Mounties would not give up. They pulled out all of the tricks they had up their sleeves and like a talented magician delighted the cheering crowd with a win of 25-22. The first win of the day, dampened the spirits of the competing team, but they too refused to give up so easily.

The first three points of the second match were awarded to Foard, who maintained a point lead over the Mounties for the first half of the game. When the score reached 10-10, the Mounties were done playing with their food and gobbled up points for the remainder of the match with a final winning score of 25-16. With two wins under their belt victory never looked so attractive. The loyal crowd's thunderous stomps in the stands. Support for the lady Mounties bounced off of the walls in the Kings Mountain gymnasium and were soaked up by the team for

One more win was all they needed. They felt it. Foard felt it. The scoreboard showed it. The lady Mounties maintained a point lead over the Foard ladies through most of the game, as the competition submitted to a loss of 25-16. The lady Mounties, after thanking the other team for the wins, grabbed hands with teammates past and present. They formed a large circle and danced around with cheers for their success in the middle of the gym floor. "Reaching this point, with this team, with these girls is the highlight of my career right now," said Head Coach Bryan Grant after the Thursday wins. He said that they played "out of their minds" on Tuesday and their success on Thursday was just another example of their talents. The Foard ladies played offense a little differently then when they saw their match on Saturday, October 21, he said. Winning that first match was very important to the lady Mounties success, he said. "Enka is the team that put Kings Mountain out last year, out of the in on that," he said.

had seven kills and 3 aces. Chasiti Falls had nine assists and Brooke Avery had 11. Kristen Bachelor had 3 blocks. Jessica Yarbro had seven digs and Jordan Doty nine.

Grant was not sure Thursday night whether they would have revenge on Enka or face Charlotte Catholic in the final match on Saturday. But an Enka win showed that they would face each other once again, this time

on Kings Mountain turf. Saturday's final showdown for the volleyball season was held in the KMHS gym at 3 pm. The bleachers on the right side of the gym were almost entirely full of cheering fans. Blue, the color of the Enka Sugar Jets was seen everywhere on signs and clothing. Although they were away from home, many of their loyal fans came with them to the battle, drowning out many of the KM supporters.

The best three out of five wins were all that was needed to go to the final round of state championship play-offs. Just like on Thursday the first three games was all it took. The Sugar Jets stayed ahead in points during the first game as the Mountie ladies struggled to catch up. Enka won 25-21.

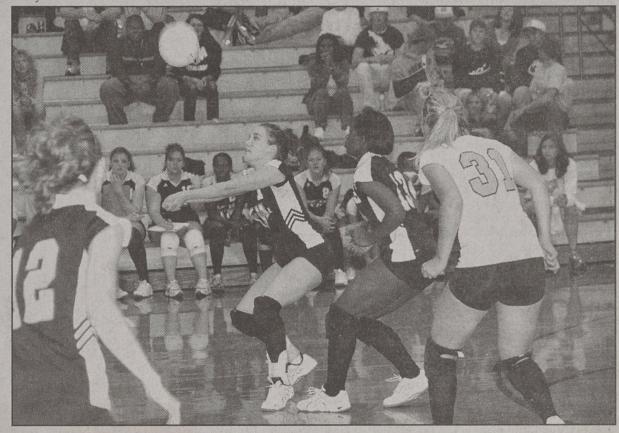
Kings Mountain ladies started playoffs. So we're going to focus out with the points lead in the second game and maintained the Marshia Meeks had eight kills, lead for the majority of the sectwo blocks, and five aces during ond game. Enka refused to give

cheers grew louder as did the Thursday's wins. Hope Phongsa in to a loss and worked their way up the scoreboard to a tie of 23-23. Battling neck and neck, both teams fought for a win and the Sugar Jets walked away victorious a second time with a final score of 26-24.

> The Mountie ladies spirits grew weary as they could smell the impending defeat. The Sugar Jets held the point lead for most of the third game and Grant called a time-out when the score was 16-21, in favor of Enka. After a much-needed Mountie huddle and pep talk the ladies returned to the court with true Mountaineer determination. They fought their way back up the scoreboard to a more satisfying loss of 20-25. But no loss is satisfactory, as was demonstrated by their sweat and tears.



Kristen Batchler serves for Lady Mounties. Below, Lady Mountaineers keep the ball in play.



## Pop Warner teams to play in bowl games at City Stadium

Gaston League play Saturday. and Jaylan Watkins.

for the Mountaineers while extra point by Roy Hedman. D'Shon Guest rushed for over 100 yards and scored the only extra point.

came on a 25-yard pass from Mountaineer Class next quarterback Alex Reynolds to Jaylan Watkins into the end Stadium. The pee wees, mitey zone for the second touchdown mites and junior mitey mites of the game.

Outstanding on defense were day.

Kings Mountain's Pop Curtis McNamara, Zack Warner junior pee wees defeat- Wilson, Chad Sanders, ed Mt. Holly 13-7 in Greater Da'Shon Guest, Travis Oates

Chad Sanders and Jaylan Mount Holly's only TD came Watkins scored touchdowns from De'Shonta Jones with the

The junior pee wees are 7-1 and play against the Lake The highlight of the game Norman Giants in the Saturday at 9:30 a.m. at City will also be in bowl action that

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