

KM bows out of playoffs

Quick start lifts Hickory to 84-69 win over Mounties

Kings Mountain's first trip to the state 3A basketball playoffs since 2004 ended abruptly Monday night at Donald L. Parker Gymnasium as Hickory's Red Tornadoes ousted the Mountaineers 84-69.

Hickory rolled to a 21-10 first quarter lead and was never headed in running its record to 18-6 and ending the Mountaineers' season at 8-19. All eight of KM's wins came against Southwestern 2A/3A Conference teams. The Mountaineers finished third in the regular season standings and second in the SWC tournament.

The Mountaineers stayed pretty much even with the Red Tornadoes over the final three quarters but couldn't erase the big early deficit. Hickory led 38-26 at halftime and 59-43 going into the fourth quarter.

Tyrone Weaver led three double-digit scorers for the Red Tornadoes with 20 points. Trevin Parks added 16 and Cameron Burch 14.

Kings Mountain's Darrick Marable was the game's top scorer with 24 points. Daniel Gill added 18 and Sharif Burris and Daniel Asgari scored eight apiece.

In other opening round games Monday night, SWC champion Shelby defeated Hibriten 86-50 in the 2A playoffs and SWC runner-up Burns edged South Point 73-69 in the 3A playoffs.

KM (69) - Burris 8, Hayes 5, Marable 24, Young 2, Gill 18, Petty 4, Asgari 8.

Hickory (84) - Pettit 6, Sims 2, Wilson 2, Burch 14, Crutch 9, Parks 16, Propst 2, Middlebrooks 6, Hilton 7, Weaver 20.



Bryant Petty, top left, tries to drive around a tall Hickory player in Monday's state playoff game at Donald L. Parker Gymnasium. Right, Kings Mountain's Marshia Meeks puts in a lay-up for two of her game-high 18 points in Tuesday night's loss to St. Stephens.



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St. Stephens eliminates Lady Mounties by 45-28 score

St. Stephens turned a close game into a rout in the fourth quarter to eliminate Kings Mountain's women's basketball team from the state 3A playoffs in first round action Tuesday night at Donald L. Parker Gymnasium.

The 45-28 loss ended the Lady Mountaineers' season at 13-11. It was Kings Mountain's first winning season and first trip to the state playoffs in five years.

The game was close throughout until St. Stephens went on a 20-10 scoring run in the final eight minutes.

The Lady Indians led by only 8-5 after the first quarter, 18-14 at intermission and 25-18 going into the fourth quarter.

Tasha Herman scored 12 points and Kirsten Peissel and Alex Young added 10 points each for the visitors from Hickory. Marshia Meeks of Kings Mountain led all scorers with 19 points, but she was the only KM player to reach double figures.

SS (45) - Peissel 10, Young 10, Herman 12, Byers 5, Trent 4, Stewart 3, Queen 1.

KM (28) - Meeks 19, Avery 4, McClain 2, Willis 2, Goodson 1.

Josh Etters aces #5 at KMCC for 2nd career hole-in-one

Josh Etters made his second hole in one at Kings Mountain Country Club on hole #5 on Thursday, February 15.

Etters used an 8-Iron on the 129-yard hole. His playing partners were Justin Etters and Darrell Sisk.



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Casey Camp turns a double play during KMHS softball practice.

KMHS softball team to host 12-team scrimmage at YMCA

Kings Mountain's two-time defending state champion softball team will open its season Saturday at the Kings Mountain Family YMCA by hosting a 12-team scrimmage.

Bandys, North Lincoln, Ashbrook, Crest, Watauga, St. Stephens, Burns, Shelby, Jay M. Robinson, South Point and East Gaston will join the Lady Mountaineers in a 24-game event that runs from 10 a.m.-4:50. There will be action on four fields.

Admission is \$4 (\$2 for senior citizens) for the entire day. Children who are not yet in school will be admitted free.

All games will run one hour.

The schedule:
10-11 a.m.: Bandys vs. Ashbrook (field 1), Burns vs. East Gaston (field 2), KM vs. East Gaston (field 2), KM vs. Crest (field 3), South Point vs. Shelby (field 4).

11:10-12:10 - Ashbrook vs. St. Stephens (field 1), Burns vs. Watauga (field 2), KM vs. Jay M. Robinson (field 3), South Point vs. North Lincoln (field 4).

12:20-1:20 - Bandys vs. East Gaston (field 1), St. Stephens vs. Watauga (field 2), Crest vs. Robinson (field 3), Shelby vs. North Lincoln (field 4).

1:30-2:30 - Bandys vs. Crest (field 1), Burns vs. South Point (field 2), KM vs. Ashbrook (field 3), Shelby vs. East Gaston (field 4).

2:40-3:40 - Robinson vs. Ashbrook (field 1), Burns vs. North Lincoln (field 2), KM vs. St. Stephens (field 3), Watauga vs. South Point (field 4).

3:50 -4:50 - Robinson vs. Bandys (field 1), North Lincoln vs. East Gaston (field 2), St. Stephens vs. Crest (field 3), Watauga vs. Shelby (field 4).

KM second in SWC tournament

Kings Mountain's Mountaineers finished second to regular season champion Shelby in last week's Southwestern 2A/3A Conference Basketball Tournament.

In Wednesday semifinal game at Shelby, the Mountaineers held off the SWC's top-seeded 3A team, Burns, 60-59.

Friday's championship game was moved to Kings Mountain's Donald L. Parker Gymnasium because of a water problem at Shelby's gym. KM broke out to an early lead but Aubrey Hollifield's Lions put on the pressure and won going away 70-51.

Daniel Gill's leaning layup with six seconds left gave the Mountaineers the win over Burns. Burns' Lance Camp took the inbound pass all the way down court and passed to Huskey along the baseline, who missed a highly contested 12 footer as time expired.

Burns went on a 10-0 run to open the game and held a five-point lead (58-53) with 1:26 remaining. Kings Mountain then went on a 6-0 run to take a one-point lead and set up the final two plays.

Gill led the Mountaineers with 24 points. He was 9-for-9 from the foul line, including 8-for-8 in

the second half. Daniel Asgari had a big game inside for the Mounties, scoring 11 points and grabbing numerous rebounds. Huskey scored 17 for the Bulldogs.

The Mountaineers jumped out to a 14-11 first quarter lead over Shelby Friday night but the Lions rebounded and grabbed a 30-26 halftime lead.

The Lions' defense pressured the Mounties into turnovers in the third period and built a 52-38 lead going into the fourth quarter.

Eric Mayo led three double-digit scorers for Shelby with 23 points. Gill scored 17 and Asgari

13 for the Mountaineers.

WEDNESDAY GAME

KM (60) - Burris 2, Hayes 3, Marable 7, Scott 6, Hines 5, Gill 24, Petty 2, Asgari 11.

Burns (59) - Haynes 5, Camp 12, Phelps 5, Hopper 14, Degree 4, Powell 2, Huskey 17.

FRIDAY GAME

KM (51) - Gill 17, Asgari 13, Marable 7, Hayes 3, Young 3, Hines 2, Burris 2, Scott 2, Tate 2.

Shelby (70) - Mayo 23, Montgomery 16, Gullatte 11, Ager 8, Murray 8, Chamberlain 4, Hopper 2.

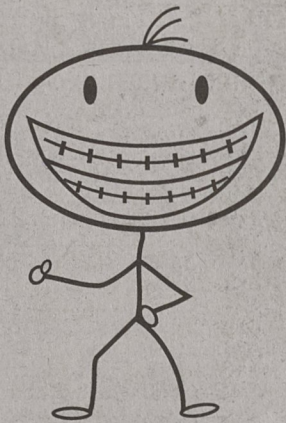
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