



Gary Stewart photos

Kings Mountain and Polk County players battle for control of the ball in season-opening non-conference soccer game Monday night at KM's John Gamble Stadium.

## Soccer

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Kerns scored her second goal of the match as she trapped an ill played goal kick and shot it into the open goal before the Raiders keeper could return. Again, the Mounties applied pressure to the defense but they wouldn't give up another goal until there were just 12 minutes remaining in the match. Meagan Reynolds, scored her first goal of the season as she took a fine pass out of the back from Chelsea Champion, beat two defenders and drove a low shot into the Raider goal for the final tally of the game.

The Mountaineer defense had to withstand some late pressure as keeper Heather Stevens got beat on a through ball, but Chelsea Champion slid behind her and cleared a ball off the line that was shot by Diamond Davis.

"Overall, our players came out and played well for a first game, as we created many good scoring opportunities and limited the Raiders to just a few good looks at our goal," said Potter.

On Monday, Polk County came to visit the Mountaineers as they opened their home schedule on an unseasonably warm March day. With temperatures in the low 80's, the host team started out very slow.

Ashley Witherspoon, began the scoring as she took a nice pass from Jordan Doty and beat the keeper with a scrappy goal from the left flank at the 15 minute mark of the match.

"Our girls were not quite mentally prepared for the match today as we started out very sluggish," said Potter. Neither team was able to mount much of an attack in the first half and the half finished with a 1-0 Mountaineer advantage.

The second half saw a new and revitalized Mountaineer attack as they repeatedly built attacks and took 17 shots on goal. "The second half was as crisp as the first half was sloppy," said Potter. "We cannot play half a game and expect to win games."

Meagan Reynolds put the hosts up by 2-0 as she took a pass from Ashley Witherspoon on the wing and hammered the ball into the back of the net with just 8 minutes of time elapsed in the second half. Reynolds again found the goal 21 minutes into the final period with Witherspoon again setting the table.

Ramey Kerns got several good chances to score, only to have them turned away by a diving Polk County keeper. Polk County scored its only goal with 20 seconds remaining.

The Mountaineers will take on the Chargers of Crest on Friday at 6 p.m.

## JV Mountaineers drop opener 3-2

A last-second goal attempt from the corner by Whitney Moss crossed in front of the goal but no one was able to knock it in and Kings Mountain's JV soccer team dropped its home opener 3-2 to Polk County Monday at Gamble Stadium.

Moss and Awanda Rithiphone each scored a goal for the Lady Mountaineers.

Kings Mountain travels to East Lincoln today for a 4:30 match.



Kings Mountain's Megan Loftin (2) advances the ball up the field in Monday's game with Polk County.

## Stoney Jackson golf tourney March 28

The third annual Stoney Jackson Mission Golf Tournament/Benefit will be held Saturday, March 28, with shotgun start at 1 p.m. at Kings Mountain Country Club.

Entry fee is \$200 per team and includes green fee, cart fee and all you can eat lunch served from 11:30-12:30.

Sign up early as 100 plus players can be accepted. The format will include Captain's Choice, four person teams; 65 and over Gold Tees; Ladies Red Tees; and all others White Tees.

Mulligan available for \$5, one on front nine and one on back nine. Awards will go to the lowest scores to first and second place teams; longest drive in Fairway, closest to Pin, par 3's

and drawings for nice prizes.

Businesses and groups are invited to be hole sponsors at \$100 donation with the name of group or business name on a sign beside the tee box of your choice.

All proceeds are earmarked for Mission of New Life Family Worship Center with a goal to help pay for a Missions Church.

Sponsorships, entry fees a donations can be forwarded to Stoney Jackson, 509 Katherine Avenue, Kings Mountain, 28086 with checks made payable to New Life Family Worship Center.

For more information contact Jackson at 704-739-5020; Pastor Eng at 704-472-3329; and the Pro Shop at the Country Club, 704-739-5871.



SHORT COURSE CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM - Swimmers with the Sharks Aquatics Club swam away with top times at a recent state championship. Left to right, Matt Campbell, Alexandra Martelle, Lindsey Martelle, Madelyn Martelle, Emily Morgan, Kaitlyn Moss, William Quarles, Alan Riggs, Annie Shirk, Garrett Simpson, Austin Toney, Ben Waldrep, Ari Wallace.

## Sharks finish 14 in state

The Sharks swim team recently competed in the North Carolina Short Course Age Group Championships in Huntersville, and it was one for the record books.

This meet brings the fastest swimmers, ages 14 and under, together for a weekend of fast racing and according to Sharks coach David Messenger, that's exactly what his swimmers did. The Sharks had an outstanding meet, finishing 14th overall in the state.

"We were the second highest scoring team, west of Charlotte, and were also the highest scoring team from the Blue Ridge Swim League," Messenger said. "It was a great accomplishment for our team and an outstanding weekend for our swimmers."

The Sharks were led by Garrett Simpson, who swam

away with first place and became the state champion in the 50 freestyle and 50 fly. "Garrett swam incredible in every event he competed in and finished the meet second in the high point scoring for his age group," Messenger said.

He also finished second in three events and third in one event with best times in every event. Simpson was a great competitor, but he was not alone. Alexandra Martelle, Lindsey Martelle, Annie Shirk, Austin Toney, and Ben Waldrep all had top 16 swims and returned to compete in the finals that night.

"The whole team did great. Best times were turned in all weekend and it was fun to watch our swimmers compete against the best in the state," Messenger said.

## Town and Country Garden Club meet

Town and Country Garden Club met at The Patrick House Feb. 12 and hostesses Brenda Sipe and Susan Gibson served a delicious plate of tuna melt croissant, cheese and crackers, Japanese fruit cake and hot spice tea.

The Club Collect was recited and Gibson gave the treasurer's report.

There was no speaker but an open discussion on membership and work on the garden spot at the U. S. Post Office. A date of Thursday, Feb. 19, at 3:30 p.m. was scheduled. President Sipe suggested another Thursday work afternoon for those who can't come to the first clean up.

Lou Ballew suggested guidelines since the club is no longer federated. A discussion followed with suggestions regarding guidelines but no vote was taken to formalize those.

Ballew read a humorous article from The Charlotte Observer.

Brenda Sipe brought a Schifferala from her home that had a broken branch. She put the broken branch in water and it rooted. No one had ever heard of rooting a Schifferala in water and a general plant discussion followed. The members discussed pruning/cutting back of plants during February and March.

The March meeting will be held at Patrick House.

Ann Ward is club reporter.

## Frady's visits Magnolia Garden Club

Adrianna Padgett was hostess for the Feb. 24th meeting of the Magnolia Garden Club. The meeting began with Geneva Caveny's program.

She invited Todd Frady of Frady's Florist and Gifts Inc. to be a special guest. Todd began his program with a little history of his business and then showed the club how to arrange a loose style vase arrangement. He began with greenery such as fern. He showed the group how to weave the stems of the fern together to make a form (such as a frog) for holding the flowers.

Then, he added an assortment of flowers to make a beautiful arrangement. A few of the flowers he used were: Gerber daisy, Star Gazer lily, Queen Ann's lace, tulips, roses, wax flowers, hyacinths, and many more. He commented that most types of flowers are available all year long. When asked how he

knew the number of flowers to use, he said it depended mainly on the money a person wanted to spend and the vase size. As he was arranging the vase, he gave several tips.

One, to keep flowers fresh, the stems should be cut again every two to three days because the throats of the flowers (stem) would clog and they would stop drinking the water. Two, if Gerber Daisies start drooping, put them in antifreeze and they would perk right up. Three, to keep tulips from completely opening, putting them in Vodka over night would slow the process.

Todd commented that you could purchase a product called "Quick Dip" to make the stems stiffer and easier to work with. Todd then shared a technique called "folding" with a rose. Turning the pedals of a mature rose back completely changed the appearance of the flower. He said this technique was used to take up space; therefore, using fewer flowers. Todd ended his program with a question and answer session.

Maxine Bennett, acting president for Molly Savage, called the meeting to order and the group read the club's Collect. The minutes were read and approved and the treasurer's report remained the same.

Old business consisted of a discussion of the birthday party at the Life Enrichment Center. The party will be on March 24, the same day as our March meeting. The club decided to meet, go to lunch, then go to the center for the party. Paper plates, napkins, ice cream and cake will be needed for the party. Several members volunteered to supply these items.

For new business, Maxine said that Molly would like for the club to consider a new project for the spring. She suggested taking plants to the Life Enrichment Center and helping the residents plant them. The group responded favorably. More on the topic will be discussed at the next meeting. Bess Phifer will be hostess in March, Dianne Hollifield will have the program, and Anita Campbell and Susan Kiser will provide the arrangements.

Delicious refreshments were served by Adrianna. Only positive comments were given to Pat Shronce and Teresa Ruppe's "Valentine Celebration" arrangements.

Points were taken with Team I having 21 points and Team II with 18.

Specimens shared by the group included: Snow Drop, Pansy, Camellia, Jonquils, Lenten Rose, and Thrift.

After socializing the meeting was adjourned.

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