

Tony Leigh will be missed

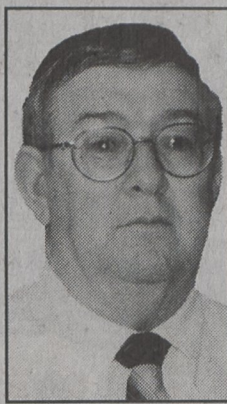
The Kings Mountain sports community this week is mourning the death of one of its most devoted coaches.

Tony Leigh, 60, who spent 35 years in the high school coaching profession, died Sunday after a bout with cancer.

Tony was first diagnosed with bladder cancer about three years ago when he was an assistant football coach at East Gaston High School. He had a fantastic attitude and said he would beat the disease. He was able to resume his coaching career there, and later at Kings Mountain and West Lincoln high schools, but several weeks ago learned that the disease had spread to his liver, kidneys and lungs and his health quickly went downhill.

Tony was present at many early-season Kings Mountain baseball games this year, occupying a seat beside his longtime friend and father figure, Major Loftin, right behind the backstop. He was taking weekly trips to Charlotte for chemo which left him weak and without an appetite, but even then he told me he looked forward to returning to substitute teaching and assisting with the West Lincoln football team.

I knew Tony Leigh from his high school days at KMHS, where he was an outstanding baseball player. He was an All-



Gary Stewart
Herald Sports Editor

155 American Legion teams. Tony was one of the best I've seen at "playing the bank" at City Stadium. If you ever played ball in that stadium, you know what I am talking about. He was also the best right-hand hitting drag bunter I can remember.

Tony went on to play four years under Jerry Bryson at Gardner-Webb and after that spent several summers playing semi-pro fast pitch softball for teams based in Shelby.

Tony patterned his coaching style after his high school mentors, Bill Bates and Bob Hussey. His goal in coaching was always to be an assistant football coach and head baseball coach, and he was able to accomplish that in the late 1990s at KMHS.

Tony had coaching stops at

Allendale-Fairfax High School in South Carolina, where his baseball teams were very successful; Southwest Junior High in Gastonia, and Bessemer City, Canon Pisgah, Kings Mountain, East Gaston and West Lincoln high schools. He also coached American Legion baseball in Kings Mountain.

Tony coached numerous high school sports - though not at the same time - including football, baseball, girls softball, girls basketball and track. I really believe he would have coached 365 days a year for free if his administration would have allowed it. He loved sports and kids that much.

Tony coached several conference championship girls softball teams at Pisgah and KM, and one of his Pisgah teams played for the state championship. One of his baseball teams at KMHS went three rounds in the state playoffs.

Tony was a good man to have around sports, not just for his coaching talents but also for his genuine love for the game and the players. Although his won-lost records were good, and in some seasons exceptional, the main thing he brought to the game was that he was a good role model for his players. He was a good, Christian man who also made his mark in the community.



GARY STEWART
HERALD

Tony Leigh encourages his players during a baseball game.



GARY STEWART/HERALD
Tony Leigh celebrates with his players after a big victory.

To Pam, Andrew, Ashley and the rest of the Leigh family, we join in your sorrow. We will all miss Tony, but we all know he is in a better place and is celebrat-

ing with his Lord and those who have gone before.

And, be sure, if there is baseball in heaven he is in the starting lineup tonight.

Softball

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Shea Cogdill went the distance on the mound. She scattered five hits and struck out 10.

Tori Glass and Chasiti Falls led the KM plate attack with two hits each. Megan Hoyle, Emily Gates and Caroline Chambers added a hit each.

On Tuesday, the Mountaineers built an 8-0 lead after five innings at R-S Central, and held on late for an 8-5 victory.

Lea Zwick hurled the win. Chambers led the hitting with 3-for-4 and three RBIs. Falls went 2-for-3 with two RBIs, and Megan Hoyle was 2-for-3 with one RBI. Kelisha Goodson was 2-for-4.

The Mountaineers held off a five-run rally in the bottom of the seventh by Burns and edged the Lady Bulldogs 10-8 Thursday.

Cogdell hurled the win. Taylor Faris led the hitting with 2-for-4 and two RBIs, and Hayley Hoyle went 2-for-4.

Baseball

Continued from Page 1B

Innes came on to pitch for the Jets in the bottom of the fifth and held the Mountaineers at bay with a hard fast ball.

Enka made it interesting by scoring two runs in the sixth - one on a double by Innes in the left-center field gap and another on a dropped fly ball in right field. With two outs, KM second baseman Brent Hunt made a timely leap to grab a hard-hit line drive by Ryan Woodring to end the inning.

Howell and the Mountaineers retired the Jets in order in the top of the seventh.



photo by Lib Stewart
Chris Williams, BCHS senior, inks a contract with Catawba Valley Community College to play baseball next school year. He is the son of Crystal and Jeff Williams of Kings Mountain. Seated from left, Principal Ted Saunders, guidance counselor Terri Mahaffey, Chris Williams, his mother Crystal Williams and Coach Mike Mahaffey. Standing, from left, Tommy Shumaker, Jason May, Brian Thornburg, BJ Schadewald and Kirk Rauch, all Assistant Coaches at Bessemer City High School.

Williams signs with Catawba

Chris Williams, baseball standout at Bessemer City High School, has signed with Catawba Valley Community College, to play baseball next school year.

First baseman Williams, 6'4" with a batting average of .362, has played baseball all his

life in Kings Mountain and for three years on the BCHS team.

"I am excited about graduating from high school next month and enrolling in the Fall in college," said Williams, the son of Crystal and Jeff Williams of Kings Mountain. He plans to major in Criminal Justice.

Williams has a sister, Hannah, a 9th grader at Kings Mountain High School, and is the grandson of Richard and Sheila Bolin of Kings Mountain, Tommy and Shirley Williams of Belmont and Bill and Sheila Yokley of Gastonia.

Relay teams place in state meet

Three Kings Mountain High relay teams placed in the state 3A track meet Saturday at North Carolina A&T University in Greensboro.

Chris Dye, Trey Edgerton, Torrey Belcher and Anthony McDonald finished sixth in the 800-meter relay in 1:30.83.

Belcher, Dye, McDonald and Tim Hines ran eighth in the 400-meter relay in 43.50 seconds.

The KM girls team of Britnee Roberts, Meshala Pendergrass, Lauresa Keith and Antonia Garriett finished 14th in the 800 meter relay in 1:50.31.

Watch for our special Graduation Issue... Coming June 10

Classified Ads

Exit 106 - I85 - Best little Flea Market in the UP-STATE. Open Sat.'s, & Sun.'s (5:20, 27, 6:03) MOVING SALE - 106 Cameron Drive (Country Creek) Kings Mountain, Sat., May 23rd. - 7 AM to 12 (Noon). Books, toys, household items, ddecorative items and much more! YARD\HOUSE SALE - 403 Brookwood Ave. in Cherryville, House on fenced in corner lot. Sat., May 23rd, 8 AM - Until. Recliner, Living Room Furniture, Sofa, Love Seat, Electric Wheel Chair, Handicap Equipment, Misc. items. HUGE 4 FAMILY YARD SALE - 1028 Tot Dellinger Rd., Friday, May 22nd and Sat., May 23rd. 7 AM - Until. Baby clothes, Toddler to Teens, Household

items. You name it, we have it! KM NEIGHBORHOOD YARD SALE - Sat., May 23rd, Heather Lane (Off Reliance Rd - Lane - Behind Baldor Electric) 7 AM - Until. A variety of items will be included. KM YARD SALE - 207 N. City Street, Sat., May 23rd, 8 AM - Until. Table & 6 chairs, Computer table, bedspreads, curtains, stationary exercise bike, clothes, household items and much, much more.

Help Wanted

BRADINGTON - YOUNG, LLC/A DIVISION of HOOKER FURNITURE. Now taking applications for: Experienced Upholster Leather Sewers, 2 years experience. Please apply in person at 920 E First St.,

Cherryville, NC 28021. (5:20) CONCRETE WORKERS FOR METROMONT PRESTRESS IN CHARLOTTE, NC-Must have construction experience. Ability to read blueprints and tape measures are required. Must be flexible for all shifts. Minimum pay \$10.50, plus overtime. Drug screen required. To schedule an appointment call 1 (800) 523-6802. Dycos Staffing. EOE. Hablamos Español. (tfn)

LEGALS

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION North Carolina In the General Court OF JUSTICE DISTRICT Court Division

Union COUNTY 09 CVD 911 DONNA LYNN BORST, Plaintiff, v. STEPHEN KENNETH BORST, Defendant.) To: THE DEFENDANT, STEPHEN KENNETH BORST TAKE NOTICE that a Complaint seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-captioned action on March 6, 2009, and the first date of publication is May 13, 2009. The nature of the relief being

sought is as follows: Alimony, Absolute Divorce, Equitable Distribution, Post Separation Support, Injunctive Relief and Attorneys Fees. You are required to make defense to such pleadings by filing a written answer with this Court within forty (40) days following the first date of publication of this notice, exclusive of such date; upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the

relief sought. This the 6th day of May, 2009. Tesha M. McBeth, Bar No. 27859 Attorney for Plaintiff P.O. Box 822 Mon-

roe, NC 28111 (704) 292-7675. KMH3167 (5:13,20,27/09)

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