

Home runs, pitching, defense power KM over NG

GARY STEWART
Sports Editor

Kings Mountain's Mountaineers built a 5-4 lead after five innings and used good pitching and defense to preserve it in an important victory over North Gaston's Wildcats last Tuesday night at Lancaster Field.

Dallas Conner hurled the first five innings to get the win and also clubbed a pair of solo home runs. Heath King doubled and scored on a single by Trey Fulbright and Chad Davis slammed a two-run home run for the other Mountaineer runs.

Conner pitched well for the Mountaineers for five innings but had to leave the mound with a 5-4 lead after tweaking a muscle, Jonathon Borchert, who is fast becoming one of the top closers in the Big South Conference, pitched the final two innings to earn a save.

"I was going to bring Borchert in anyway but did it earlier because Conner was in some discomfort," noted KM coach Eric King. "Borchert has a good curve ball and has done a good job on the mound for us. It's good when you have somebody like him."

Borchert retired the Wildcats (8-2) in order in the sixth but gave up a single and hit batsman to open the seventh. Shortstop Will Sellers then pulled a couple of outstanding defensive plays by going into the hole between short and third to force a runner at

third and fielding a hot shot to force a runner at second. Borchert got Lowery on a routine fly ball to right field to end the game.

The victory was the fifth in the last seven games for the Mountaineers and put them in the thick of the battle for a BSC playoff berth.

"This week is going to be a pivotal week for us," King said of games with perennial powers Forestview last night and South Point on Friday. "We're getting there."

KM JV baseball whips Ashbrook

Landon Bolin pitched a two-hitter and struck out six as Kings Mountain High's JV baseball team defeated Ashbrook 11-1 last week at Lancaster Field.

Alex Reynolds led the offense with three hits and four runs batted in. Tyler Ray got the other KM hit.

The Mountaineers took advantage of 15 walks.

Patriot kickers lose 1st game

Kings Mountain Middle School's soccer team lost its first game in seven outings Tuesday to Burns, 3-2.

Scoring for the Patriots were Courtney Johnson and MC Dellinger.



GARY STEWART/HERALD
Kings Mountain's Jonathon Borchert works on a save in last week's win over North Gaston at Lancaster Field.

Patriots take division lead with 5-4 victory over Burns

Kings Mountain Middle School scored two runs in the bottom of the seventh inning Tuesday at Lancaster Field #3 to defeat Burns 6-5 and take over sole possession of first place in the Tri-County Conference East Division.

The victory improved the Patriots' record to 6-1. Burns dropped to 5-2 and into a tie for second place with West Lincoln.

Will Wilson's two-run single in the bottom of the seventh inning erased a 5-4 Burns lead.

Brandon Bell and Tanner Orders combined to pitch an 8-hitter for the Patriots. Bell worked the first three innings and Orders hurled the final four and got the win.

Bell gave up three hits, two runs, one earned run, walked three and struck out four. Orders gave up five hits, three runs, two earned runs, walked two and struck out one. KM committed three errors.

Leading hitters were Bell with 2-for-3, Orders 2-for-4, Robbie Lysek 2-for-4 and Wilson 2-for-4. Players with

one hit each were Shad Johnson, Jacob Lainhart, Colby Crisp and Shawn Adams.

Kings Mountain had 12 hits and struck out six times.

Burns committed five errors

Burns and Kings Mountain were scheduled for a rematch Monday at Burns. KM hosts Lincolnton Thursday.



GARY STEWART/HERALD
Jacob Lainhart of Kings Mountain slides into third base in game with Burns Tuesday at KM Middle School.

TD Club golf tourney April 29

The annual KM Touchdown Club golf tournament will be played April 29 at 1 p.m. at Kings Mountain Country Club. Lunch will be served at 11:30.

Entry fee is \$50 per person. The format is four-person captain's choice.

Red tees and mulligans will be available for purchase. There will be prizes to flight winners (flighted after tournament), closest to the pin on par threes and longest drive for men, women and seniors (age 60-plus).

To enter or for more information call Larry Hamrick at 704-739-3611 or Larry@KMinsure.com

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U-10 FINALISTS - SGCSSA U-10 Hurricanes competed in the Piggly Wiggly Shootout Soccer tournament in Charleston, SC March 26 and 27. The team tied the first game 2-2, won the next two games 4-1 and 6-1, advanced to the championship game against Easley Soccer Club and were defeated 1-0. The girls were named U-10 Girls Finalist. Front row, from left, Hannah Westerman, Abbie Morgan, Synclaire Walters and Summer Campbell; second row, from left, Erin Sullivan, Madison Mosk, Sarah Drennan and Maggie Lloyd; and back row, from left, Coach David Bumgardner, Hallie Hunt, Savannah Peppers, and Assistant Coach Riley Johnson.



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