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The Kings Mountain Herald

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Sports

in 2013-2017 realignment?

GARY STEWART Sports Editor

The first draft of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association realignment for 2013-2017 was released Thursday, and unless changes are made before the plan is approved next May Kings Mountain will remain in the Big South 3A.

The original computerdriven draft leaves Kings Mountain, South Point, Ash-Gaston, brook, East Forestview and North Gaston in the Big South. Hunter Huss would leave the BSC to a 2A conference with Chase, the new Stuart Cramer High in Cramerton, East Rutherford, Polk Central, R-S Central and Shelby.

Crest would go to a new 3A conference with Burns, Freedom, East Henderson, North Henderson, Patton and West Henderson.

KMHS athletic director Dustin Morehead said he and his staff would be happy in the Big South, but feels like numerous 2A and 3A teams will be shifted around in the next proposal because some of the submitted enrollment figures were not accurate. "This is the first time that the draft has been computer-generated," he said. "Travel and tradition were not factored in. The state will probably take a look at that.

Morehead said that even though KM would be the only Cleveland County team in the Big South, "it looks like a pretty good league. A lot of people talk about the Big South being one of the best conferences in the state and it would continue to be. The new school (Cramer) is having an impact on it."

other Cleveland County team in the conference, but even that would help the Mountaineers in scheduling non-conference games. If the BSC remains as proposed with six members, KM would have five conference and six non-conference games. Three of the nonconference games would have to be against Burns, Shelby and Crest, leaving the Mountaineers to find only three other non-conference opponents.

"Travel-wise, it (the BSC) is not bad at all," Morehead said. "The longest trip we have is to Forestview which is only 30 minutes."

Morehead said one of the main reasons for a computergenerated first draft was to try to get away from split conferences, which it did. But, as the "human touch" goes into the second draft he feels travel issues will force some changes.

After the revised draft is received individual schools will have opportunities to submit proposals to be placed in another conference. After those proposals are dealt with by the realignment committee the final proposal will be submitted to the NCHSAA Board of Directors for approval in May 2012.

The new realignment would take effect with the fall sports season of 2013.

(Some interesting side notes on the initial realignment draft)

Kannapolis and Chai

KM to stay in Eight KM Mountaineers Big South make All-Big South team

Kings Mountain High placed eight players on the All-Big South 3A Conference football team which was released on Monday.

Mountaineers selected to the all-star unit include running back John Robbs, linebackers Quincey Toms and Collins Pressley, defensive lineman Ed Hopper, offensive lineman Shelton Price, wide receiver/defensive back Edward Blackburn, quarterback Jonathan Clark and wide receiver

Phillip Quinn.

The All-Conferselections ence helped lead the Mountaineers to a third place finish in the BSC and a 6-7 overall record. They advanced two rounds in the state 3AA playoffs be- Edward Blackburn fore falling to state

runner-up Crest. Clark and Quinn and juniors and look forward to banner another year next season.

Regular season champion South Point racked up the awards with 11 being Jonathan Clark players

named to the All-

Conference team. Running back Troy Leeper of the Raiders was selected Offensive Player of the Year, and South Point kicker Dayton Rogers was named Special Teams Player of the Year.

South Point's Mickey Lineberger, who led the Raiders to an 11-1 record in his first year as head coach, was selected Coach of the Year. South Point linebacker Jordan Forney, defensive Crest

end Jonathan Bullard and Ashbrook defensive back Nortavius Otis were named Defensive Players of the Year. All-Conference

team: Kings Moun-

tain - John Robbs, Quincey RB: Toms, LB; Collins Pressley, LB; Edward Hopper, DL; Shelton Price, OL; Edward Blackburn, WR/DB; Jonathan Clark, QB; Phillip Quinn, WR. South Point -

Jeffrey Lawing,

OL; Jordan Kagen, OL; David Braunschueidel, OL; Troy Leeper, FB; Patrick Horne, QB; Devon Robbins, RB; Tyler Bray, RB; Jordan Forney, LB; Jalen Porter, DB; Josh Allman, LB; Aaron Biggerstaff, LB.

Forestview - Jonathan Pressley, WR;



Collmar, OL; Nick. Long, DL; Josh Mills, DL. Ashbrook - Angelo Crawford, RB;

Dominique Adams,

RB; Marlon Carter,

LB; Collin Mun-

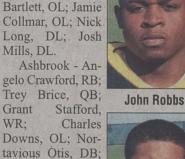
son, LB; Steven

Ed Hopper



Collins Pressley

Shelton Price



tavious Otis, DB; Jordan Bowden, DL; Aveontay Armstrong, LB; Ham-Anthony bright, DB. North Gaston -Corey Staley, FB; Brooks, Tyler OT/DE; Zay

Stowe, WR/DB. Crest - Damonte Wilson, WR; Dalton Cochran, LB; Rhaheim Ledbetter, DB/RB; Quinton Patterson, LB; Jake Willis, OL; Dylan Hopper, OL; Dane Rogers, DL; Jonathan Bullard, DL; Harvy Mc-Swain, DB/WR.



Phillip Quinn

Hunter Huss - Donquavius Boyd, DE; Willie Kennedy, DE; Victavis Williams, DB/RB; Cody Jones, K/P.





to Shelby in opener

The head coaching debut of Grayson Pierce and Amos Myles ended in lop-sided losses as Kings Mountain fell to Shelby in a non-conference season opener Tues-

Cramer will draw most of its students from East Gaston and South Point, dropping the Warriors from 4A to 3A and leaving South Point's projected enrollment figures just above the 2A level.

Morehead said the computer-driven draft, which considered only numbers, is contradicting the NCH-SAA's previous policy of conference set-up and pod playoff placement to cut down on travel. 'I have some questions about it because of that," Morehead said.

That being said, he added that he would be happy with the current proposal for the Big South.

"I like the Big South," he said. "It's very competitive. If you're competitive in the Big South you're going to be successful in the playoffs and have a good shot at playing for the state championship. That's been proven."

He said he has mixed feelings about not having an-

lotte Catholic, two perennial powers in the 3A ranks, would go to 4A in the next realignment. The initial draft places Kannapolis in a conference with Hopewell, Hough, Mallard Creek, Mooresville, North Mecklenburg, Robinson and Vance; and Catholic in a league with Butler, Audrey Kell, Myers Park, Olympic, Porter Ridge, Providence and South Mecklenburg.

-Bessemer City and Cherryville would be the only traditional public schools in a new 1A conference that would include Christ the King, Community School of Davidson, Highland Tech, Thomas Jefferson, Lincoln Charter and Pine Lake Prep.

-Lincolnton would be in a 2A league with Bandys, Bunker Hill, East Lincoln, Lake Norman Charter, Maiden, Newton-Conover and West Lincoln.

-Hickory, St. Stephens, Hibriten and Fred T. Foard, who are now in a split 3A/4A conference, would join North Iredell, South Iredell, Statesville and West Iredell in a 3A league.

Kings Mountain's Markel Hemphill pins Gaffney's Nick Trammell in 160-pound weight class in Tuesday's wrestling match at Donald L. Parker Gymnasium.

Kings Mountain rolled to a 48-0 lead en route to a 63-17 victory over Gaffney in a non-conference wrestling match Tuesday at Donald L. Parker Gymnasium.

The Mountaineers won the first seven matches by either pins or forfeits before Gaffney finally broke the scoring column. Gary Bennett, Quincy Toms, Markel Hemphill and Jonathan Clark won quick pins. After John Robbs and Jacob Miller picked up forfeit wins, Cody Griffith and Zach Hayes followed with pins.

106 - Austin Chandler (G) tech fall Zach

SPORTS BRIEFS

KMHS second in swim meet

Kings Mountain finished second to Forestview in a four-team swim meet Thursday at Neisler Natatorium.

Forestview won the men's competition with 77 points, followed by KM 61 and Crest 2. The Forestview ladies won with 66 points, followed by KM 56, Crest 13 and North Gaston 2.

Kings Mountain's 200 medley relay team qualified for the Western Regional with a time of 2:08.44. Team members are Kimberlee Farris, Alyssa White, Katie Bieker and Abbey Bragg.

Johnny Martin was a double winner, taking the 200 IM in 2:42.95 and the 100 fly in 1:18.63.

Alyssa White won the 50 free in 27.13. Farris was second in 28.82.

The women's 200 free relay team took first in 1:59.50.

Katie Bieker was second in the 100 backstroke in 1:13.16 and Ethan Anderson was second in the 100 backstroke in 1:11.71.

Austin Toney won the 100 breaststroke in 1:04.35 and the men's 400 freestyle relay team won in 4:26.93.

Lady Patriots spikers beaten

Kings Mountain lost to North Lincoln in Tri-County Middle School Conference volleyball Thursday.

Melton; 120 - Colby Bailey (KM) fall Daniel Ruppe; 126 - Cameron Hord (KM) fall Nolan Cobb; 132 - Ryan Turner (KM) dec. Pete Peterson: 145 - Gary Bennett (KM) fall Thomas Mabry; 152 - Quincy Toms (KM) fall Josh Mathis; 160 - Markel Hemphill (KM) fall Nick Trammell; 170 - Jonathan Clark (KM) fall Hiley Blanton; 182 - John Robbs (KM) won by forfeit; 195 - Jacob Miller (KM) won by forfeit; 215 - Cody Griffith (KM) fall; 285 - Zach Hayes (KM) fall Jeremy Pinero.

GARY STEWART/HERALD

Outstanding players for the Patriots were Gretchen Boyles, Lauren Dellinger, Sara Pasour and Taylor Wade.

Holiday Classic pairings

First round pairings have been announced for the 2011 Holiday Classic Basketball Tournament Dec. 27-29 at Crest High School.

The tournament is sponsored by the Cleveland County Sports Commission.

Burns and Hunter Huss will get the action underway at 3 p.m., followed by Kings Mountain against Harding at 4:30.

Shelby faces Ashbrook at 6 p.m. and Crest will battle Q Foundation at 7:30.

KM girls to play in tourney

Kings Mountain High's girls basketball team will compete in the annual Christmas Invitational December 27-29 at Freedom High School in Morganton.

The Lady Mountaineers will face Asheville Christian Academy at 4 p.m. on December 27. The winner will play the winner of the Freedom-West Charlotte game on December 28 at 7 p.m.

Other first round pairings have East Mecklenburg facing McDowell at 4 p.m. and East Burke against South Mecklenburg at 7 p.m.

day night in Shelby.

Both Shelby teams got off to quick starts and never trailed.

The Lady Lions rolled to. a 21-4 first quarter lead en route to a 59-29 victory. The Shelby boys scored the first 11 points of the game and went on to a 80-57 victory.

Shadaiya Roberts was the only KM girl to hit double figures with 11 points. Anika Jones topped Shelby with 26

The Lady Lions were on top 31-12 at halftime and 47-19 going into the fourth quarter.

Gabe Devoe scored 16 points and Donte Falls added 15 for the Golden Lions, who led 40-13 at the half and 60-33 going into the fourth quarter.

Senior guard Caleb Hines led the Mountaineers with 18 points, four steals and four assists. Treyvon Adams scored 15 points. James Tillman added nine points and 11 rebounds, and Tyrece Crawford grabbed five rebounds.

Shelby also won the JV game 53-46.

Kings Mountain grabbed an 11-6 first quarter lead before the Lions came back for a 22-17 halftime advantage. The Mountaineers cut the margin to 33-31 going into the fourth period but couldn't overtake the Lions.

Josh Sherer led the Mountaineers with 12 points. Landon Bolin and Isaiah Cole grabbed six rebounds apiece and Chad Sanders and Sherer added five each.

JV GAME

KM (53) - Sherer 12, Adams 8, Sanders 6, Bolin 5, Cole 4, Johnson 4, McClain 3, Lysek 2, Cash 2.

Shelby (53)- Jones 13, Little 10, Webber 9, Jolly 7, Bilal 6, Washington 5, Parrish 1.

GIRLS GAME KM (29) - Roberts 11,

See KM FALLS, 2B

The Week Ahead

Thursday, Dec. 8

4 p.m. - Middle school wrestling, West Lincoln at Kings Mountain.

4 p.m. - Middle school volleyball, Kings Mountain at West Lincoln.

Friday, Dec. 9

6 p.m. - High school basketball, Burns at Kings Mountain.

Saturday, Dec. 10

9 a.m. - High school wrestling, Kings Mountain at South Caldwell Invitational.

Tuesday, Dec. 13

TBA - Middle school vol-

ment. TBA - Middle school wrestling, first round of Tri-County Conference playoffs.

leyball, first round of Tri-

County Conference tourna-

5 p.m. - High school wrestling, Kings Mountain and Patton at West Lincoln tri-meet.

5:30 - High school swimming, Forestview and South Point at Kings Mountain.

6 p.m.- High school basketball, Kings Mountain at South Point.

Wednesday, Dec. 14

6 p.m. - High school basketball, Kings Mountain at Burns.