

# BASEBALL: KM beats Huss and Ashbrook



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Borchert walked and scored on a triple by Mitchell Cloninger, and the Mountaineers ended the game on the 10-run rule on Chris Webster's double to left.

Bennett and Fulbright led the KM hitting with two hits each. Sellers, Cloninger, Conner, Reynolds, Webster, Tyler Gilliam and Colton Wade had one hit apiece.

The Mountaineers went out of conference Wednesday and also went back to playing close games. In this one, they had to come from behind in the last two innings to edge Fred T. Foard 3-2.

King's sacrifice fly in the bottom of the seventh drove in Tyler Gilliam with the winning run.

Alex Reynolds led off the bottom of the sixth with a triple and scored the tying run on an error. KM's other run came in the first on an RBI single by Conner.

The Mountaineers managed only four hits but got excellent pitching from Sellers and Borchert. Sellers worked four innings, giving up four hits and fanning

eight. Borchert pitched the final three innings to get the win. He allowed only two hits and struck out six.

Sellers, King, Cloninger and Reynolds had one hit each.

The Mountaineers built an early lead but had to hold off a late rally by Ashbrook to win 6-4 Friday at Ashbrook.

King worked six innings to get the win. He gave up only three hits and struck out five and left the mound holding a 6-1 lead.

Borchert came in to pitch the seventh but got into trouble and Sellers came on to put down a three-run Green Wave rally and earn a save.

The Mountaineers collected nine hits. Bennett led the plate attack with 2-for-3, including a double and four runs batted in. Cloninger went 2-for-3 with two runs and an RBI. Sellers had a double and Conner and Reynolds each had an RBI-single. King and Seth Ferrell each had a single.

GARY STEWART / HERALD

Kings Mountain's Mitchell Cloninger pulls into third base with a triple in last week's game with Hunter Huss at Lancaster Field.

## Patriot cindermen open with two straight wins

Kings Mountain Middle School's boys track team opened its season in early

March with two victories against Tri-County Conference teams.

On March 7, the Patriots scored 110 points to defeat Eat Lincoln (58), North Lincoln (38) and West Lincoln (22).

On March 14 they tallied 117 points to beat R-S Central (24) and East Rutherford (14).

All KM relay teams won both events. Running for the 4x400 team were Austin McKee, Darren Burns, Zavier Roberts and Demetrius Hill; running for the 4x100 team were Nigel Sadler, J'air McCluney, Jacob Merchant and Darian McClain. Running for the 4x200 team were Chance Fredrick, Samuel Dabney, Nigel Sadler and J'air McCluney.

Other March 7 results:

Long jump - Darian McClain second, Jacob Merchant third, Adam Kiser fourth.

High jump - Naseme Green second, Ethan King fourth.

400 meter - J'air McCluney first (59.82), Will Quinn fifth.

3200 meters - Austin McKee first (12:15), Josh Brucker second.

100 m. hurdles - Chance Fredrick first (16.21), Shaun Grier second, Samuel Dabney third.

Shot - Josh Bell second, Bryan Sanders third, Dreshaun Bell fifth.

100 meters - Darian McClain second, Shaun Grier fourth.

Discus - Josh Bell first (108'11"), Bryan Sanders third, Dreshaun Bell fourth.

1600 meters - Wes Harmon third, Malik Banner fifth.

Triple jump - Chris Robbins second, Cedric Wilson fifth.

800 meters - Demetrius Hill first (2:29.07), Austin McKee fifth.

200 meters - Tyler Wells second, Jacob Merchant fourth.

March 14 results:

Long jump - Jacob Merchant first (15'4"), Darian McClain third, Zavier Roberts fourth.

High jump - Naseme Green first (5'0"), Ethan King third.

400 meters - J'air McCluney second, Samuel Dabney third, Dar-

ren Burns fourth.

3200 meters - Austin McKee first (12:30), Josh Brucker second, Hunter Cooke fourth.

110 hurdles - Chance Fredrick first (16.07), Shaun Grier second, Samuel Dabney third.

Shot - Bryan Sanders first (39'2"), Josh Bell second, Dreshaun Bell fourth.

100 meter dash - Darian McClain first (12.27), Shaun Grier second, Tison Thombs third.

Discus - Josh Bell first (113'4"), Dreshaun Bell second, Bryan Sanders third.

1600 meter run - Wes Harmon first (5:50), Malik Banner second, Austin McKee third.

Triple jump - Chance Fredrick second, Chris Robbins third, Naseme Green fourth.

800 meter run - Demetrius Hill first (2:30), Wes Harmon second, Malik Banner third, Chris Robbins fourth.

200 meter run - Tyler Wells first (26.00), Cedric Wilson, second, Jacob Merchant fourth.

## Tickets on sale for Hall of Fame

Tickets for the 25th anniversary Kings Mountain Sports Hall of Fame banquet and induction ceremony are on sale.

Tickets are \$15 each and are available from all members of the Hall of Fame committee: Dale Hollifield, Jerry Adams, Dub Blalock, Dean Spears, Terry McClain, Lucille Williams, Katherine Hicks, Jake Dixon, Steve Baker, Mearl Valentine, Larry Sipe, Jay Rhodes and Gary Stewart.

The ceremony is Saturday, May 12 at 6 p.m. at Central United Methodist Church.

This year's inductees include Chris Johnson, former KMHS and Gardner-Webb football standout; Kendrick Bell, former baseball and

football standout at KMHS and NC A&T University; Stephen Fisher, former baseball player at KMHS and Appalachian State University; and Suzanne Grayson, retired coach and athletic director at KMHS.

Several others will be honored at the event, including Dale Hollifield and Frankie Webster with Distinguished Service Awards; the 2011 KMHS 4x200 meter relay team (Schiron Burris, Anthony McDonald, Tim Hines and Trey Edgerton) which won the state 3A championship; and several KMHS senior student athletes who will receive scholarships.

Many previous inductees are expected to attend.

## KM kickers lose to Indian Land

Kings Mountain High's soccer teams dropped a doubleheader Friday at Indian Land.

The JVs fell 2-0 and the varsity lost 3-2. Breanna Stevens and Lindsey Barnes scored the KM goals.

## Sports This Week

Wednesday, March 28

5 p.m. - High school soccer, Kings Mountain at Crest (JV/V doubleheader).

Thursday, March 29

4 p.m. - Middle school baseball, North Lincoln at Kings Mountain.

4 p.m. - High school tennis, Kings Mountain at Hunter Huss.

4 p.m. - High school track, Crest, Forestview, Huss, North Gaston and South Point at Kings Mountain.

4:30 - High school softball, Kings Mountain at Crest.

5 p.m. - High school JV baseball, Kings Mountain at Hickory.

5 p.m. - High school baseball, Hickory at Kings Mountain.

Friday, March 30

4:30 - High school baseball, Kings Mountain at Crest (JV/V

doubleheader).

Monday, April 2

2 p.m. - High school golf, all Big South teams at Ashbrook.

4 p.m. - Middle school baseball, Kings Mountain at Burns.

5 p.m. - High school soccer, Kings Mountain at Forestview (JV/V doubleheader).

Tuesday, April 3

4 p.m. - High school tennis, Kings Mountain at Ashbrook.

4:30 - High school baseball, Kings Mountain at Forestview (JV/V doubleheader).

6 p.m. - High school softball, Kings Mountain at Forestview.

Wednesday, April 4

5 p.m. - High school soccer, South Point at Kings Mountain (JV/V doubleheader).

## Rotary golf tourney April 20

The Kings Mountain Rotary Club will hold its annual Scholarship Golf Tournament Friday, April 20, at the Kings Mountain Country Club, starting with lunch 11:30 a.m.-12:45 followed by a shotgun start at 1 p.m. The deadline to enter in the four golfer captains choice tournament is 6 p.m. April 19. The entry fee, including lunch, is \$240 per team or \$60 per

golfer. Team cash prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place and individual prizes for hole-in-one, closest to the pins, longest drive and a putting contest. Door prizes will also be awarded. Proceeds will benefit the KM Rotary Club's educational scholarships. For more information, call Jim Champion at 704-692-2897.

## Patriots lose close ones to Lincoln County teams

Kings Mountain Middle School's baseball team dropped a couple of close games to Lincoln County schools last week, falling to West Lincoln 4-2 and East Lincoln 5-4.

The West Lincoln game was a pitcher's duel until the fourth inning when Will Wilson led off with a double to spark a Patriot rally. He took third on a balk and scored on a sacrifice fly by John Bell for a 1-0 KM lead.

With two outs, Jarret Ledford singled and advanced to third when Omar Petty reached base on an error. David Gamble singled Ledford home for a 2-0 KM lead.

The score didn't change until two outs in the bottom of the fifth when West tied the game at 2-all on three hits and an error.

As Yogi Berra would say, it was "déjà vu all over again" in the bottom of the sixth when, with two outs, West scored two more runs on two hits, a walk and an error to win by a pair.

Wilson pitched all six innings for the Patriots and did a great job keeping the West hitters out of rhythm. He gave up seven hits, four runs, only one walk and struck out seven. He also led the team in hitting with 2-for-3. Getting one hit each were Matt Absher, Ledford, and David Gamble.

The Patriots had an undefeated East Lincoln team on the ropes Monday but fell short. It was another pitcher's duel with

Matt Absher pitching four solid innings and Wilson finishing up the final three.

KM took a 1-0 lead in the top of the second when Brian Lysek was hit by a pitched ball, stole second and scored on a hit by John Bell.

East tied it in the bottom of the second, and then took advantage of an error to go up 2-1 in the third.

Kings Mountain battled back in the fourth to tie the game at 2-all on back-to-back hits by Palmer Davis and John Bell. East scored two more in the sixth on two errors to take a 4-2 lead.

Kings Mountain responded and tied the game at 4-all on a two-out, bases loaded single by Lysek.

East led off the seventh with a double and stolen base. KM intentionally walked batters to load the bases to set up a force out situation, but East got a single to left with one out to end the game.

"We are progressing and getting much better," said KM Coach Monty Deaton. "We just have to start pulling out those close games by minimizing the errors and get back to winning to build some confidence after four straight losses to three very good ball teams."

## KM Middle beats Lincolnton, hosts North Lincoln Thursday

Kings Mountain Middle defeated Lincolnton 14-4 in a Tri-County Conference game Monday.

Palmer Davis pitched the first three innings of the 5-inning contest, giving up just two hits and striking out seven. Bryson Bailey pitched the last two innings, giving up two hits and fanning two.

Lincolnton grabbed a 1-0 lead in the first inning but KM responded with two runs in the bottom of the first on a walk

to Will Wilson, a hit by Jarret Ledford and a triple by John Bell.

The Patriots scored three in the second on a one-out, inside-the-park home run by Omar Petty and hits by Madisyn Bolin and Wilson.

The Patriots added two more in the third on hits by Davis and Austin Fleming to take a 7-1 lead. KM ended the game in the bottom of the fourth with seven runs to take a 14-1 lead.

Lincolnton scored three runs in the

top of the fifth and the game ended on the 10-run mercy rule.

Brian Lysek, Wilson, Ledford and Petty had two hits each and Bell, Davis, David Gamble, Fleming and Bolin added one each for a total of 13 hits by the Patriots.

Kings Mountain was scheduled to play at Shelby yesterday and will host North Lincoln Thursday at 4 p.m.

## Middle school tennis beats Burns, Shelby

Kings Mountain Middle School's tennis team defeated Shelby 9-0 and Burns 8-1 last week.

Shelby match

Singles

D. Ervin (KM) d. Clifton 8-4; L. Ervin (KM) d. Assad 9-7; G. Conner (KM) d. Price 8-3; C. Leatherman (KM) d. Mabry 8-1; A. Smith (KM) d. Eusebio 6-5; B. Goodson (KM) d. Carpenter 8-1.

Doubles

D. Ervin/Conner (KM) d.

Clifton/Price 8-5;

Leatherman/Smith (KM) d. Mabry/Assad 8-2; Bailey/K. Condrey (KM) d. Graves/Newton 8-1.

(Challenges)

Burns match

Singles

T. Helms (B) d. D. Ervin 8-2; L. Ervin (KM) d. Croft 8-4; G. Conner (KM) d. C. Gold 8-1; C. Leatherman (KM) d. Massingill 8-3; A. Smith (KM) d. Houser 8-3; B. Goodson (KM) d. Wilson 8-2.

Doubles

Ervin/Ervin (KM) d. Helms/Croft 8-3; Conner/Leatherman (KM) d. Gold/Houser 8-2; Condrey/Green (IM) d. Massingill/Wilson 8-6.

Exhibition:

Davis/Bridges (B) d. K. Bowen/W. Henson 6-3; Bowen/Henson (M) d. McCabe/Cantrell 6-3; Smith/Goodson (KM) d. Houston/Brotherton 8-0.