

## Lady Mountaineers blank Hunter Huss in home opener

Kings Mountain jumped on top early and blanked Hunter Huss 8-0 in its opening Big South 3A Conference game Tuesday at Lancaster Field #3.

The Mountaineers scored three runs in the bottom of the first inning and that was all southpaw Reagan Childers would need to nail down the team's first victory after three narrow non-conference losses to open the season.

Childers led off the inning with a walk, followed by a single to left by freshman Leah Herndon. Emily Hester followed with a double to left, scoring Childers. Herndon scored on a wild pitch and Shea Cogdell followed with a single to center to drive in Hester.

Childers went the distance, giving up only four hits and striking out 10.

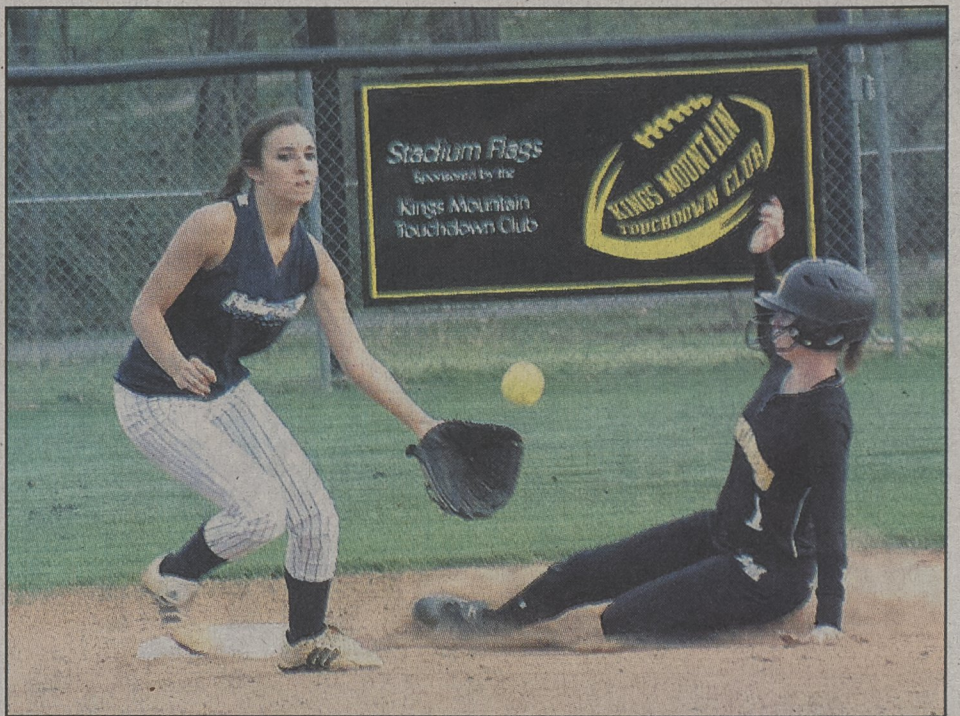
The Mountaineers added their fourth run

in the second when Herndon reached on an error and scored on a single by Molly Short. Singles by Emily Bell and Caitlyn Brauns set up a perfectly-executed sacrifice bunt by Carsyn Bolin which made the score 5-0 in the third.

Herndon doubled and later scored on a wild pitch to make it 6-0 in the fourth.

After going 3-up, 3-down in the fifth, the Mountaineer struck again for two runs in the sixth. Childers singled to center, Herndon followed with an infield hit, and Hester's sacrifice fly sent home the first run. The final run of the game came on Short's single to center.

Herndon finished with 3-for-3 to lead the 10-hit KM attack. Short added two hits and Hester, Cogdell, Bell, Brauns and Childers had one apiece.



Right: GARY STEWART / HERALD

Kings Mountain's Leah Herndon steals second base in Tuesday softball game with Hunter Huss at KM. Covering second for Huss is shortstop Alexis Grimes, a former KMHS player.



GARY STEWART / HERALD

Kings Mountain shortstop Molly Short guns down a Huss runner in Tuesday's game at Lancaster Field #3.



GARY STEWART / HERALD

Kings Mountain's Reagan Childers works on a four-hit, 10-strikeout victory over Hunter Huss in Big South 3A opener.

## Mountaineers beat Huss, Ashbrook in Big South

Kings Mountain's Mountaineers won all three of their baseball games last week, defeating Hunter Huss and Ashbrook in Big South 3A Conference games and Fred T. Foard in a non-conference contest.

Eric King's Mountaineers carried a 2-1 conference and 7-3 overall record into a home game last night against North Gaston.

After several close games to open the season, the Mountaineers finally had a breather Tuesday in a 12-2, six-inning victory over

Hunter Huss at Lancaster Field.

Kings Mountain scored six runs in the first inning and coasted the rest of the way.

Dallas Conner went the distance on the mound to get his first victory. He gave up only two hits and struck out nine. Both of the Huskies' runs were unearned.

The Mountaineers got five of their 11 hits in the first inning. Conner and Gary Bennett each had a two-run double, and Alex Reynolds contributed an RBI single.

Huss scored both of its runs in the second on KM errors, but the Mountaineers got those runs back in the bottom of the inning when Heath King walked and scored on an error and Conner lofted a sacrifice fly to center.

Trey Fulbright singled and later scored on an error to push the score to 9-2 in the third, and the 10th run scored on a sacrifice fly to right by Wil Sellers.

In the sixth, Jonathan

See BASEBALL, 3B



GARY STEWART / HERALD

Kings Mountain's Trey Fulbright rounds third and heads home on a hit by a teammate in last week's game with Hunter Huss at Lancaster Field.

## Lady Mountaineers beat Ashbrook for second win

Kings Mountain High's softball game got a 5-RBI game from shortstop Molly Short and another route-going pitching performance from Reagan Childers to defeat Ashbrook 8-1 for their second straight Big South 3A win Friday in Gastonia.

This is a big week for Craig Short's ladies, who were scheduled to take on a good North Gaston team last night at home and will battle league favorite Crest on the road Thursday afternoon.

Coach Short has seen his young team make a lot of progress during the early season. The Mountaineers' first three games saw them lose close contests to Chase, Burns and East Burke, the latter in 11 innings.

"I have been pleased with our hitting," Short said. "We're putting the ball in play and making good decisions at the plate. The more we've played the more I'm pleased. Playing experience will do that."

Short has three freshmen and a sophomore in his starting lineup, which bodes well not only for this year but the future. "Even though they're young, they're battled tested but it's dif-

ferent on this level," he said.

Molly Short, his sophomore starter, had one of her best games Friday, going 3-for-4 as the KM ladies improved to 2-0 in the conference. Emily Bell added two hits and two RBIs. Kings Mountain's other run came on a passed ball.

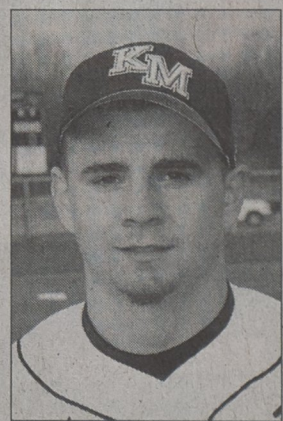
Childers went the distance on the mound, scat-

tering three hits and fanning seven.

Kings Mountain scored two runs in the top of the first and led 2-1 going into the fifth. A two-run single up the middle by Short sparked a four-run rally which broke the game open.

"They (Ashbrook) have a pretty good team," Coach Short noted. "It was a good win for us."

### Kings Mountain Mountaineers Athlete of the Week



Tyler Gilliam  
Baseball

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