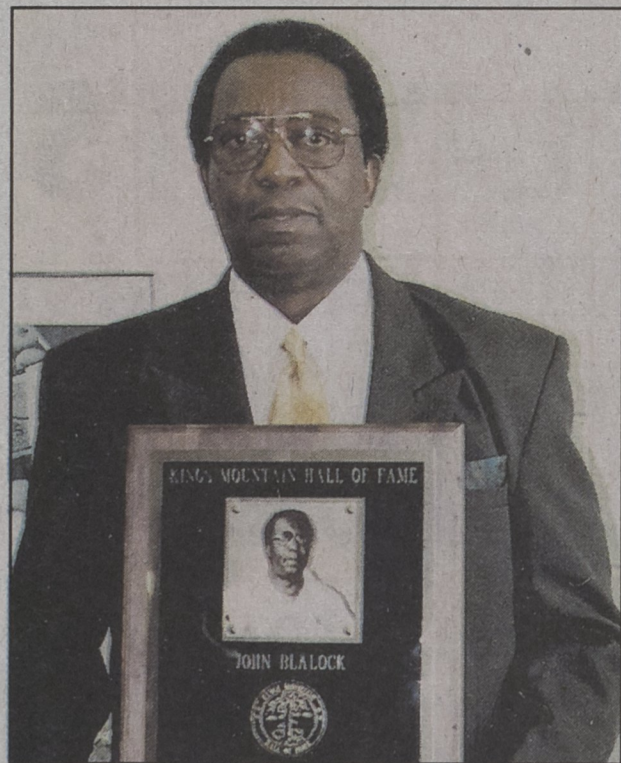


# KMHS scholarship to honor memory of Coach John Blalock



JOHN BLALOCK

A committee made up of former Compact and Kings Mountain High athletes, teachers and friends of Coach John Blalock is raising funds to endow a scholarship in Coach Blalock's memory.

Coach Blalock, a long-time successful men's basketball coach at Compact and KMHS, passed away in December, 2011. Blalock coached numerous championship teams at both schools, and his final team at KMHS in 1983 was the only team in school history to end the season ranked as the #1 team in the state.

According to one of the committee's organizers and a former basketball player under Coach Blalock, John K. McGill, the committee's goal is to raise \$10,000

from which an annual scholarship of \$500 will be awarded a college-bound graduating senior from KMHS "who best demonstrates Coach Blalock's outstanding qualities."

"He was a powerful presence on the bench always exhorting his team," McGill said. "He demanded the best from his players, who respected him and did what was expected, both on and off the court."

"He strived for excellence not only as a coach, but also in the classroom. He was an outstanding biology teacher who always worked hard and was well-prepared. He expected the very best of his students in the classroom as well. He was well-respected in the community, and around

North Carolina in basketball circles."

Steve Southwell, a committee member and another former player under Coach Blalock, called him an "innovator" who was a "master at adapting his teams to match their strengths."

"Life lessons I learned from Coach Blalock were mainly about being a good person, respecting yourself and your teammates, believing in yourself, bettering yourself on an off the court and pushing yourself beyond your own limits," Southwell said.

"You hear the word icon and it's really thrown around too often these days," he added. "With Coach Blalock it's really appropriate. He set a standard for coaching basket-

ball with the amount of time he put in, the success we had, and by winning so many games. To this day I never knew what he saw in me, but I'm so thankful he never gave up on me."

The committee urges all persons who played for, taught with and knew Coach Blalock as fans and friends in the community to take part in the scholarship effort.

All contributions are tax-deductible. Make your check payable to Kings Mountain High School for "Coach Blalock Scholarship" and mail to Kings Mountain High School, 500 Phifer Road, Kings Mountain, NC 28086; attention Frankie Webster - Financial Secretary, before November 1, 2012.

## Mountaineer 7-on-7 is Thursday morning

Kings Mountain High's football team will host a 7-team 7-on-7 round-robin tournament Thursday at 9 a.m. on the two practice fields behind John Gamble Stadium.

Joining the Mountaineers will be Chase, Shelby,

Forestview, Hunter Huss, York, SC and Boiling Springs, SC.

Games will last for 45 minutes on a 40-yard field. All teams will play each other.

The public is invited. There is no charge.

The Kings Mountain coaches will be in Greensboro next week for the annual North Carolina Coaches Clinic. The team will resume summer drills the following Monday, and will officially begin pre-season practice on Monday, July 30. Anyone

wishing to play JV or varsity football this season should report to the field by 8 a.m.

The Mountaineers open their regular season on Friday, August 17 at home against East Rutherford.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Elite Summer

### Basketball scores

Week of July 2nd Elite Summer Basketball League 10-13 yr Boys Division

Team Elite Gold 40  
Team Elite Black 37  
Team Elite Black - Kavon Mosley 12 pts, Dre Bell 8 pts, Demontae Murray 8

pts. Team Elite Gold - Xavier Roberts 20 pts, Zack Smith 9pts

Team Elite Black 32  
Team Elite Red 29T e a m Elite Red - Zeldon Roberts 14 pts, Dax Hollifield 6pts, Caleb Watkins 5pts  
Team Elite Black - Dre Bell 8 pts, Zack Smith 6pts

Team Elite Gold 48  
Team Elite Red 24T e a m Elite Gold - Xavier

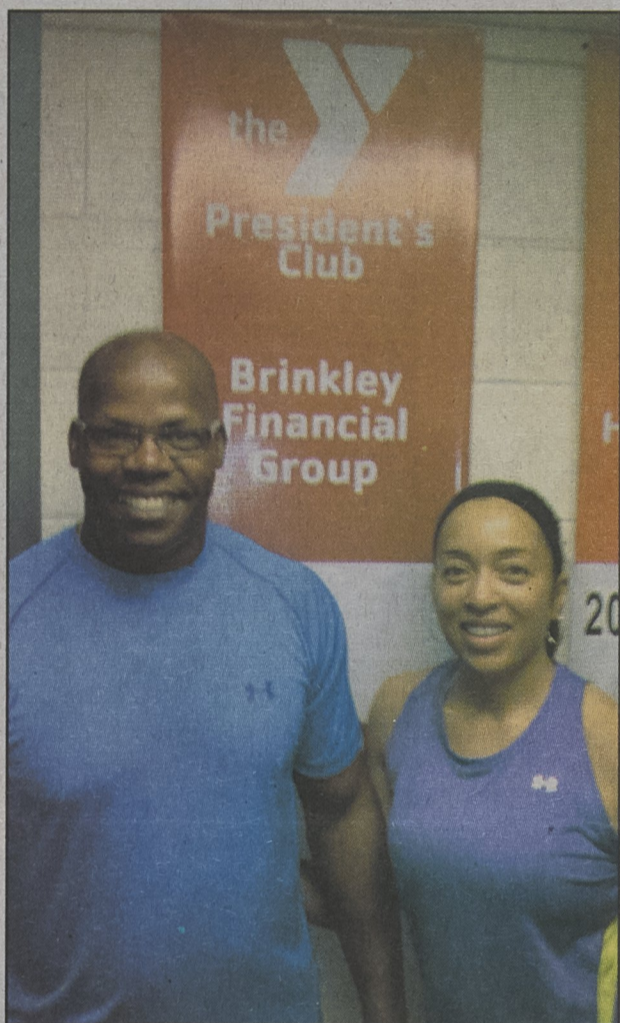
Roberts 14 pts, Zack Smith 10 pts, Jerdon Pressley 10 pts. Team Elite Red - Zeldon Roberts 11pts, Darren McClain 6 pts, Caleb Watkins 4pts.

Team Elite Black 47  
Team Elite Red 37T e a m Elite Black - Dre Bell 19 pts, Kavon Mosley 16 pts, Demontae Murray 6pts. Team Elite Red - Dax Hollifield 10 pts, Caleb Watkins 10 pts, Mark

Shull 9 pts.

### Crawford lands hole-in-one

Tom Crawford landed a hole-in-one on the par 3 no. 3 hole at Woodbridge Golf Club on Wednesday, July 4th.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Kings Mountain Family YMCA had a special guest drop by to exercise on Friday, July 6. Kevin Mack, a Kings Mountain legend, Clemson Tiger great and former All-Professional for the Cleveland Browns, stopped by the Y with his wife Ava on Friday.

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Joe Ruffalo throws from second base.

## TOURNEY: KM 11-12 all-stars to compete in State Dixie youth tourney

FROM Page 1B out two, and Hunter Cash

pitched 11 innings with 14 strikeouts. He also had 11

FROM Page 1B hit apiece.

Sunday, KM defeated West Lincoln 22-0 on a combined no-hitter. Joe Ruffalo pitched the first two innings, striking out four, and Silas Price pitched the last inning, striking out two.

Christian Welch had a big night at the plate, going 3-for-4 with a two-run home run and two singles. Ruffalo added two hits and Jake Woods, Silas Price, Nathan Phillips and Devin Pressley

had one each.

John Harmon Melton took the loss against Tryon. He pitched five innings and struck out eight. Christian Welch led the hitting with two hits. Reese Ayscue, Jake Woods, Melton, Silas Price, Joe Ruffalo, George Long and Devin Pressley had a hit each.

Kings Mountain was scheduled to play Bessemer City last night in an elimination game.

lected seven hits, Collin Franks had eight hits and a solo home run, and Dax Hollifield pitched four innings with seven strikes. He collected six hits and also did a good job catching.

Matthew Huffstetler pitched 13 innings with 10 strikeouts. He had solo home runs in games one and six, and also had a triple and eight total hits.

Chase Johnson had nine hits, including a double, and was one of the key catchers. Frank Stump had one hit, Holden Turner three, and Travis Wright's solo home run was the game-winning hit in game one. He had six hits overall.

The team picked up an alternate player, Landon Skidmore, who will be going with the team to Leland for the state tournament.

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