

3 KMHS swimmers win SMAC

Freshman Kaitlyn Moss of Kings Mountain High won the 200 and 500 freestyle in last week's SMAC swim meet in Valdese.



MOSS



HAMRICK



TONEY

Kassidy Hamrick won the 100 fly and Austin Toney won the 100 breaststroke. The Shelby boys and Shelby girls won the team championships. Shelby's boys compiled 500 points, followed by Draughn and Shelby girls won the team championships. Shelby's boys compiled 500 points, followed by Draughn 356, East Burke 306, KM 257, Chase 87, Crest 80, East Rutherford 67 and R-S Central 41.

The Shelby and Draughn girls each compiled 354 points. KM was third with 294 followed by Chase 238, East Burke 236, RS 168, East Rutherford 129 and Crest 120.

Individuals finishing second for KM were Toney and Bethany Wilson in the 200 free. KM's girls 200 medley and 200 and 400 free relay teams were also second.

Finishing third were Hamrick in the 200 IM, Baylee Stroup in the 100 free and Bethany Wilson in the 100 back.

Saenz wins two events in Indoor track meet

Bet Saenz won two events and Kings Mountain won 10 overall in the Cleveland County Schools Indoor Track championship Monday at John Gamble Stadium.



SAENZ

Saenz won the long jump (14'5") and the triple jump (30'6") to lead the Lady Mountaineers.

Other KM winners were Brittany Poeng in the high jump (4'5"), Sharda Whitesides in the shot put (14'5"), Virginia Dellinger, McKay Williamson, Mariah Roberts and Mackenzie Smith in the 4x800 relay (12:26), Erica Carpenter in the 55m high hurdles (10.44), and Tynesha Merriman in the 300 meters (46.43).

Winners for the KM men were Solomon Hawkins in the high jump (6'3") and Josh Beheler in the pole vault (9'6").

Soccer tryouts set

Kings Mountain High will hold soccer tryouts February 12, 13 and 14 from 4-6 p.m. at the KMHS practice field.

To practice, players will need shin guards and cleats. They also must have a current physical on file at KMHS.



Josh Sherer drives the lane for two of his 20 points in last week's overtime victory over Burns at KM's Donald L. Parker Gymnasium.

Mountaineers go OT to beat Bulldogs 82-78

Playing the same team too many times in one season can sometimes backfire on you, and it almost did for Kings Mountain's Mountaineers in Tuesday's 82-78 overtime win over the Burns Bulldogs.

It was the third time this year the two teams have met. The first two games - one in the SMAC and another in the Cleveland County Christmas Tournament - resulted in lop-sided victories for the Mountaineers.

But the Bulldogs were on the top of their game in last week's SMAC encounter at KM's Donald L. Parker Gymnasium. Their defense did a great job keeping the ball away from KM's leading scorer James Tillman, and for the most part dominated the boards and shot lights out.

The game was close throughout, partly due to Burns' outstanding all-around effort and the Mountaineers' failure to connect consistently from the foul line.

Burns led 21-19 at the end of the first pe-

See Mountaineers, 3B

Mountaineers fall to Shelby in OT

Nelson McClain's three-point attempt at the overtime buzzer rimmed out and Shelby held on for a 82-79 victory over the Mountaineers Friday night in Shelby.

The win kept the Golden Lions unbeaten and in first place in the SMAC while the Mountaineers fell to 7-4 and into fourth place. East Burke was able to move ahead of the Mountaineers into third but the Cavaliers still have big SMAC games left against Shelby and second place East Rutherford while the Mountaineers are through with those two 2A powers.

Gabe Devoe led the Golden Lions (17-1 overall) with a game-high 32 points. Kings Mountain (12-7 overall) got 28 points from Josh Sherer and 15 and 14, respectively, from Chad Sanders and McClain.

Lady Mounties beat Burns, Shelby in SMAC

Kings Mountain's girls edged closer to a state playoff berth with victories over Burns Tuesday and Shelby Friday.

The Lady Mountaineers broke open a close game in the second period to defeat Burns 60-44 at Donald L. Parker Gymnasium.

Friday at Shelby's Lloyd Little Gymnasium, the two teams swapped leads until the Lady Mountaineers pulled away 39-33 in the closing minutes.

The win over Burns was bigger in terms of playoff hopes, but a win over Shelby is always one of the highlights of the year.

Sophomore Tiffani Thompson and senior Monique Petty formed a strong 1-2 scoring and rebounding punch as the KM ladies held off a scrappy Burns team. Thompson tallied 21 points and Petty 20.

Coach Mike Harris was able to work all of his players into the game as KM outscored the Lady Bulldogs 19-7 in the third quarter to turn a slim 27-25 halftime edge into a commanding 46-32 lead heading into the fourth quarter.

"This was a good win against one of our 3A conference opponents," Coach Harris noted. "That should lock up a state playoff spot for us. Now we need to play for the best conference finish to get the best seed in the playoffs."

The KM team could greatly improve its playoff seeding with a win against a



Kings Mountain senior Alecia Wade fires a jumper in last week's win over Burns.

tough Crest team on the road Thursday. Crest, Burns and KM are the only 3A teams in the SMAC. KM owns two wins over Burns but lost its first encounter with Crest.

All KM scorers were held under double figures for the first time Friday night at Shelby, but all of them contributed in other areas.

Shelby outscored KM 7-5 in the first period before the Mounties came back to lead 17-15 at the half. The lead was still just two points (27-25) heading into the fourth period.

"It was another good win against a county opponent," said Harris, "but more importantly a win against a team above us in the stand-

See Lady, 3B

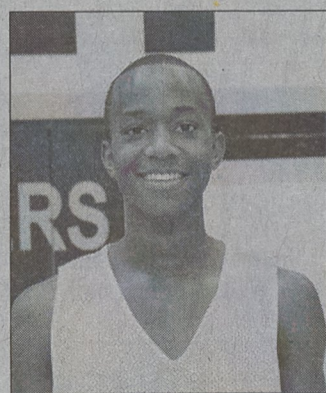


Kings Mountain's Nelson McClain drives the lane after stealing the ball in last week's game with Burns.



Kings Mountain's Monique Petty scores a fast break lay-up in last week's win over Burns at Parker Gym.

Kings Mountain Mountaineers Athlete of the Week



Josh Sherer Men's Basketball

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