

KMHS athletes sign college scholarships



Kings Mountain High basketball star Nelson McClain signs to play basketball at Wingate University Wednesday afternoon in the KMHS media center. Seated with McClain, left to right, are his uncle Terry McClain, grandmother Ida McClain, and sister LaRonda McClain. Back row, left to right, are KMHS assistant principal Kevin Queen, head basketball coach Grayson Pierce, and athletic director Dustin Morehead.



Kings Mountain High volleyball star Kayla Bolt, front row center, signs to play volleyball at Lenoir-Rhyne College Wednesday morning in the KMHS media center. She is pictured with her parents, Lisa Bolt and Paul Bolt, front row. Back, left to right, are KMHS athletic director Dustin Morehead, volleyball coach Ashley Walker and KMHS principal Ronny Funderburke. (Contributed photos)



MORGAN: Record-breaking softball star to be inducted

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needed to be to get to the state," she said.

All but two of the starters off the 2005 and 2006 championship teams graduated. Childers and short-stop Casey Camp, the only returnees in 2007, led the Lady Mountaineers back to the state championship series where they finished third.

Childers was voted all-state in 2005, 2006 and 2007 by the NC High School Softball Coaches Association. She was joined on the 2005 team by teammates LaRonda McClain and Brittney Thornburg, in 2006 by Thornburg, Casey Camp and McClain and in 2007 by Camp. Childers was voted Western Player of the Year in 2005, 2006 and 2007 and was the State Tournament MVP in 2005 and 2006.

She had just as brilliant a career at USC Upstate, where she set numerous school records and some A-Sun Conference marks. She played one year with the professional Akron Racers (2011) before going into high school and college coaching.

At Upstate, she led the A-Sun in victories with 34 in 2010 and ranked in the top eight in the nation in six statistical categories. Her 428 strikeouts ranked second in the nation.

As a freshman in 2008, she was the only player in A-Sun history to be named Conference Freshman of

the Year and Pitcher of the Year in the same season.

Her Upstate jersey was retired during her senior year, the only time in school history that an Upstate athlete had their jersey retired while they were still playing.

"I will always cherish those years and getting to play at that level," Caddell said. "I was not heavily recruited. I think maybe it was because I came from a small town.

"But (Upstate head coach) Chris Hawkins believed in me and would never let me fail mentally or physically."

Childers had a good year with the professional Akron Racers, but wasn't interested in pro softball over the long haul.

"It's called pro softball but there were really only four teams," she said. "It's not at all like playing pro baseball."

Childers is enjoying her break from coaching, and doesn't know how soon after her child is born that she will go back to work. She coached at Campbell University for one year, and at two high schools in the Raleigh area before taking a job as pitching coach at Wingate University.

"I think I will get back into coaching, but not necessarily on the college level," she said. "It's a year-long thing and you travel a lot. But I will probably get back into high school coaching someday."

MORGAN'S MARKS

(Records set at USC UPSTATE)

Lowest OBA, 163

Most strikeouts 7 inning game, 10.06

Most wins, 113*

Most saves, 10

Most appearances, 164

Most starts, 126

Most complete games, 106

Most shutouts, 42

Most innings pitched, 930.2

Most strikeouts, 1,338

Most strikeouts looking, 323

(*Also an Atlantic Sun Conference record).

KMHS runs at Stuart Cramer

Kings Mountain High took several athletes to a track meet at Stuart Cramer Friday as a "warm-up" to Monday's South Mountain Athletic Conference meet.

The Kings Mountain boys finished third out of five teams and the girls ran fourth.

Forestview won the boys meet with 132.5 points, followed by East Lincoln 73.5, KM 54, Stuart Cramer 45 and North Gaston 37.

East Lincoln won the

girls battle with 108 points, followed by Stuart Cramer 85, Forestview 66, KM 36 and North Gaston 24.

Tynesha Merriman captured KM's only first place, winning the 200 meter run in 26.4 seconds. That time qualified her for the Western Regional.

Finishing second were Sireca Logan in the discus, Tyler Batchler and Kaitlyn Moore in the 1600 meter run, Raekwon Kelly in the triple jump and Aaron

Smith in the pole vault

Third were Tanner Orders in the discus, Josh Boheler in the long jump, and Zeldon Roberts in the high jump.

Fourth were Ja'Myiah Pressley in the 100 meter dash, Tyquassia Mackey in the 100 meter hurdles, Sarah Scism in the triple jump, Kelly in the high jump, Mark Atilano in the 300 meter hurdles, Malik Banner in the 400 meter dash, Tyree McCoy in the 800

meter run, Caroline Foster in the 800 meter run and Boheler in the pole vault.

Fifth were Collin Foster in the 1600 meter run, Mackey in the 100 meter dash, Nasene Green in the triple jump, Charneice Crocker in the triple jump, Owen Hardage in the 300 meter hurdles, Ka'Myiah Pressley in the 400 meter dash and Mariah Roberts in the 800 meter run.

SPORTS BRIEFS

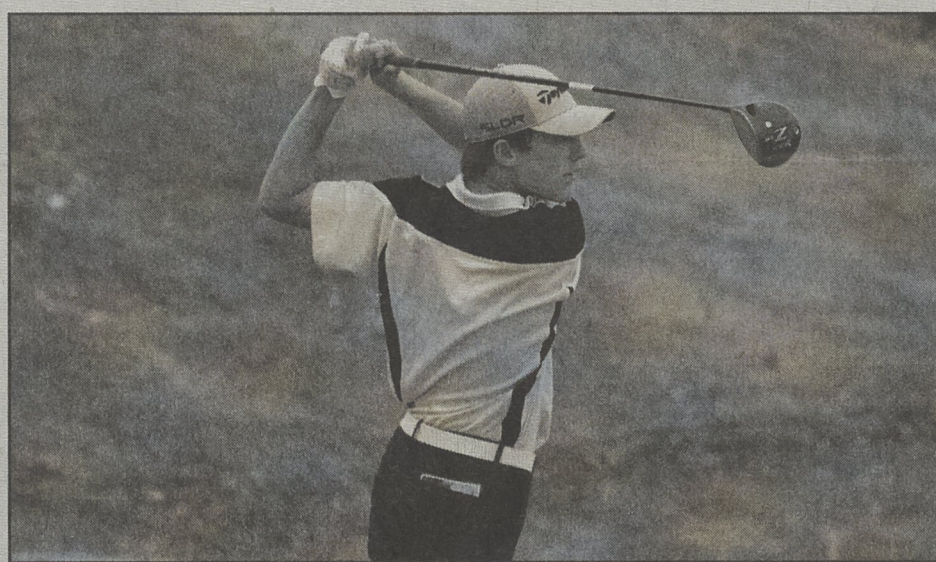
Mountaineer golfers still unbeaten

Kings Mountain High's golfers remained undefeated last week with a victory over Crest and Burns at Riverbend.

The Mountaineers shot a 306. Crest shot 325 and Burns 397.

Alex Golf of Kings Mountain was medalist with a three-under-par 69. Miles Robinson shot 75, Carson Bailey 76, Tyler Withers 86 and Dawson Adams 86.

The Mountaineers were scheduled to face all SMAC schools in an 18-hole event Monday at Deer Brook and will play all SMAC schools April 27 at Quaker Meadows in Burke County.



Kings Mountain High's Carson Bailey watches his tee shot during recent SMAC match with Burns and Crest. (Photo by KM Herald)

KMMS tennis falls to Shelby

Kings Mountain fell to Shelby 5-4 in a Tri-County Conference tennis match last week.

It was the first loss for the Patriots, who are now 3-1.

Singles - MC Johnson (KM) d. Lowery 8-0; Rybnieck (S) d. Kassie Johnson 8-2; Nibleck (S) d. Makena Deaton 8-6; Collins (S) d. Emma Ayscue 8-4; Tolbert (S) d. Anne Scott Baker 9-7; Wilson (S) d. Jasmine Guy 7-4 (tie-breaker).

Doubles - Johnson/Deaton (KM) d. Lowery/Rybnieck 8-4; Johnson/Ayscue (KM) d. Nibleck/Collins 8-4; Tolbert/Wilson (S) d. Baker/Guy 8-5.

KM Middle kickers 10-0

Kings Mountain Middle's girls soccer team ran its record to 7-0 in the Tri-County Conference and 10-0 overall with a 9-0 victory over Chase Tuesday at the KM field.

Lindsey Deaver scored four goals and Maggie Lloyd had a hat trick.

One of Lloyd's goals was unassisted. The others were assisted by Olivia Martin and Deaver.

Sarah Drennan assisted two of Deaver's goals. The others were unassisted.

Summer Campbell scored an unassisted goal from a penalty kick, and Natalie Lutz scored a goal that was assisted by Lloyd.

Patriots beat Chase in five

Kings Mountain Middle School defeated Chase 16-2 in five innings Tuesday.

David Bell led the plate attack with 3-for-3, including a triple and two doubles. Josh Ledford had a triple and inside the park home run.

Other this were by Joe Ruffalo, Bryce Fisher, Haddon Pruett, Ricky Wright and Blake Broome.

Bell and Ledford held down the mound duties, allowing only two runs on two hits. They walked four and struck out eight.

GWU, Winthrop softball teams play today at KMHS

Gardner-Webb University's women's softball team has two more playing dates this season at Kings Mountain High School's Lancaster Field #3.

The Gardner-Webb softball complex is undergoing a complete renovation, including playing field, field house, concession stand, seating and other areas, so

the Lady Bulldogs will play their home games at KMHS and Crest High.

The remaining KM schedule includes:

-Wednesday, April 22, against Winthrop University. That is a single game beginning at 4 p.m.

-Wednesday, April 29 against the Furman Lady Paladins at 4 and 6 p.m.



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