



Kings Mountain senior Maddie Lutz became the first KMHS girl to sign to play college golf when she inked with the Brevard College Tornados. Looking on, front row, left to right, are her father Rocky Lutz, sister Natalie Lutz and mother Regina Lutz. Back row, KMHS athletic trainer Alan Ridenour, athletic director Dustin Morehead, golf coach Kevin Moss, tennis coach Rick Henderson, Maddie's personal coach Bryant Brothers, and assistant principal Julie Rikard. (Photo by KM Herald)



Kings Mountain High senior baseball player Brandon Bell signs to play outfield with Catawba Valley Community College. Left to right, front row, cousin Kevin Bell, Brandon Bell, aunt Beverly Scoggins and uncle Tim Bell. Back row, KMHS assistant principal Kevin Queen, athletic director Dustin Morehead and baseball coach Matt Bridges. (Photo by KM Herald)

KMMS sweeps Tri-County track championship

Kings Mountain Middle School's boys and girls track teams won the Tri-County Conference championship Thursday at East Lincoln.

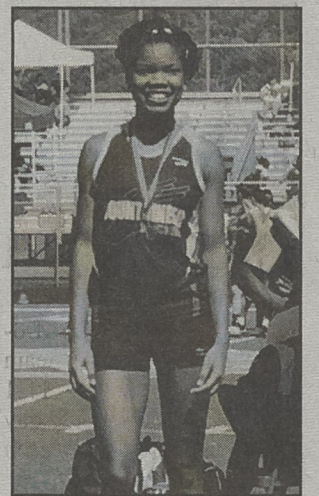
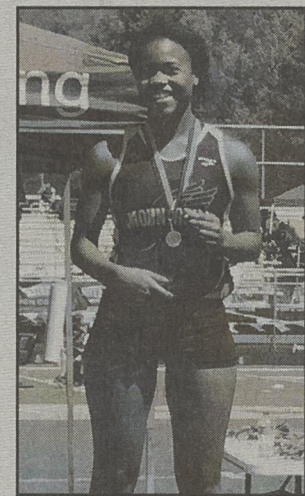
The girls defeated Crest 117-87. North Lincoln was third with 60 points, followed by Lincolnton 59, West Lincoln 51, East Lincoln 32, Shelby 25, Burns 19, R-S Central 14, East Rutherford 10 and Chase 0.

The KM boys scored 97 points to edge Crest with 89. East Lincoln ran third with 81, followed by Burns 39, North Lincoln 38, Shelby 36, RS 31, West Lincoln 29, East Rutherford 13, Lincolnton 6 and Chase 3.

Finishing first for KM were Maggie Lloyd in the 3200 meter run (13.16) and 1600 meter run (6:13), N Kelly in the shot put (34.05) and the discus (80.07), J Parsons in the shot put (37.01), R McRee in the discus (124.1), T Tutta-non in the long jump (18.4), A Carter-Kee in the 55m hurdles, D Allen in the 110m hurdles,

and the 4x200 girls relay team (1:59).

Other top finishes included: Shot put - N. Bess fifth. Discus - J Parsons sixth. Long jump - D Blackney fifth, M Simms sixth. Long jump - E Vargas third, K Wade fourth. Triple jump - M Ross second, S Presnal fifth. Triple jump - Landon Zanders second, M Fewell fourth. High jump - D Blackney fifth. High jump - R Shakier second, C Brooks fifth. 55m hurdles - D Blackney third. 110m hurdles - Brandon Quevedo-Johns sixth. 1600m run - Summer Campbell fourth. 4x100m relay - Girls second, boys third. 400m run - Maggie Lloyd second, K Wade sixth. 800m run - B Clark fifth, Titus Clark fifth. 200m dash - B Reynolds second. 4x400 relay - Girls fourth, boys fourth.



Gwen Hopper and Tynesha Merriman will compete in the NCHSAA state championship on Friday. (Photos submitted)

SOFTBALL: Ladies win 14 straight SMAC games to take title

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rules with three runs in the bottom of the sixth inning. Mikeala Bell went the distance on the mound. Sophomore shortstop Ashton Withers clubbed a pair of long home runs to pace the Mountaineers at the plate. She hit a solo shot

over the center field fence for a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the first and led off the third with a towering shot over the left field fence to put the home team up 4-0. In between those two blasts, the Mountaineers got a double from Cassidy Hamrick with one out in the second, and she took third

on a wild pitch and scored on a passed ball. Kayla Skidmore, who had walked, later scored on Leah Herndon's single to center to make it 3-0. After Withers' second homer, Miranda Ellis doubled off the top of the center field fence and scored on Hamrick's double to make

it 5-0. Shelby pitchers then went wild, walking five of the next six batters as the score ballooned to 8-0. Shelby's only run came in the top of the sixth on a home run by Taylor Newton, but KM responded with three runs to put the game on ice.

Three Mountaineers in state 3A track meet

Three Kings Mountain High track and field participants qualified for the May 8 state 3A championship meet by finishing in the top four in their events in Saturday's Western Regional at AC Reynolds High in Asheville. Gwen Hopper placed

second in the triple jump with a jump of 33 feet, nine inches. Tynesha Merriman ran third in the 200 meter dash with a personal record of 26.27. Josh Boheler placed fourth in the pole vault, clearing 11'6".

BASEBALL: Boys win 3 straight, hope to make playoffs

From Page 1B

the seventh and had the tying runs on second and third before KM recorded the final out. KM sophomore Madisyn Bolin scattered five hits and struck out six. Lysek and Lavin led the hitting with two hits each, and Brandon Bell and John Bell also had hits. Brandon Bell's three run first inning homer got the Mountaineers going toward their rout of arch rival Shelby Wednesday night at Lancaster Field. The game was called after 4 1/2 innings on the 10-run mercy rule. Kings Mountain had its biggest plate assault of the year, finishing with 20 hits. Bell went 3-for-3 with six runs batted in to lead the offense. Lysek and Matt Absher also collected three hits. The Mountaineers blew the game open with 12 runs in the second inning. Bryson Bailey tossed

a three-hitter with seven strikeouts. The Mountaineers scored two runs in the bottom of the sixth to edge Chase on Thursday night at Lancaster Field. Lysek led off with a single and Brandon Bell's towering double to deep center put runners on second and third. Crisp hit a sacrifice fly to center field to score Lysek, and when the Chase second baseman mishandled the relay Bell broke for home and beat the tag for the winning run. Chase had led 1-0 since the third when Trojan pitcher Kevin Hopps singled, stole second and scored on a single by Hunter Hinson. KM second baseman Logan Stevens made two outstanding defensive plays in the top of the sixth to help pitcher Matt Absher preserve a 1-2-3 inning. Stevens made a diving catch of a low liner by Timothy Har-

din for the second out, and then closed out the inning when he went into the gap between second and first to field a grounder by DaDa Davenport, braced himself and threw out Davenport as he was attempting a head-

first slide into first. Bell led the Mountaineers with two hits. Lysek, Adams and Absher had a hit each. Absher went the distance on the mound, scattering six hits and fanning five.



Kings Mountain's Jacob Lainhart slides safely into third following a hit by teammate Shawn Adams in Thursday's game with Chase. KM won 2-1. (Photo by KM Herald)

GOLF TOURNEY: TD Club fundraiser set for Friday

From Page 1B

the Cleveland Browns. Mack now works in the Browns' front office. One of the inaugural four inductees into the Kings Mountain Sports Hall of Fame, Mack will be also be in attendance at Saturday's Hall of

Fame induction ceremony at Central United Methodist Church. David Brinkley, president of the KM Touchdown Club, said golf sponsorships are at an all-time high. He predicts this year's tournament will be the most successful ever.

Past golf tournaments and donations from individuals and businesses in the community and beyond have been responsible for the Touchdown Club raising almost a million dollars for the field house. The goal is for it to be fully paid off this year so the club can go

forward with plans to build a new concession stand and rest rooms between the KMHS football and baseball fields. For the first time ever, the concession stand will allow concession workers to see the football and baseball games while serving fans.

Middle School tennis in Tri-County playoffs

Kings Mountain Middle's tennis team is in the Tri-County Conference championship playoffs this week after finishing second in the regular season. The Lady Patriots were scheduled to host Shelby yesterday. The championship match is set for Thursday at the home court of the higher seeded team. Last week, the Lady Patriots lost to East Rutherford 5-4 and 8-1, and edged Crest 5-4.

Against Crest, MC Johnson, J. Johnson, M. Deaton and A. Baker won their singles matches. K. Johnson and Baker won in doubles. Against East, K. Johnson, Baker and J. Guy won their singles matches. Baker and Guy won in doubles. In the second match against East, KM's only winner was K. Johnson.

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