

Babe Ruth Stars To State Tourney

Kings Mountain's 13-15 year old Babe Ruth all-stars, who swept the District tournament in three straight games over the weekend at Ramsey Field, open their bid for the state championship Tuesday afternoon in Kinston.

The locals will play the winner of a Monday game between Kinston and Randolph County at 3 p. m. Tuesday at Granger Field.

Thirteen teams are entered in the double-elimination event which runs through July 26.

Coach Max Bolin's club downed Dallas 12-6 Monday night for the district crown after taking earlier wins over Dallas (23-1) Thursday and Gastonia (25-0) Friday.

David Cobb hurled the championship game victory, scattering seven hits. His

mates backed him with a 13-hit attack which included homers by Tim Whitaker and Tim Spicer.

Cobb, Bryon White, Whitaker, Spicer, Danny Bolin and Ray Robinson collected two hits each to lead the KM batting attack.

Kings Mountain spotted Dallas a 3-0 lead in the first inning but came storming back for four in the second to

take the lead for good. KM iced the decision with four more in the fourth.

Robinson hurled a six-hitter and struck out 17 in KM's opening round victory over the same Dallas team on Thursday night. He also went 4-for-6 at the plate to help key a 17-hit attack.

Bruce Valentine was 4-for-5, including a homer and six runs batted in, and nine other KM players had one hit apiece. KM broke the game open with seven runs in the fourth inning, added five in the fifth and six in the seventh. Whitaker and Steve Lancaster also hit homers.

Chester Haynes, with relief help from Tim Ford, hurled Friday's win over Gastonia. KM had another 17-hit attack while the Gastons managed just one.

Robinson was 4-for-6, Haynes and Scott Ellis 3-for-6, Steve Lancaster 2-for-4 and Cobb slammed two long homers to key the Mountaineer plate attack.

Dallas eliminated Gastonia 6-4 Saturday to earn a trip to the finals.

At Kinston, Kings Mountain will be seeking its second state title in three years. Two years ago in Hickory, the locals were crowned state champs and earned a trip to Florida for the regionals.

Many of the same players on this year's squad were members of last year's 13-year-old all-star team which won the state title and represented KM in the regionals in Alabama.



Photo By Butch Vess

Whitaker, Vincent Haynes, Danny Bolin, Tim Spicer, and Loftin, coach Jimmy White and coach Max Bolin. Back row: David Cobb, Tim Ford, Bruce Valentine, Steve Lancaster and Scott Ellis.



Photo By Gary Stewart

SAFE AT HOME — Kings Mountain's Vincent Haynes slides safely into home with first run of 23-1 rout over Dallas Thursday in the opening round of the district Babe Ruth

tournament. Kings Mountain went on to win the title and will open play in the state tournament in Kinston next week.

DISTRICT CHAMPS — Here's the 13-15 year old Kings Mountain Babe Ruth all-stars who won that title here this weekend. They now go to Kinston for the state tournament.

Mirror-Herald
SPORTS

Senior BRers In State Event

Eleven players from Kings Mountain will play on the Tri-County all-star team in the state 16-18 year old Babe Ruth baseball tournament beginning Friday in Concord.

The Tri-County stars, coached by Clarence Ash, Jimmy Littlejohn and Gene Austin, will open play in the double-elimination event Friday at 3 p. m. against Buncombe County's all-stars.

Representing the Kings Mountain entry will be first baseman Andy Bridges, second baseman Kenny Baliles, shortstop Frank Hovis, third baseman Hal Glass, outfielder Mike Sisk, catcher Rusty Bell and pitchers Larry Goins, Jeff Carroll, Ralph Self, Darrell Queen and Kevin Ford.

Self and Carroll, a pair of righthanders, formed the 1-2 pitching punch for the locals in regular season play while Hovis, Glass, Bell and Sisk led the hitting, all hitting over .350.

The locals will be representing District Nine and 11 other districts will be represented. The winner goes to Monroe later this month for the regionals and the winner there goes to Seattle, Wash., for the national tournament.

This is Kings Mountain's first year of play in the 16-18 year old program but the city has been more than successful in the 13-year-old and 13-15 year old programs. KM has won some type of Babe Ruth state championship each of the past three years.

Austin, a former state director, predicts two KM entries in the 16-18 year old league next summer. All players on the current team will return next year.

Players who represented KM this season, in addition to the all-stars, include Scott Hovis, Kevin Tinsley, John Anderson and Mike Ford.



CLARENCE ASH



KENNY BALILES

Bisco Here Tonight

Kings Mountain's A's remained unbeaten in Triple County League play at home Sunday, taking a 5-3 victory over the Charlotte Astros.

Richard Gillespie hurled the final four innings in relief and earned the victory.

Tony Payne doubled, stole third and scored the winning run for the A's.

Robbie Moore and Clarence Ash with two hits apiece led the KM hitting attack.

The A's host the Bisco Chargers tonight at 7:30 at Lancaster Field and a win will clinch the division title for Coach Bubbles Brown's team. Admission will be one dollar for adults and 50 cents for children.

The A's go to Charlotte Saturday and host Albemarle Sunday.

Member-Guest Tourney Set This Weekend

The annual Kings Mountain Country Club member-guest golf tournament is scheduled for this weekend with 112 golfers seeking the top prize.

Kings Mountain's Mickey Powers and Ray Adams of Fayetteville, who fired a six-under par 66 last year, are defending champions but many golfers will be strong contenders for this year's title.

It's a 36-hole event with Saturday's 18-hole round determining the flights for Sunday's finals.

Kings Mountain's John Howze and Ronnie Stroupe of Shelby, three-time winners of the event, will be among the contenders.

Powers, the chairman of the fifth annual event, predicts that the KMCC tourney will be one of the top member-guest events in the south and one needs to only look at the roster of golfers to understand why he'd make such a statement. Some of the top contenders should be:

Geeper Howard, and his

guest, Pete Wallenborn, the number one golfer for the University of North Carolina.

Stoney Jackson, and his guest, Gene (Chicken) Blanton, former pro at Woodbridge Country Club and now pro at a club in Hendersonville.

Darrel Austin, and his guest, Buck Dover of Shelby, one of the top amateur golfers in the state.

Al Grigg, and his guest, Roscoe Staley, another of the area's top men on the links.

Terry Leonard, and his guest, Chuck Merriam.

Mike Ballard, and his father Charlie Ballard, two of the longest drivers in Kings Mountain.

Jay Powell, and his guest, John Welch. Hubert McGinnis, and his guest, Jack Huss, head football coach at Lenoir Rhyne College.

Eddie Anderson, and his guest, Don Teague of Shelby, the runner-up in the recent Kings Mountain Invitational at KMCC.

Gary Howze, and his guest, Steve Sherman of Shelby, the golfer of the year in the Southwest 3-A Conference last spring.

Trophies will be presented to the top finishers in each flight at the completion of tourney play. Local merchants have contributed money and prizes to help promote the event.

Powers said all area golf fans are invited to attend the event.

Dr. Plonk Has Ace At KMCC

Dr. George Plonk scored a hole-in-one recently on the par three, number 14 hole at Kings Mountain Country Club.

Plonk hit a six iron on the 120-yard hole.

He was playing in a four-some that included Mickey Powers, Tippy Francis and Luther Joy.

Member-Guest Tee-Off Times

TEE OFF TIMES

8 a. m. — Gene Timms - Kyle Milner; Tippy Francis-Phillip Francis.

8:10 — Walt Harmon-John Gold; Grafton Withers-Bobby Jones.

8:20 — Tom Tate- Joe Davis; Jake Dixon-Robert Morris.

8:30 — Jim Testa-B. J. Withers; Paul Szymborski-Brady Lawing.

8:40 — Jim Humphries-Ray Earnhardt; Ray Holmes-George Brant.

8:50 — Brian Bickley-Howard Johnson; Carl Devane-Clint Rankin.

9:10 — Mickey Powers-Ray Adams; George Plonk-George Plonk Sr.

9:20 — Johnny Gamble-Randy Hartsoe; Gary Howze-Steve Sherman.

9:30 — Geeper Howard-Pete Wallenborn; Parks Neisler-John Elliott.

9:40 — Grady Howard-Robert McKinnon; Ragan Harper-Charlie Fellers.

9:50 — Stone Jackson-Chicken Blanton; Charles Hampton-Buddy Player.

10:10 — John Howze-Ronnie Stroupe; Darrell Austin-Buck Dover.

10:20 — Al Grigg-Roscoe Staley; Terry Leonard-Chuck Merriam.

10:30 — Mike Ballard-Charlie Ballard; Jay Powell-John Welch.

10:40 — Hubert McGinnis - Jack Huss; Charles Mauney-Dickie Maxie.

10:50 — Aud Tignor-Oscar Doster; Bill McGinnis-Tommy Grayson.

11:10 — Snooks McDaniel-Jack Logan; John Schenck-George Corn.

11:20 — Don McGinnis-Tony Wells; Bob Smith-Jay Good.

11:30 — George Scharf-F. E. Powers; George Thomasson-Jack Ruth.

11:40 — Henry Neisler-Ben Grimes; Charles Neisler-Carol Hudson.

11:50 — Ben Goforth-Bobby Woods; Bill Fulton-Bob Lowe.

12:10 — Jerry Ross-Carl Champion; Paul Hendricks-Bucky Cozart.

12:20 — Randy Carpenter-Mike McRee; Jennings Campbell-Kerney Rhoden.

12:30 — Louis Dellinger-Butch Long; Boyer Murray-Pop Foster.

12:40 — Wyman Haigler-Sid Paine; Marvin Teer-Tom Dudley.

12:50 — Eddie Anderson-Don Teague; David Neisler-Gordon Quarles.

1 p. m. — Larry Dunn-John Ingram; Robert Plonk-Richard Lyle.

1:10 — Rat Price-Gene Stone; Alvin Dixon-James Blalock.

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