



## Stewart's Slants

By  
Gary Stewart

### Scott Hits A Homer... All The Way To Heaven

(ED. NOTE: The following column was written by Bud Crussell, Sports Editor of the Ocala Star-Banner in Ocala, Fla., on the death last week of Scott Carrigan, a former Kings Mountain resident and little league baseball player in Ocala. Scott died of leukemia on Oct. 14. He was the son of Bill and Pat Carrigan, formerly of Kings Mountain, and grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Carrigan of Kings Mountain.

Scott Carrigan hit a home run Wednesday...  
And, when he had rounded the bases he was in Heaven.

Back in the summer I wrote a story about an 11-year-old boy and his love of baseball. He loved baseball so much he refused to give up and let the leukemia that had attacked his body have its way.

Oh, how much courage and determination that little fellow had to have to get up out of his sick bed and go to the ball park when the first practice was called last spring.

Despite his wobbly legs and lack of energy, he put on his uniform, grabbed up his glove and headed for Clyatt Park.

He amazed his coaches and the other players as he went through the paces on the baseball diamond. He ran, he threw and he batted. Never a complaint...only concerned with doing the best he could.

He became an inspiration to others. He participated in every game during the long summer months. And, there he was...doing all he could to help his team in the championship playoffs.

Sometimes, Scott would stumble a little bit. He couldn't make those diving catches like he was able to do at one time. He couldn't hit those long home runs anymore...the muscle weren't as strong as they once were.

Oh, how he hated to make an error, or strike out or walk a batter. He wanted to be the best baseball player there ever was.

He once received a letter from the commissioner of Major League Baseball commending him for his courage and perseverance.

He gave strength to others. He made his parents strong, giving them the ability to bear up under the weight of the circumstance. He appreciated his family so much. He was concerned that he might be too much of a burden to them because of his illness.

In Gainesville's Shands Hospital yesterday morning, he told his mom and dad how lucky he was to have them for parents because they had been staying with him constantly during those final days.

Scott was aware of the imminent end...but he never mentioned it. At 1 p.m. Wednesday, The Announcer called out his name. And, what a home run that little fellow hit.

All the way to heaven.

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Kings Mountain's Kevin Mack is playing a key role in Clemson University's football team's surge into the top 10 national rankings.

The 185-pound sophomore is alternating at fullback with Jeff McCall, and is doing a good job of running the football and blocking for other backs in Clemson's I-formation.

Despite playing with a wrist injury, Mack threw the key blocks last Saturday on two of Clemson's touchdowns in a 38-10 victory over Duke's Blue Devils.

The Tigers are 6-0 going into a pair of home games the next two weeks against N.C. State and Wake Forest. Although the Tigers aren't looking past those two, many of their fans are looking toward a November 7 date at North Carolina which could pit two unbeaten—and two of the top rated teams in the country—against each other.

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A number of other former KMHS football standouts are also seeing their share of duty on the college level this fall.

Tackle Chuck Gordon captains the defense at Appalachian State University and ranks as one of the top defensive linemen in the Southern Conference. Kelly Land starts at offensive guard for Lenoir-Rhyne, Henry Hager is a second unit tackle at N.C. Central (he started before an injury set him back a bit) and freshman Markus Hager is a backup defensive end and starter on the specialty teams at N.C. State.



Photo by Gary Stewart

**LEADING RUSHER** - Kings Mountain's Carlos Owens (38) finds some good running room against South Point in Friday's Southwestern 3-A Conference football game at John Gamble

Stadium. Owens moved from his guard position to fullback and gained 91 yards rushing to lead the Mounties to a 6-0 victory, their first of the season.

## Mounties Win First 6-0, Chase Here Friday Night

# SPORTS

SECTION B—OCTOBER 22, 1981

Kings Mountain High's offense scored its first touchdown of the year against a Southwestern 3-A Conference opponent Friday night at John Gamble Stadium, and the Mountaineer defense came up with three big plays in the fourth quarter to make it stand up for a 6-0 victory over South Point's Red Raiders.

Mountaineer quarterback Eric Spicer threw a 61-yard alley-oop touchdown pass down the South Point sideline to end John Barnette in the first quarter to give the Mounties their first win of the year after six close losses. South Point fell to 3-3 in the SWC and 3-4 overall.

The Mountaineers go after their second straight win Friday night against Chase. It will be the Mountaineers' annual homecoming game. South Point tries to snap a two-game losing streak at home against SWC leader Crest.

The Mountaineers drove inside the Raider 20 on their first possession of the night as sophomore fullback Curt Pressley reeled off three carries for 43 yards. But Pressley suffered a broken wrist on his third run—a 26-yard scamper—and the Mountie offense bogged down after that.

But senior Carlos Owens moved from his guard position to fullback and took up the slack, finishing as the game's leading rusher with 91 yards in 22 carries. Tailback Travis Bell, who had been slowed with a back injury the last two weeks, added 63 yards in 16 tries.

The Mounties drove 86 yards following a Raider punt for the game's lone touchdown. Two 11-yard runs by Owens got the Mounties into good field position, and then Spicer hooked up with Barnette on the TD pass with 1:10 left in the quarter. Cam Stewart's PAT attempt following a 15-yard holding penalty sailed wide to the left.

After that, both teams drove

the ball well only to be turned away near the goal line by good defensive stands. The Mounties had a drive stopped at the three on a fumble, and in the fourth period, South Point lost fumbles at the one and 15 and had a key fourth down pass batted down by Barnette at the 22. A long

Raider pass near the end of the first half was intercepted at the five by KM safety Bert Long.

South Point's three biggest threats all came during the last five minutes of play. A blocked KM punt at the 26 yard line put the Raiders in excellent field

position, but Barnette's good defensive play on the fourth down pass ended that threat.

Just moments later, the Raiders recovered a Mountaineer fumble at the nine yard line and in three plays moved to the one with a fourth and goal situation. But on fourth down, KM's Long came up with a big hit to force a fumble, and Stewart recovered it to halt the Raiders' biggest threat of the night.

The Mountaineers were unable to pick up a first down and Long had to punt from near the goal line. His short kick carried only to the 35 yard line, giving the Raiders yet another excellent opportunity to pull out the victory.

They moved to a quick first down at the 25, but the KM defense stopped three running plays and South Point was faced with a fourth and five at the 20. Quarterback Scott Lee hit Duke Howard with a five-yard pass that was good enough for the first down, but Barnette came up with a jarring hit to force another South Point fumble, and Owens recovered with 3:02 remaining. The Mounties picked up two first downs to run out the clock.

The two teams were about even statistics-wise, but the big difference in the game was four South Point fumbles and the lack of a consistent offense by the Raiders. They hit only three of nine passes for 37 yards, while the Mounties hit three of four for 87 yards.

Kings Mountain rushed for 198 yards—their biggest output of the season—and South Point had 176 yards rushing. The Mounties held the Raiders' leading rusher, Keith Young, who was playing injured, to only 19 yards in 10 carries. Lee led the Raider rushing with 31 yards in three carries and Howard had 30 yards in two tries.

Turn To Page 9-B

## Gridgraph

PLAYER	CARRIES	YARDS
Carlos Owens	22	91
Travis Bell	16	63
Curt Pressley	3	43
Larry Wilson	2	1
Eric Spicer	9	0
Totals	44	198

SOUTH POINT RUSHING		
PLAYER	CARRIES	YARDS
Scott Lee	3	31
Duke Howard	2	30
Preston Earle	9	29
Carl Sims	3	27
Keith Young	10	19
Totals	27	176

KMHS PASSING					
PLAYER	ATT.	COMP.	INT.	YDS.	TD
Spicer	4	3	0	84	1

SOUTH POINT PASSING					
PLAYER	ATT.	COMP.	INT.	YDS.	TD
Lee	9	3	1	37	0

KMHS RECEIVING			
PLAYER	CATCHES	YDS.	TD
Barnette	1	61	1
Long	1	14	0
Dixon	1	9	0

SOUTH POINT RECEIVING			
PLAYER	CATCHES	YDS	TD
A. Young	2	30	0
Howard	1	7	0



Photos by Gary Stewart

**BIG PLAY** - South Point's Duke Howard (white jersey) catches a key five-yard pass for a first down at the Kings Mountain 15 yard line in Friday's Southwestern Conference football game at Gamble Stadium. But coming up

from his blind side to give him a jarring hit which caused a fumble is KM's John Barnette (85). The Mounties won their first game of the year, 6-0.



**BATS DOWN PASS** - Kings Mountain's John Barnette (85) breaks in front of South Point receiver Duke Howard to bat down a fourth down pass which halted a Raider drive at the 22 yard line in Friday's Southwestern Con-

ference football game at Gamble Stadium. Barnette had a big night defensively and caught a 61-yard touchdown pass to help lead the Mounties to a 6-0 victory.