

Mr. Eddy Gardner
President, Huntsville International League
Huntsville, AL 35801

6 Jun 99

Dear Mr. Gardner,

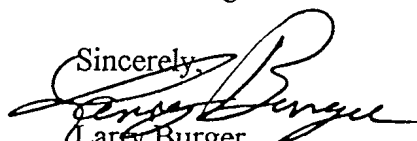
I want to take this opportunity to express my deepest appreciation for the great effort that my son's coaches have put forth this year. Mr. Kenny Cole, our minor league coach, and Mr. Phillip Vest, his manager, have been exemplary coaches for the minor league Cardinals team this year. Their coaching has held up the highest standards of good sportsmanship and conduct, as they have led the entire team by setting the example for good sportsmanship in every situation.

This team has not won every game, but the coaches have taught the boys the meaning of working together, of trying their best, and how everyone contributes to the team. When the team has not played particularly well, the coaches have not raised their voices in anger or concern. Every time, they have talked calmly to the boys about how they need to concentrate and focus on their part of the game, and not to be concerned with other players or the other team. This is especially important in this league, as coaches from other teams continually try to "psyche out" our players with banter and talk during the game. Our coaches have never resorted to such tactics, and have upheld the highest standards of positive coaching for our team and all players in the league. Win or lose, these coaches have had nothing but positive comments to the players, pointing out what they have done correctly, and what they should work on to improve. All these coaches have asked from the boys is to try their best; not to win or lose, but to just try their best. And they have asked that each boy work hard at improving.

My own son, John, is the smallest on the team, and is one of the least skilled players, this being his first year in minor league. However, these two coaches have worked hard to make sure that John, along with every other player on the team, understands their contribution to the entire effort, and make sure that each player understands that they are a vital part of the team. These coaches work hard to ensure that each player is praised for play above and beyond their skills, and always use positive coaching to get the most out of all players.

I have older sons and have been associated with numerous teams in baseball and other youth sports for 12 years. I have coached some youth teams and also volunteer my time as a youth sports official. In my association with youth sports in Huntsville, primarily Huntsville International League, Mr. Kenny Cole and Mr. Phillip Vest uphold the highest standards of youth sportsmanship. These two gentlemen should be upheld by Huntsville International League and the entire city of Huntsville youth sports as the exemplary coaches for maintaining the highest standards of sportsmanship. I hope that they are encouraged to continue coaching in Huntsville International League.

Sincerely,



Larry Burger
Father

**54 Kenny Cole, Linebacker, 6-2, 198, 18, So-sq,
Decatur, Ala.**



AGGRESSIVE YOUNG PLAYER who is slated to back up All-SEC middle linebacker Ed Smith this fall ... good athlete who can bench press 275 pounds ... lettered three years in football and baseball at Decatur (Ala.) High School ... earned All-Morgan County, All-Tennessee Valley Conference and Super All-State honors in football ... selected his team's Most Valuable Lineman ... team captain ... hit .387 in baseball senior year ... named to Who's Who in High School Athletics in 1976 ... member of National Honor Society ... elected Most Likely to Succeed in his sophomore and junior classes ... senior class favorite ... won DAR Good Citizen Award ... winner of several creative writing honors ... President of Key Club and letterman's club ... size 16½ neck, 11 shoe ... hobbies are creative writing and swimming ... favorite food is steak, with chocolate fudge for dessert ... has three older sisters ... son of Kenneth and Evelyn Cole of 2232 11th St. S.E., Decatur, Ala. ... born 11-10-59, Fort Benning, Ga. ... coached in high school by Earl Webb (Florence State).

South's Rhodes concerned with lack of depth in line

BY TOM MATHEWS, News sports writer
TUSCALOOSA — The only prediction that's being made about tonight's North-South All-Star football game, which kicks off at 7:45 at Bryant-Denny Stadium, is that it's going to be a low scoring affair.

From the South's standpoint how low its scoring is depends on the offensive line.

"We're not running scared," says South boss Rick Rhoades, "but it (line) is certainly a question mark."

"When we came in here," says Wayne Brunson of Jackson High, "we only had one guard. That was the boy from Valley (David Fuller). We had three guards so we moved two (Gene Brown and Tim Bryan) to the guard spots.

"And we only had two tackles (Brad Everett and Mike Jablonski), so we've had to work Byron Griggs (defensive tackle) a little on offense.

"They've worked awful hard this week and we'll give a good effort Friday night."

Arrayed around this line will be such explosive and talented personnel as Major Ogilvie, Richard Burg, Greg Knight, Mardye McDole, Tank Summers, Bobby Johnson, Kenny Cline and Billy Jackson.

Making life more difficult for the South line is that the North has weight and talent across its defensive front and two very good linebackers.

"They've got Frank Warren (270 pounds), who's super," said Rhoades of the Auburn-bound defensive tackle. "And Kenny Cole, their nose-guard, is the best football player in the state at any position.

"Dennis Rogers and Steve Cash are two very good linebackers.

"I think our defense will be okay. Any problem with our defensive play will be that we've had to play some people out of position. I think we have an

excellent secondary."

Offensively, Rhoades sees the North running a "power football offense that is difficult to stop. They'll do the things coach (Earl) Webb has done well for a long time."

Rhoades, who recently went to Davidson of Mobile, will use a cut-down version of the offense his Mountain Brook team used to win the 1976 Class 4A crown.

One of those teams that fell to Mountain Brook was the Decatur Red Raiders, who are coached by Webb.

"I think if you're a fan of Alabama high school football you'd want to see this game," said Rhoades. "You've got players in this game who are nationally known. And I'm not trying to hype this game."

One player that will have to sit this game out is Berry High tackle David McCarty. He received a severely sprained knee when struck by a helmet during practice.



KENNY COLE
 Decatur



JOHNSON, MCGHEE, COLE AND LEE GET READY

Lee was placed on the North roster after Warren Lyle of Pinson Valley was injured in the All-Stars first workout. He will be joining his former teammate Kenny Cole, John Johnson of Clements and Ollie McGee of Athens on the team.