

KM Boxer John Houser Eyes Olympic Tryout

John Houser, 14-year-old ninth grader at Kings Mountain Junior High, has been invited to compete in the Canadian-United States amateur boxing card Saturday, April 2 at Barnville, S.C.

Houser hopes his performance in the fights will lead to a tryout for the U.S. Olympic team.

Houser, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Houser of Kings Mountain, has been boxing for the Gastonia Police Athletic League for three years and has won over 50 of his 70 amateur bouts. He's 12-1 this year, his lone loss coming last week in the Gastonia Golden Gloves.

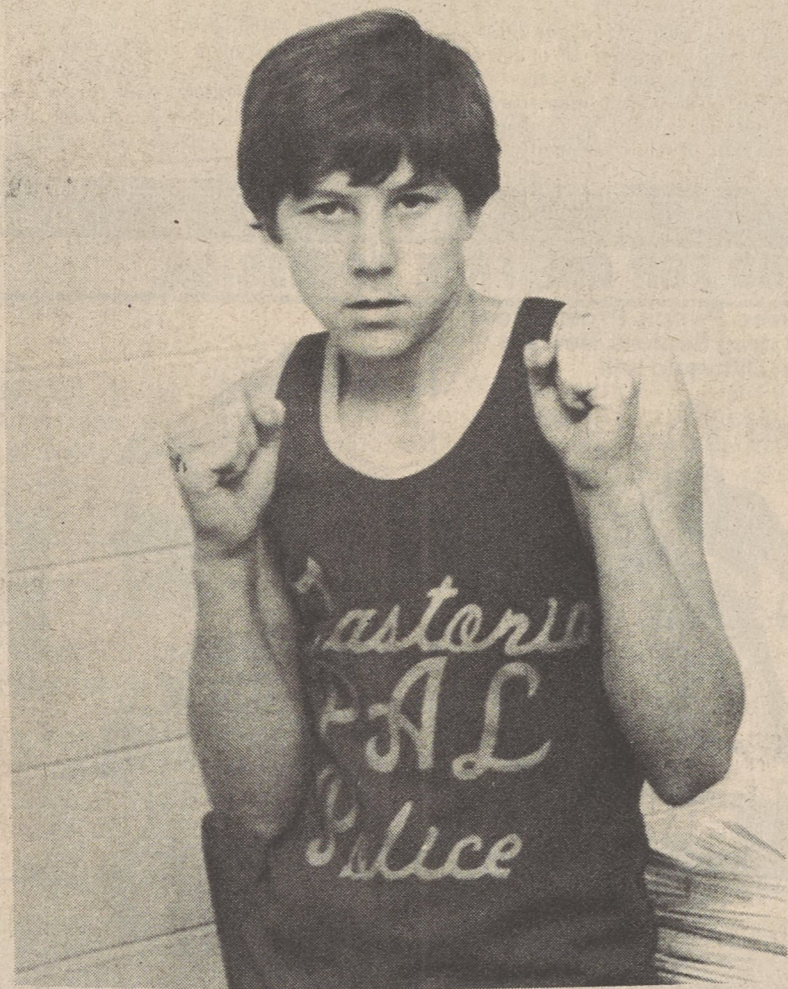
He competes in the 100 to 107-pound division and has traveled all over the Carolinas, Georgia and Tennessee meeting some of the south's best boxers in his weight class.

He won the state championship last year at Mt. Holly and has won Golden Gloves titles recently in Mt. Holly and High Point.

In a short time, he's accomplished a lot. He's confident the best is yet to come.

He became interested in the sport at the age of 11, when his father took him to a Golden Gloves tournament in Gastonia. He signed up for the sport with the Gastonia Police Athletic League and learned quickly under veteran Coach Dean Huffstickler.

He's registered eight technical knockouts in his 13 matches this year. His lone loss was on a decision against a fighter he'd beaten earlier. He admits he could have been looking past that fight to next week's matches in South Carolina. Although he doesn't know his competition yet, he figures the match to be the most



John Houser

important of his career.

"If I fight well down there and win, it could lead to a shot at the Olympics," he said. "I would come back home and train hard. Usually, a fighter would get a call and invitation to go to another international bout. If you win enough, it could get you a chance go to the Olympic Training Center."

Although Houser doesn't appear to be a strongman, he does

have a big knockout punch. He says his quickness is his strongest asset.

He spends at least two hours a day training at the Clay Street gym in Gastonia. "I run a lot, jump rope, hit bags, shadow box and spar a lot," he said. "I run the mile on the junior high track team and that helps me a lot."

Houser's long-range boxing goal is to turn pro when he's 18 or 20 years old.

Junior High Team Is Rebuilding

Kings Mountain Junior High's baseball team opens Western Conference play March 28 at Crest.

The Patriots are coming off an 8-4 season but Coach David Hefner lost all of his starters and faces a rebuilding task.

"We're going to be real young and inexperienced," he said. "We'll try to improve from game to game but we're going to have to learn."

Members of the team are ninth graders Paul Neisler, Thomas Breakfield, Kent Boheler, Rodrick Boyce and

Bobby Pearson; eighth graders Greg Anthony, Rusty Bumgardner, Todd Fleming, Trent Sanders, Tommy Chapman, Keith Morris, Kevin Champion and Wayne Jenkins; and seventh graders Timmy Adams, Kevin

Bolin, David Ayscue, Monty Deaton, Brent Bagwell, Jody Champion, Donald Murray and Mason Blair.

THE SCHEDULE

March 28, at Crest; March 31, West McDowell; April 14, at Burns; April 18, at East McDowell; April 21, Shelby; April 25, Crest; April 28, at West McDowell; May 2, Burns; May 5, East McDowell; May 9, at Shelby.

A's Tryouts Thursday Night

The Kings Mountain A's will hold tryouts Thursday at 6 p.m. at Davidson Park.

ing out for the team are asked to attend and see Coach Bubbles Brown.

hibition games this weekend at Davidson Park. They'll face the Bowling Green Hornets Saturday at 3 p.m. and the Mt. Holly Sluggers Sunday at 3 p.m.

Any persons interested in try-

The A's will host a pair of ex-

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"Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name have cast out devils? And in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity". (Mt. 7:22-23).

Recently, I have been asked several questions concerning certain questionable conducts on the part of various ministers and ministries. Those raising the questions have been given a bad picture of the Church and its mission. I should like to clear up the picture painted by these questionable ministries and/or ministers without attacking them directly.

The Bible is a book of Truth. I am so thankful that the Bible gives us the bad accounts as well as the good. Throughout the Bible, we find honest dedicated men and women of God. On the other hand, we find many dishonest men and women that only have an appearance of dedication. When Christ cleansed the Temple, He was driving such men from the House of Prayer. He even called these men, thieves. Judas was not like the other disciples. Christ called him a devil.

What shall we do then? Destroy all churches, because history has shown that some men use the church for dishonest gain? And shall we disallow all disciples, because history has shown that some men are wolves in sheep's clothing? NO! A thousand times, NO!

Do you throw the baby out, with the dirty diaper? Do you burn down your house, because it needs painting? Do you junk your car, because it has a flat tire? Ridiculous, you should answer.

You are just as ridiculous as the above, when you throw out all churches, all ministries and all ministers—because a few are questionable. Even if a few are known thieves and known devils and known hypocrites—all are not like these. There are thousands of Christ centered, Bible teaching and Spirit led churches, ministries and ministers in the world today. Many such churches and ministries are found right here in our area, also. Don't judge us all by the bad conduct of a few.

I have my instructions to judge not. According to my opening Scriptures, Christ tells us that many will be dishonest. On the other hand, He did not abandon the work of the church and His followers, because of the bad ministers. Further, He will judge them. They will be cast into outer darkness having heard Him say, "Depart, I never really knew you". Do not judge them, just be sure your hands are clean and your heart is right, when you stand before Christ for your judgement.

P.S. "Let him that is without sin, cast the first stone, at these that they are judging".

PASTOR: Rev. Oscar Stalcup, Jr.