



(Photo by Dick Haldeman)

AT ERSKINE—William A. Butler of Greenville, one of 50 distinguished men and women to serve as interviewers recently for the E.B. Kennedy Scholarship competition at Erskine College, chats with two of the outstanding high school seniors who participated in the competition for Erskine's highest scholarship.

From the left are Butler, Liz Burke of Gray Court, S.C., a senior at Laurens District 55 High School, and Tracy Bolin of Kings Mountain, a senior at Kings Mountain High School. All participants in the competition are being considered for academic scholarships to Erskine.

Tracy Bolin Competes For Erskine Scholarship

Due West, S.C.—Charles Tracy Bolin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bolin, 606 Landing Street, Kings Mountain, participated in the recent E.B. Kennedy Scholarship Competition at Erskine College.

To be eligible for the competition, students must have outstanding high school records and College Board scores and be nominated by their principals or guidance counselors. Sixty-eight semifinalists in the E.B. Kennedy Scholarship competition were interviewed by fifty distinguished men and women

from throughout the south and east.

Bolin, a senior at Kings Mountain Senior High School, is a member of the Beta Club and band. He is chief junior marshal and an academic achievement award winner.

To be selected as a semifinalist in the E.B. Kennedy Program, through which four full academic scholarships are awarded annually, is considered an honor in itself. All semifinalists are considered for other academic scholarships at Erskine ranging in value to more

than \$4,000 per year. Approximately fifty members of each Erskine freshman class receive academic scholarships.

Recipients of scholarships to Erskine will be announced later in the 1983-84 year.

Erskine, founded in 1839 by the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, was South Carolina's first four-year denominational college. It is a four-year coeducational liberal arts college offering majors and preprofessional training in approximately thirty fields.

Art Classes Slated

Charlotte artist John Brady, who has been in Kings Mountain to conduct art classes for A.B. Snow Studio for a number of years, will return to Kings Mountain Tuesday for classes for children and adults, which are free and open to the public.

The children's class will be held at 4:30 p.m. at A.B. Snow

Studio, 3600 Margrace.

The class for adults will be held at 7:30 p.m. at Depot Center. All citizens interested in forming a Working Artist Guild in Kings Mountain are asked to be present for a short business meeting prior to the art demonstration. Local organizers hope to fund the project through

a Grassroots Grant for which applications must be made by March 1. The Guild would hold regular meetings at Depot Center and would be sponsored by the city.

"You don't have to be an artist to belong or to participate in all those programs", said a spokesman.

After Christmas Sales Set

After-Christmas sales will be held by downtown stores Monday, including Fulton's Department Store and Plonk's.

Stores in the two shopping centers will also be open as usual and both TG&Y and Mack's Variety will resume regular

operation on Monday.

Several merchants are undecided about opening on Monday, which is a legal holiday for banks, the city post office, the City Hall, and most financial institutions. Local grocery stores, including Winn-Dixie and

Harris-Teeter, will operate Monday.

Kings Mountain district school children are enjoying a long holiday, which began last Friday.

74 Inspection Set

N.C. Department Transportation officials will be making a final inspection of the new U.S. 74 By-Pass between Cansler Street and I-85 on Thursday.

Staff Engineer Jim Warren, of the Shelby office, said that the new stretch of road will not be open to traffic until after the first of the year. Mr. Warren said that barring unforeseen bad

weather, the new road may be open to traffic by Jan. 5.

Secret Santa's Identity Revealed

Lincoln Academy Community's Secret Santa is no secret any longer. His neighbors have spread the news that Benjamin Woods, 63, is the jolly man in the red suit and white beard who has spread Christmas cheer to the less fortunate for many years now.

With his station wagon loaded now with several hundred goodie bags which he carries in a red sack, Woods has made surprise visits at the homes of shut-ins, elderly, and often stops kids on the streets or at service stations to give them treats. It's his Christmas gift to the community and it gives him a special feeling inside. He calls it the Spirit of Christmas.

Woods said that he got the idea after retiring from a local plant. "For years I had worked as a public servant to maintain the necessary requirements for my family that life demands of us, most often having put off or forget some of the things I would call as a hobby or enjoy doing for lack of time and money. Now that I have retired this is one of the Christian projects that I enjoy doing", he said.

"I still call my self a public servant", he said, "but this time I am a servant for Jesus Christ, spreading good cheer during the Christmas season and serving those in need of my help throughout the year."

Starting a few days before Christmas, Woods gathers a few helpers, usually his family, and starts wrapping gifts and filling his Christmas bag with goodies. Most of the expense Woods takes care of himself. Sometimes he receives donations from his local congregation but usually he spends about \$150 himself on cookies, candies, raisins, stick candy, etc. He has already been booked as Santa for several churches, including Vestibule AME Zion, Shady Grove, Humphrey's



PHOTO BY GARY STEWART

SECRET SANTA - Lincoln Academy Community's Secret Santa, above, has a reputation of spreading cheer to the less fortunate at this season of the year. Here he gets ready to go with his sack full of goodies to distribute in town.

Chapel, Galilee AME Zion and Mt. Olive Baptist Church.

Janie and Benjamin Woods live on Shady Grove Road. They have three children, sons, Vernon and Reggie, daughter, Mabelle, and a three-year-old grandson, Chris Seawright. They are active in Vestibule AME Zion Church and each Sunday

he transports members to church who have no means of transportation. Mrs. Woods works at Kings Mountain Hospital.

Next Christmas Woods hopes he'll be able to go into the convalescent and nursing homes, and jails, for isn't Christ everywhere?

Firemen Elect Officers

Thirty-two volunteers in the Kings Mountain Fire Department elected new officers Tuesday night.

Fire Chief Gene Tignor said the staff now includes seven paid firemen and 32 volunteers.

The new officers in the Volunteer Department include: Bud Ware, Assistant Chief and Public Education Officer; Bill Herndon, Lieutenant, fire prevention officer; Bill Ware, water supply and training officer; Jackie Barrett, pension secretary; Frank Burns, line chief and new assistant chief of volunteers; Johnny Caldwell, secretary-treasurer; Brent Leigh, training officer; Willard Yarbrough, Sr., Captain, and John Wright, Lieutenant.



CHRISTMAS GIFTS - Dr. John McGill of Kings Mountain admires over 200 gifts which employees of Kings Mountain Hospital bought for needy children in the area for distribution through the Kings Mountain Fire Department's Toys for Tots project.

IT'S A GIRL

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph McDonald of Route 4 proudly announce the birth of their daughter, Laura Beth, on Thursday, Dec. 1. Laura has an older sister, Renee, who is 11.

Grandparents are O.H. (Duke) Ernst and Pauline Dotson Ernst of Kings Mountain, Mrs. Shirley Oliver of Kings Mountain and the late Ralph McDonald of Gastonia. Nina Hendren, also of Kings Mountain, is Laura's great-grandmother.

TWO FIRES

Fire damaged the Kountry Cook Inn, the old Silver Villa on King Street, and the roof of Anvil Knitwear, city firemen reported. Extensive damage was done to the heater on top of the Kountry Inn and the dryer caught on fire at Anvil Knit resulting in damages to the roof.

NATIVITY SCENE

First Baptist Church of Grover will present a live Nativity Scene in front of the church Thursday and Friday nights from 7 until 8:30 p.m.

JOY TO ALL

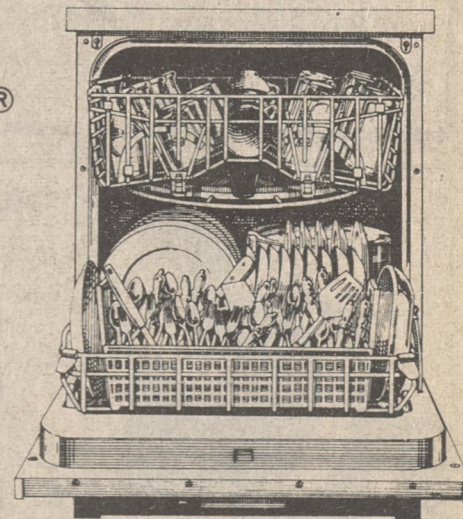
Happy Holidays to all our good patrons. We enjoyed serving you.

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