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KINGS MOUNTAIN, NORTH CAROLINA

## Number 1

Kings Mountain's Jerry Bedsole  
Gospel Music D.J. Of The Year

By GARY STEWART  
Managing Editor

Jerry Bedsole, gospel music disc jockey on Kings Mountain Radio Station WKMT, has just returned from Nashville, Tn., where he was named Gospel D.J. of the Year at the national convention of the Southern Gospel Music Association.

Bedsole won the award for small market stations and was one of four disc jockeys honored by the Eddie Crook Company, the nation's largest gospel record producer.

Bedsole was accompanied to Nashville by his number one fan, his mother, Mrs. Vera Bedsole of Kings Mountain. Before the announcement was made, Bedsole said he was thinking about what he'd say "just in case they called out my name."

While gathering his thoughts, the emcee did call out Bedsole's name. "I was really nervous," he said. "I don't remember exactly what I said, but I do know that it was a dream come true for me."

Bedsole has been employed by WKMT for the past nine years and the station's programming of gospel music has increased steadily during that time. Bedsole is host for the highly popular morning gospel music program and Gene Austin hosts the nighttime gospel program from 8-11 p.m.

"The station has really built up its gospel library over the past several years," Bedsole noted. "We have a good variety of gospel songs for our listeners to hear."

Bedsole often takes dedications and always has a good response from his listeners. Kings Mountain is one of the few radio stations in the area promoting gospel music.

Bedsole uses his influence through the radio to promote gospel music concerts at local auditoriums, including Kings Mountain's Barnes Auditorium, and gospel singings in all of the area churches.

"Usually when a gospel group is touring the area and is coming through and wants to book a singing, they'll call and I'll try to get them a church," Bedsole noted. "I'm always willing to help as much as I can to provide the people with good gospel singing."

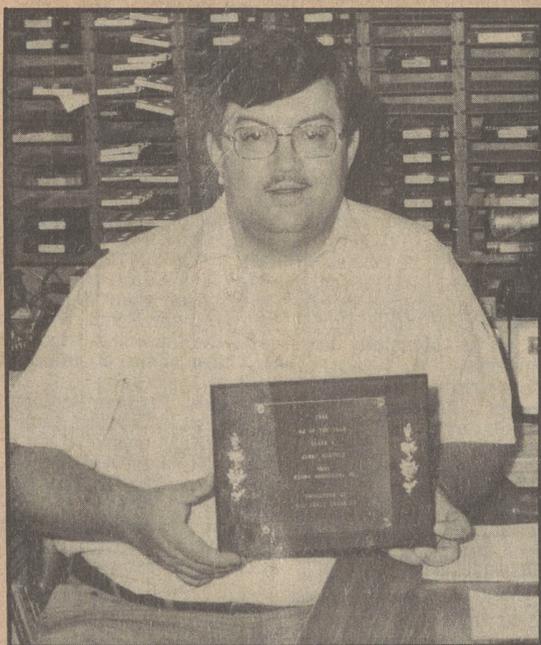


Photo by Gary Stewart

**DJ OF YEAR** - Jerry Bedsole, gospel music disc jockey at Radio Station WKMT in Kings Mountain, is pictured with the plaque he received last week in Nashville, Tn., after being named Gospel Music D.J. of the Year for small market radio stations in the United States.

The public relations work not normally a part of one's vocation has helped Bedsole make many contacts with leading gospel music groups and record producers. Such "above and beyond the call of duty" public relations enter into selections of disc jockeys of the year.

Bedsole was one of 12 disc jockeys from across the nation who were chosen as finalists for the 1984 Gospel D.J. of the Year. Since '84, the competition has been broken into three different categories: all, medium and large market stations, and there are five finalists chosen in each division.

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## City To Get Powell Bill \$

Kings Mountain will receive \$191,161.18 from Powell Bill funds distributed this month for street improvements.

The state's pothole population is expected to be reduced and many important street improvements made following the distribution this month of \$54.8 million to aid 468 municipalities across North Carolina.

This year's allocation includes extra funds that come in part from Governor James G. Martin's "Roads To The Future" program. Portions of the Governor's program were approved by the state General Assembly in July.

The \$54.8 million allocated this year is \$7.7 million greater than last year's amount. Seventy-five percent of the population funds are allocated on the basis of population, while the number of non-state system street miles in each town or city is used to calculate the remaining 25 percent.

Kings Mountain, with population of 9,381, has 54.34 non-system miles of streets.

The 1986 General Assembly increased the State Motor Fuel tax effective July 15, 1986, and at the same time increased the Powell Bill share of the tax from 1-3/8 cents tax on each gallon to 1-3/4 cents tax on each gallon of gasoline.

## Grover Board Okays Cable Vision Franchise

Cable Vision is coming to Grover within the next 12 months following action by the board of city commissioners Monday night.

Grover Town Board authorized contract with Shelby Vision after hearing franchise proposals from both Fred Williams of Sheiby and David Zetola of Grover.

Commercial Satellite Systems of Spartanburg, S.C.

First reading of the agreement was completed on Monday night with second reading, as required by law, to take place at the November meeting, said Mayor Bill McCarter.

The cable lines will be extended from the town of Grover, S.C. to the town of Grover, said McCarter. New subscribers Turn To Page 8-A

## Garbage Pick Up To Expand

The city sanitation department will expand garbage pickup to two days a week, effective November 1.

Karl Moss, Department Head of Construction, which also includes Sanitation, said that City crews will pick up household garbage two days a week and roadside trash two days a week.

"If a truck comes to a residence on Monday morning, that resident can expect the truck to return to pick up household garbage on Thursday morning," he said. Moss said that sanitation workers are dividing the city into four sections to serve the area. He said that a new garbage truck and several pieces of new equipment will enable the city to offer expanded service in this area.

"There should not be any complaints of missed garbage," said Moss.



**INJURED IN WRECK**—Donald Lewis Grant is helped by Kings Mountain policeman Bob Hayes and Cleveland County Emergency Medical personnel after he was injured in a two-car wreck Tuesday on Phifer Road. He was transported to Kings Mountain Hospital.

## Driver Hurt In Wreck

Donald Lewis Grant of Route 6, Kings Mountain, sustained head cuts and possible neck injuries in a two-car collision Tuesday afternoon on Phifer Road.

According to investigating

officer Harry Kyle, Grant's 1969 Volkswagen struck the rear of a 1972 Ford driven by Laura Patrick Allen after the Allen vehicle stopped to make a left turn into the Kings Mountain Plaza Shopping Center.

Mrs. Allen and three passengers in her car drove themselves to Kings Mountain Hospital, where they

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## Kings Mountain Woman Killed In Downtown Wreck

A 22-year-old Kings Mountain woman, Tonya Yvonne Foster Noblett, of 715 Meadowbrook Road, died Friday morning when the car she was driving hit a pole on South Battleground Avenue.

Kings Mountain Police Sgt. Houston Corn, who investigated, said the woman apparently fell asleep at the wheel. The accident occurred at 4:20 a.m. Ms. Noblett was alone in the car when it ran off the road into a pole holding the McGinnis Furniture Store sign in front of the S. Battleground Avenue store. Sgt. Corn estimated the car's speed at 60 miles per hour.

A native of Cleveland County, she was the daughter of Henry Foster of Bessemer City and the late Cheryl Stewart Foster.

Surviving, in addition to her father, are two sons, Brian and David Noblett of Gastonia; her grandmother, Mrs. Mary Stewart, of Kings Mountain; and a brother, Harold Foster of Kings Mountain. Funeral services were conducted Sunday afternoon at 4 p.m. from Pentecostal Holiness Church by Rev. Darrell Alexander and Rev. Carl Brown. Interment was in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

## Safe-Cracking Charge Filed Against KM Men

Safe-cracking charges were lodged against three Kings Mountain people Thursday.

Arrested by the Cleveland County Sheriff's Department were Edna D. Wray, 20, of 7290 Midpines; Rodney Allen Hovis, 21, Route 4, and Clemmie Wray Humphries, 24, of 7290 Midpines.

They were charged in connection with a break-in and the theft of a safe containing \$40,000 in payroll checks at Glen Raven Mill on Grover Road.

Bond in each case was set at \$13,000.

The safe and its contents were recovered on the ground just outside the mill.



CHARLIE BENTON

## Charlie Benton, 83, And Still Working

By LIB STEWART  
News Editor

Charlie Benton at 83 hasn't stopped working.

Now, he's making lamps from almost any item he finds in his shop or house.

"It helps me to take my mind off my health problems and my friends take pleasure in them. I may even start up a business at my age," he laughed, placing a "for sale" sign over a large

collection of lamps he displays on his back porch.

The lamps, which Benton says are made from "scratch" tell a story of their own, he reminisces, talking of his late wife, Viola, who died four days before their 62nd wedding anniversary six months ago. "I cared for her at home for several months before her death and cooked eggs just like she like 'em", Benton recalled, even though he had a leg amputated two

years ago and in the past five years has suffered two heart attacks, an appendectomy, a gall bladder operation and a broken hip.

His daughter, Mary Lou Adkins, also of Grover, says nothing has ever stopped "Daddy". Her mother and father were a familiar couple in the Grover area on a riding mower cutting grass for years at Antioch Baptist Church Cemetery, Grover Cemetery, and Bethlehem

Baptist Church Cemetery. "They kept those cemeteries neat and pretty", said Mrs. Adkins. The couple retired because of illness in 1982.

Charlie Benton has fashioned lamps from almost anything and everything: washboards, smoothing iron, kettle, coffee pot, gourd, beer cans, mailbox, birdhouse, clock, the dash from an old washing machine, an antique swingletree and has even carved a barn and made the

animals and farmer for it. When the lights go on, Benton chuckles, he hates to part with them but he wants friends to enjoy his lamps too. The beer can lamp is a popular model, he says, as a night light, and the coffee pot lamp is a conversation piece for any kitchen. Two antique lamps in the collection he has promised to his

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