



Photo by Gary Stewart

**HOMECOMING QUEEN** - Bobbie Bonnett Byrd was crowned homecoming queen at halftime of Friday's Kings Mountain-R.S. Central football game at John Gamble Stadium. Mountaineers won 35-14. For game details, see Friday's Heroes on page 1-D.

## Presented To Elections Board Today

# Petitions Bearing 1,800 Names Calling For ABC Referendum

A petition with 1800-plus signatures calling for an ABC referendum, to be held possibly in late February, was handed to Elections Board Chairman Becky Cook Wednesday at City Hall by co-chairmen of Citizens for Legal Control.

To fulfill all the legal requirements, Co-chairmen Claude Suber and Kemp Mauney said voting on the several issues would possibly be late February, at the earliest.

The petitions call for a vote that would lead to:

- The sale of malt beverages for off premise consumption;
- The sale of malt beverages for on-premise consumption; by hotels, motels and restaurants, Class A;
- The on and off premise sale of unfortified wine.
- The operation of an ABC store in Kings Mountain.

Members of the Committee for Legal Control have been circulating petitions the past several months. State law requires 1100 valid signatures of registered voters, or 25 percent of the registered voters of 4,400. "We know we have 1100 valid signatures," said Suber.

The new petition comes three years after voters went to the polls and turned down a measure to allow the off-premise sale of beer, wine and liquor and establishment of an ABC store by

less than 100 votes on each measure. By law, three years must have passed since the referendum.

The upcoming election on the issues will be the fourth time in 16 years that "dry" Kings Mountain, has voted and turned down an alcohol referendum. Similar liquor votes were turned down in 1948 and 1975 by larger margins.

State law specifies 30 days to verify signatures on petitions by the board of elections and then 60 days and no longer than 120 days after the signatures have been verified as valid for calling of the election. The election must also be distanced 30 days from any other election.

An outside city resident who is executive of in-city KM Knit Fabrics, Suber said he looks at the upcoming referendum as "purely an economic issue for citizens which will help the community."

Rev. Gene Land, chairman of the "dry" forces opposed to the referendum, disagrees. The "dry" forces have organized to fight the issue.

Kings Mountain, surrounded by ABC stores in nearby Shelby, Gastonia, Bessemer City and Cherryville, has voted "dry" in all previous referendums.

## Jenkins Suit Gets Response

By LIB STEWART  
News Editor

Five attorneys for the city, responding to a libel suit filed by attorney for fired employee Ken Jenkins, claim defendants are immune from the action under the doctrine of "sovereign immunity" and that any action they took "represented proper conduct from city officials."

The response, filed Friday in Cleveland County Superior Court, was signed by City Attorney George B. Thomasson and Clayward C. Corry, Jr., both of Kings Mountain; Charles F. Vance, Jr. and C. Daniel Barrett of Womble Carlyle Sandridge and Rice of Winston Salem; and Wayne P. Huckel of Kennedy Covington Lobdell and Hickman of Charlotte.

Bill Lamb, attorney for former Mountain Rest Cemetery Superintendent Ken Jenkins, filed the \$3.8 million lawsuit in August alleging libel and slander and naming as defendants Mayor John Moss, city commissioners Irvin Allen, Jr., Corbet Nicholson, Humes Houston, and former commissioners Curtis Gaffney and Jim Dickey. Not named was Commissioner Norman King, the only one of the six who did not vote to fire Jenkins after a special investigative committee's report on operations of the cemetery was made during an executive session of the board.

National Union Fire Insurance Company of Pittsburgh, Pa., from which the city purchases liability insurance, was also named as a defendant in the suit.

In one of the several defenses, the city admits that "a highly confidential report concerning Jenkins tenure at

# United Way, Shy Of Goal, Extends Campaign In KM

With 69 percent of its goal, the Kings Mountain United Way campaign has been extended until the end of November.

"We still have some big industries that haven't started their campaign but we feel real good that the campaign has raised to date \$61,576", campaign co-chairman Lavon Strickland said at Friday's luncheon report meeting of campaign workers.

The 1986-87 goal is a 5 percent increase from last year's \$100,000 goal, which the Kings Mountain United Way met and surpassed.

The Victory dinner was originally scheduled for Nov. 7th. Mrs. Strickland praised the efforts of all volunteers and divisional leaders and praised three local industries who have already made pledges to the drive. Spectrum Industries has pledged \$7,017 from its employees with a \$750 company gift; and

Commercial Shearing employees have pledged \$6000 with a company gift of \$2500. The Advanced gifts division, headed by Mrs. Grady Howard, has reported 85 percent of its goal of \$3900 to lead divisional reports.

Mrs. Strickland again reminded employees who work out-of-town to mark on their donor sheets the United Way agency they wish to receive their contributions.

The Kings Mountain United campaign is an all volunteer effort, and raises money for many charitable agencies, including the local toys for Tots program, the local Red Cross and Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, and Rescue Squad, in addition to other county wide organizations.

"I feel real good about the campaign and feel that with such a little extra push we can make our goal for such worthy causes", said Mrs. Strickland.

## KM Police Investigating Burglary And Larcenies

Vonda Logan, of 69 Pine Manor Apts., reported a first degree burglary. She said someone entered her house during the weekend and took a VCR valued at \$660.

Kings Mountain Police are also investigating numerous reports of vandalism and larceny from drink boxes and vending machines.

Anthony Houser, Route 5, reported that someone took an AM/FM radio, stereo and cassette player, valued at \$200, from his vehicle in the parking lot of KMSHS. He estimated damage to his car at \$400.

Cleveland County School Bus No. 41 was vandalized at Central School and the seats ripped and damaged \$500, police said.

Tyler Kiser, of Bessemer City, reported that a CB radio, equalizer and Fuzz-buster, valued at \$375, were removed from his car while parked at Warlick Insurance Company parking lot.

Nancy Ross, of Route 6, city police employee,

reported that someone broke the widow on her van while parked at KM Baptist Church parking lot.

Magic Wand Car Wash, 122 York Road, reported that \$1,000 damage was done by vandals opening a money changer and removing \$300 in coins.

Dwight Cooper, Phifer Road, employee of 7-11, reported that his coat, valued at \$120, was stolen from a stock room.

Floyd Sanders, 806 Landing St., reported that a yard roller valued at \$300 was stolen from his residence.

KM Auto Trim & Glass Co. reported that someone took change from a vending machine. In two other incidents robbing of vending machines, Leftwich Garage, 111 W. King St., reported coins taken from a vending machine and McGill Exxon, 100 E. King St., reported money taken from a drink box.

Charles Mertz, 915 First St., reported damage to his car parked at City Stadium, estimated at \$335.

# KM Man Acquitted Of Charges

A Gaston County jury, after little more than a half hour of deliberation, Wednesday acquitted a Kings Mountain man of charges that he forced two of his grandchildren, a niece and a neighbor child to perform oral sex on him.

The 56-year-old man faced life sentences in each of the counts had he been convicted.

The Gastonia Gazette reported that the man testified he caught the children, ranging from 9 to 12 years, playing spin-the-bottle in the loft of his workshop on Jan. 20. He said the partially clothed children were told to dress and that he promised to tell their parents about them.

The grandchildren testified in court the 9 year old neighbor boy suggested the children silence the grandfather from telling their parents by making up allegations of sexual actions by the grandfather. The other two children maintained the man forced them to have oral sex and they said he had sex with the niece and forced her to attempt to have sex with the grandson.

During the trial Attorney Randolph Sumner pointed out discrepancies in statements and testimony of the niece and 9 year old boy.

Assistant District Attorney George Hill argued it was improbable that the nine year old boy could persuade his older playmates to tell a lie

and urged the jury not to release the accused man back into the community.

All four children testified in court Tuesday. The two grandchildren who said the charges were made up attended the trial on Wednesday but the other children did not.

## Wayne Yarbrow County's Farmer Of The Year

A 29-year-old Kings Mountain farmer, Wayne Yarbrow, has been honored by the Cleveland County Farm Bureau as Farmer of the Year.

Yarbrow, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Yarbrow, is the first single farmer chosen to receive the award.

For the past 11 years, he has farmed fulltime with his father and an uncle, W.A. Yarbrow, on 730 acres, including pasture, hayland and cropland. In addition, Yarbrow has 175 beef cattle and does custom work for other farmers, including haybal-

ing, harvesting grains and putting up fences.

He is the president of Cleveland County Young Farmers and a member of the Cleveland County Agricultural Extension Advisory Board. He is an active member of the Farm Bureau and a member of its board of directors. He is a member of Bethlehem Baptist Church.

The award is given annually to a full time farmer and his family who are active in Farm Bureau, community organizations and church activities.

# Free Health Clinic Slated Saturday At KM Hospital

A pulmonary function test will be one of the screenings offered at the Kings Mountain Hospital Health Fair Saturday from 9:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. at the hospital. The pulmonary function screening helps determine abnormalities or diseases in the lungs. Heavy smokers and textile workers are particularly encouraged to take advantage of this free screening on Saturday. The patient simply breathes into a flexible tube and results are

recorded on a graph. Using predicted equations with information about the patient, the respiratory therapist can recognize abnormalities. No single pulmonary function test yields all the information necessary to make an accurate diagnosis, so if abnormalities are found at the health fair screening, further evaluation will be recommended.

Other free screenings at the health fair will be for anemia, diabetes, oral

cancer, visual acuity, glaucoma and foot diseases. There will be health education booths, hospital exhibits and tours, free gifts, door prizes, entertainment, refreshments and babysitting. The Charlotte Memorial Hospital Emergency Flight Helicopter is scheduled to land behind the hospital between 9:00 and 9:30 a.m. on Saturday and the mobile CAT scan unit will also be available for viewing.



Bob Taylor (l), respiratory therapist, and Jean Mintz, respiratory therapist, demonstrate pulmonary function testing at Kings Mountain Hospital.

**Up Leaves Begin**

Kings Mountain Department will be picking up loose leaves on November 1. Residents should leave on the side streets for pickup by the department's leaf vacuum machine. Loose leaf pickup will last through December 31. Leaves must be placed in bags after December 31.

MAUNEY MEMORIAL LIBRARY  
100 S. PIEDMONT AVE.  
KINGS MOUNTAIN, NC 28086

Turn To Page 3-A

Turn To Page 3-A