### Night Night...



James Wilson, left, and Calvin Huffman of Kings Mountain are pictured putting Huffman's pet rattlesnake to bed for the winter.

Huffman, a local contractor, caught the snake, along with a copperhead, several years ago in the woods near his home in the Dixon School community. Huffman and some friends were walking through the woods to go frog gigging in Kings Creek when they almost stepped on the snake. They used a forked stick to pin its head down and scooped the snake into a fivegallon bucket.

Each winter, Huffman and Wilson take a backhoe and dig a huge hole near Huffman's office, and bury the snakes. (They have to hibernate in the winter). Each spring, they dig them back up and place them in acquariums.

The snakes are fed small white rats, which Huffman purchases at a nearby pet store. When the rat is dropped into the aquarium, the snake bites it to kill it, and then eats

"We once caught a big field rat and dropped it in to the rattlesnake," Wilson recalled. "He had to bite him four times and then drop it over in his water pot and drown him."

Huffman won't grant his employees' request to bury the snakes permanently, but neither will he bow to their hints to handle them. He always keeps them at hoe or rake-handle length.

**Photos By Gary Stewart** 



#### **Central School Buses Vandalized**

have experienced some confusion to vandalism of half the eight-bus Central School bus fleet Wednesday

Kings Mountain Police Sgt. Dot Howell was patrolling the school Wednesday night when she noticed the back door of one of the buses open. Further investigation revealed that all four buses parked at the school had been vandalized. Seats were cut, mirrors broken, tires slashed and turn signal lights broken

### Four KM **Students** Honored

Four Kings Mountain area students have been selected as Outstanding Young Men of America for 1988.

They are Michael Ira Bumgarner, Arnoldo J. Lugo, R. Wesley Champion and James R. Whetstine.

The Outstanding Young Men of America program seeks to recognize the achievements and abilities of men between the ages of 21 and 36. These men are being honored for their outstanding civic and professional contributions to their communities, their states as well as to their nation.

Central School students might on buses 242, 358, 187 and 32. ve experienced some confusion Principal Glenda O'Shields said

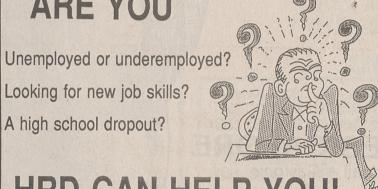
when meeting buses with different the buses couldn't be used on numbers on Thursday morning but Thursday morning so school no major tardiness was reported due officials arranged to use four buses from the county school bus garage.

Mrs. O'Shields said the incident resulted in a short delay in rounding up the students for school Thursday

Police estimated damages to the buses to be about \$1,000.

# **ARE YOU**

A high school dropout?



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## Course Slated At

The Continuing Education course will meet on Monday nights
Department of Cleveland Community College announces a Course will meet on Monday nights from 6 to 10 p.m. through March 6.

Gene Cox, a licensed electrician, National Electric Code. National Electric Code course will instruct the course which is

beginning Monday, January 9 at 6 designed to assist individuals who p.m. in Room 2008 on the college are preparing to take the North campus. Classes for the 32 hour Carolina Electric Licensing 484-4015.

Cost for the course will be a \$15



