

# Huffman

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ers will shoot within five points of each other in any given match. Huffman estimates he shoots 12,300 rounds of ammunition a year and spends 60% of that time in competition. "I never worry about what my competitor is shooting. I shoot against myself," he said.

Concentration, breath control, and good physical shape are all three requirements shooters learn if they excel in the sport. North Carolina High Powered Rifle Association enforces strict safety rules and conducts two training sessions each year. Huffman, who is NRA certified on pistol, shotgun, and home firearms safety, has taught several courses to women and Scouts and is interested in teaching courses locally.

Shooting a high-powered rifle is a highly competitive sport. Shooting at a known distance, at a paper target or punches can take up to four hours to complete a match, depending on the number of relays. Shooters start as early as 7 a.m. and don't quit until 7 p.m. Scores racked up at a national meet are

unreal. David Tuss, the 1988 high powered rifle champion, shot 2,381 with 118 x's and was declared the civilian champion. The high civilian female champion shooter was Norma Jean McCulloch who shot 2,350 with 99 x's.

Finding a place to practice isn't easy. Huffman, who would like to practice his shooting twice a week, finds it difficult to go to the firing range as far distant as Pineville since he is the city executive and a full-time banker at First Union National Bank. Huffman is a member of Cleveland Rifle & Pistol Club and practices on that club's range on the west side of Shelby. He also drives to Charlotte and Tryon. Unfortunately, says Huffman, Uncle Sam has placed all the military installations in the eastern part of the state which requires shooters like Huffman who practice there to get up early and travel long distances. This is the first year he has missed a state meet due to surgery but he was deer hunting four weeks after surgery.

Huffman likes golf and football and most all sports but prefers outdoor activities.

A M-1A 308 caliber rifle is what Huffman fires in competitions. The rifle weighs 11 pounds.

Huffman qualifies as an expert

but he is anticipating a master's before he retires his rifle.

Huffman has been in the banking business since 1966 and came to Kings Mountain First Union National Bank in 1985. He has been active in the Kings Mountain Kiwanis Club, United Fund, and Ducks Unlimited. The family attends Ascension Lutheran Church in Shelby. Mrs. Huffman works in the Shelby office of the N. C. Department of Transportation. Their son, Mark Huffman, 27, is married and lives in Shelby. Daughter, Jill Jones is married and lives in Asheville.

Huffman killed a bear on a trip three years ago. "Most of us are afraid of anything that is a predator but actually animals are afraid of us," he said. Unless an animal is with young or is penned up it won't attack," he said. Barbecued bear meat is delicious, says Huffman, who says he and his wife like to camp in Canada when they go hunting and then enjoy the food with Canadian friends.

"Deer hunting gives me time to think and time to watch the world come alive. It's relaxing and fun," said Huffman.

He recommends firing the high-powered rifle to anyone who enjoys competition and hard work and deer, bear and wolf hunting to anyone who loves the outdoors and the solitude of nature. "I can get up in those woods away from the telephones and feel the best I have ever felt and my wife and I have both found hunting to be a perfect vacation," he said.



IN DISTRICT TOURNAMENT - Kings Mountain's 13-14 year old Dixie Boys All-Stars are competing in the district tournament this week at Bessemer City. Front row, left to right, Chris Blanton, Rick Marr, Sheldon Smith, Chris Rider, Ty Ross and Doug Bridges. Second row, Steve Fisher, TeeGee Goforth, Doran Moore, Mike Smith, Chad Huntsinger, Robbie Ruff, Caje Ormand. Back row, Damon Putnam, coach Tommy Goforth, coach Mike Smith and coach Terry Bullock.

## Dixie Boys In Tourney

Kings Mountain's 13-14 year old Dixie Boys All-Stars will battle Tryon and Bessemer City in a round robin district tournament beginning Thursday at Bessemer City.

The winner of the three-day event will advance to the state tournament beginning July 22 in Southport.

Kings Mountain will play its

first game in the district event Thursday at 7:30 against Bessemer City.

The local all-star team includes players who played on the two Kings Mountain teams which competed in regular season action against Bessemer City, Tryon and Chapel Grove. Chapel Grove is not competing in the tournament.

Kings Mountain players are Doran Moore, Mike Smith, TeeGee Goforth, Robbie Ruff, Damon Putnam, Rick Marr, Todd Ware, Benji Ingle, Steve Fisher, Doug Bridges, Chris Blanton, Chris Rider, Caje Ormand, Shelton Smith, Ty Ross and Chad Huntsinger. Coaches are Terry Bullock, Tommy Goforth and Mike Smith.



TOP SELLER - Brian Scruggs, age 5, is all smiles as he shows off the \$150 check he won for selling the most tickets in a recent Dixie Youth baseball fundraiser. Brian is the son of Scott and Tammy Scruggs.

## Anderson Enjoys Kids And Baseball

(ED. NOTE - The following article on Kings Mountain's Pressley Anderson appeared in the June 23 edition of the Gaston Observer).

By LANGSTON WERTZ JR. Pressley Anderson says he loves kids. Anderson's friends say the kids love him, too.

Anderson has been coaching and umpiring Dixie and Babe Ruth baseball as well as NSA and ASA softball for 21 years. He's looking forward to many more years of service.

"I love to be around kids," Anderson, 42, said. "I started out as a coach and I played myself in little leagues. This stuff just grew on me and I liked it."

Anderson doesn't umpire games for the money. He does it, he says, because it makes him feel young "and a part of things."

"When I started out, I got \$5 a game, when I got paid," he said. "Now guys can get up to \$15, so still, the money's no big object. I love to see the kids' happiness when they get a base hit or when they hit one out of the ball park."

"I love the excitement, the elation, the joy. The more you spread it, the more you've got. I just like to see the kids be competitive as well as have a good time."

Anderson is single and works for Kings Mountain Petroleum World. He also is an assistant Sunday school teacher at First Wesleyan Church in Kings Mountain.

Though he keeps a busy schedule, Anderson wouldn't think of slowing down.

"You better know I'm gonna keep goin'," he said. "As long as I'm healthy and can flex these muscles and keep one foot in front of me, I'll keep doing it."

Anderson has seen a lot of

amazing baseball in his 21-year tenure, but a few special moments stand out in his mind.

"I've seen a little league boy hit three homers in a game," he said. "I've seen a team come from behind when they were eight runs down."

Sometimes when his little league games are one-sided, Anderson the umpire will talk to the trailing team, urging them on.

"I kinda say, 'Come on guys, you can do better than this. Don't give up; the game's not over 'til the last person's out.' I don't do anything to help that team and I only do it when a team's getting slaughtered."

Anderson's expertise has earned him a following in Kings Mountain.

"I think the kids respect me and receive me well," he said. "If it's a championship game and if it's something prestigious, I think they want me. I want them."

"You won't find a fairer or more honest person than Pressley," said Roy Pearson, 60, retired Kings Mountain Recreation Department athletic director. "That's what you need with the kids."

"That's his life, umpiring his little bitty boys. He's just a really good person, and he's dedicated. Those little kids...they just love him to death."

Anderson said he has learned a lot from playing sports and umpiring through the years. Discipline, sportsmanship and leadership are among a few of the lessons that Anderson has picked up.

"The kids are like my family," he said. "Over here in Kings Mountain, some of the coaches say I am to little league baseball in Kings Mountain what Jerry Lewis is to muscular dystrophy."

"If they play baseball, they're Pressley's kids."

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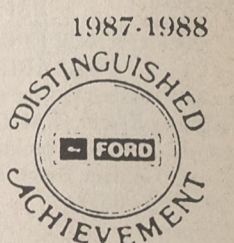
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