

## Student has gun at school

A .22 calibre handgun was confiscated from a 14-year-old Kings Mountain High School student Wednesday.

The case was turned over to Kings Mountain police, who were having juvenile papers drawn at the Herald's press time.

An assistant principal took the gun away from the student, who had it tucked into his pants.

Principal Jackie Lavender said the student was suspended for 10 days and that she will recommend long-term suspension.

## Mountaineers Boot East Lincoln

1-B

## Preacher Reaches People Through Poetry

1-C

# Kings Mountain Herald

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## Candidates favor city manager



Jerry King, far right, moderates the forum for city council candidates Tuesday night at B.N. Barnes Auditorium. Council hopefuls answered questions submitted by the public in the event sponsored by the Kings Mountain Herald. Council candidates, left to right, are Jeff

Gregory, Jackie Barrett, Jim Guyton, Roy Pearson, Fortee Gamble, Philip Hager, Jerry Mullinax, Al Moretz, Joe King, Shirley Brutko, Luther Bennett, and Norma Bridges.

## School candidates look for positive

The five candidates for two inside-city school board seats are leaning toward a 12-month school year and see "positive happenings" in education in the future, they said during a candidate forum Tuesday night at Barnes Auditorium.

They also said, if elected, they would serve more than the number of hours required to attend meetings and would support the teaching staff with freedom to do their jobs and offer some form of recognition to good teachers.

Incumbent board chairman Billy King said the public's demand for an education for every child will see kids educated for the job market in the high tech workplace, targeting at-risk students and the reduction of drop out rates in programs that will affect everyone in the next 20 years. "It's exciting," he said.

"The main thing we can look for is the 12 month school year and in some areas it's already successful," said Mark George.

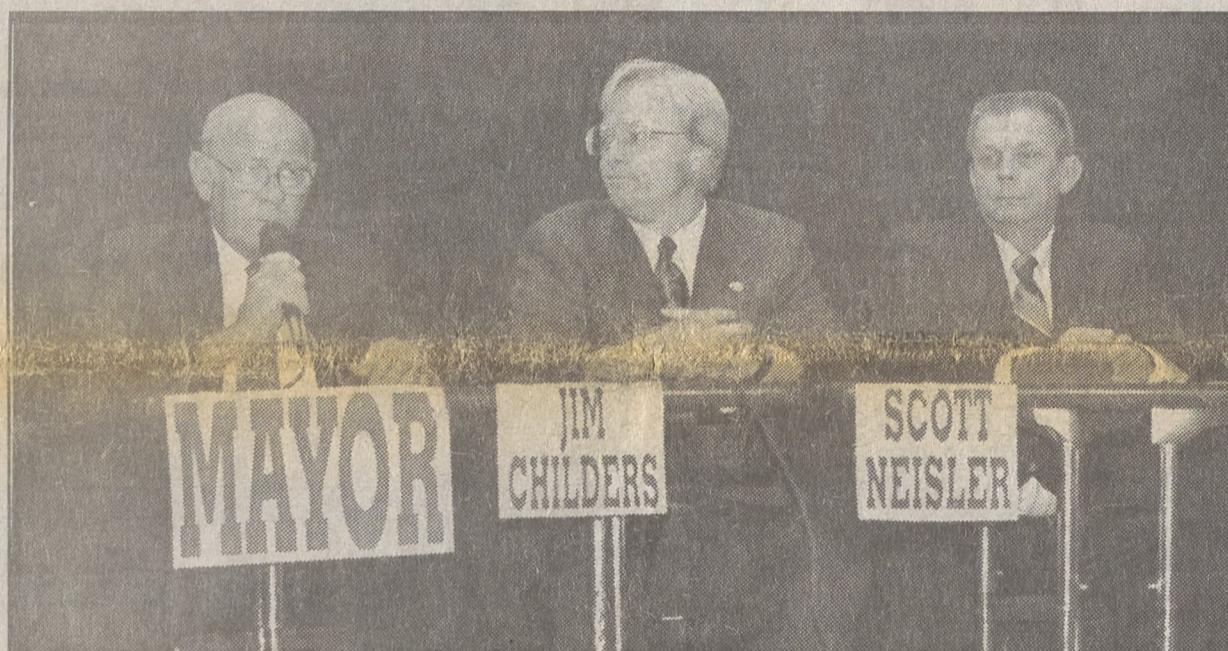
All five candidates, King, George, Shearra Miller, David Lynn and B. S. Peeler said they would support a trial basis of the 12 month school year on a voluntary basis.

Lynn said year-round use of buildings would increase the effectiveness of capital assets and reduce the review time spent by teachers and students.

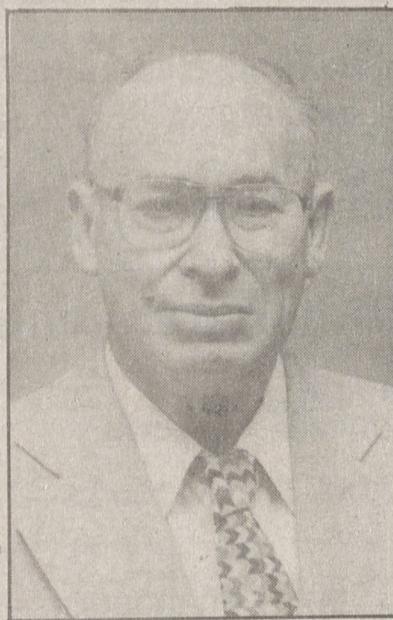
George admitted he doesn't know "the ins and outs of the program" but says the board should take a serious look at it because it offers potential. King said that school officials had visited Mooresville schools and seen a positive result in retention. He noted that the present school calendar was developed in past years when school children stayed out three months to help harvest crops when cotton was king in the area.

Miller said she has heard glowing and positive reports from Mooresville Schools and would like to see a trial program at one Kings Mountain school. She said she liked having her small children at home in summer but did not have the day care concerns that some homemakers have and thought the change would greatly benefit working parents and the educational benefits would be tremendous.

See School, 3-A



Jim Childers, left, candidate for mayor, answers a question during Tuesday's candidate forum at B.N. Barnes Auditorium. Looking on are Scott Neisler, center, and Gilbert Hamrick. All three candidates said they support the city manager form of government. The city election is October 8.



JAMES J. DICKEY

## Jim Dickey, 70, dies

James Joseph Dickey, 70, of 415 Phifer Road, Kings Mountain city councilman for 12 years and a former mayor pro tem in 1971-73, died September 15, 1991 at 11 a.m. at Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte after a long battle with diabetes.

The graveside service was conducted Tuesday morning at 11 a.m. at Mountain Rest Cemetery by Rev. Dan Brooks.

The family has requested memorials to the Kings Mountain Rescue Squad, an organization that Dickey had promoted from its beginning in Kings Mountain.

A native of Cleveland County,

he was son of the late James R. and Bessie Falls Dickey. He was married to Audrey Pulliam Dickey October 14, 1946.

Surviving, in addition to his wife, are one son, Jimmy Dickey of Kings Mountain; one daughter, Robin Shore of Charlotte; his son-in-law, Hoyt Shore; one granddaughter, Audrey Elizabeth Shore; and two sisters, Margy Dickey Fink of Salisbury and Nancy Dickinson of St. Louis, Mo.

City council members who served with Dickey during his tenure on the board called him a "caring individual who was inter-

See Dickey, 2-A

## Mayoral candidates want improvement

The three candidates for mayor of Kings Mountain wholeheartedly support the city council/manager form of government, they said in a candidate forum attended by 200-250 people Tuesday night at Barnes Auditorium.

Two of the three suggested improvements and all three had differences of opinion on how to implement programs.

Scott Neisler, Jim Childers and Gilbert Hamrick said they solidly back the city manager.

"He (George Wood) saved us a million dollars this year on the Crowders Creek wastewater treatment project alone. Our business is utilities and we have a great professional running the city," said Neisler.

Childers pointed to the responsibility of the mayor and council to take projects to the manager for implementation and the city manager's job to carry on the day to day operation of the city.

Neisler says budget cuts were made by the present board at the beginning of this fiscal year. "We have an adequate city system which deals fairly with all citizens and the most efficiently run ever," he said.

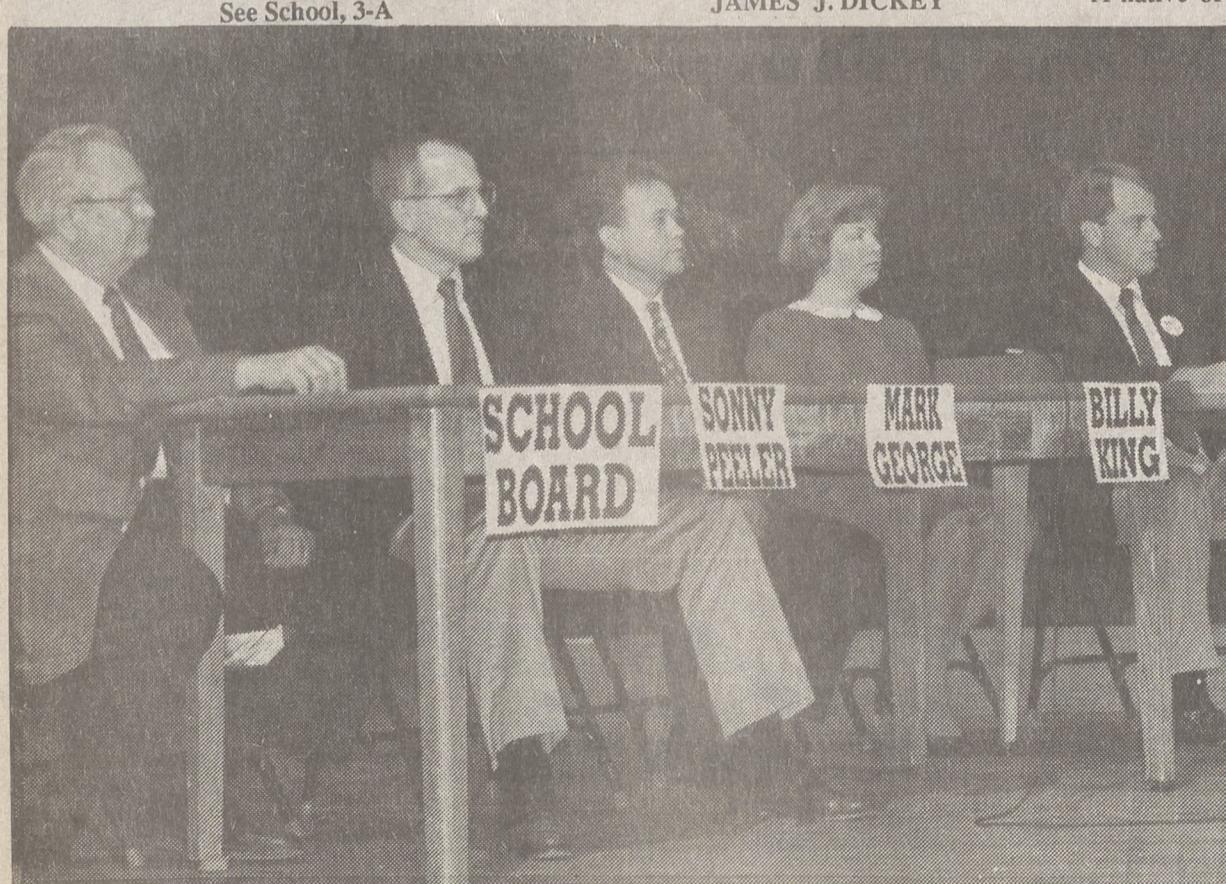
Childers, also a former commissioner, says service areas can be cut. His "pet peeve" is professional services, where the city is spending \$136,000 this year for consulting fees. "If the people on the city staff can do the job they should do it," he says. Childers said he also would eliminate lease purchases he calls credit cards. The city is paying \$425,000 this year in lease purchase payments for major pieces of equipment.

"We need to use the equipment we have," he says. Childers said bond payments are set but the city is close to paying off the 1968-69 water/sewer bonds. He said he can't see the city going in debt for more bonds in the future.

Hamrick says salaries of department heads and the city manager are "too high."

"These guys (Childers and Neisler) have an advantage over me in that they have served on the board before and know about these budget items. I would have to take a close look at them," he said.

See Mayor, 10-A



Candidates for the Kings Mountain Board of Education faced the voters in a candidate forum Tuesday night at B.N. Barnes Auditorium. Left to right are B.S. "Sonny" Peeler, Mark George, Billy King, Shearra Miller, and David Lynn. The top two vote-getters will be elected in November.

## Kings Mountain People

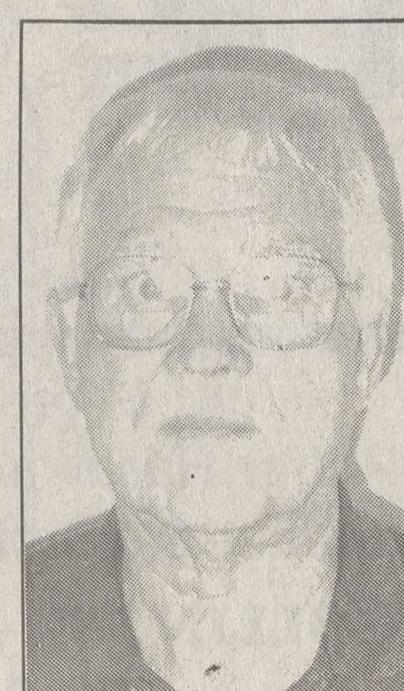
### There's history in cemetery

Dorus Bennett, 66, superintendent of city-owned Mountain Rest Cemetery for five years, finds his job "fascinating."

Whether he's weeding or mowing the beautifully-manicured gardens or supervising the closing and opening of graves, he considers what he does a service to the community in which he was born.

His goal before retirement is to write a history of the cemetery which dates back to the 1800's and he wants people who can supply some of the early history of the burial plots to come by the cemetery office and give him the information.

What Bennett has learned about the history has been word of mouth, although he can look back in the records of former superintendents Sam Suber, Ken Jenkins and Johnny Allison and get some of the particulars. Blackwell Gate on



DORUS BENNETT

Gold Street honors the first casualty of World War I, Otis D. Green Gate on Carpenter Street honors the first casualty of World War II, the Sam Suber Gate on Gold Street honors the late first, longtime superintendent; Falls Gate off King Street honors the first land donor; Tom Fulton Gate on Deal Street honors the former mayor and mortician; and Jenkins Circle honors former superintendent Jenkins and leads to the Veterans Memorial Park where 17 servicemen killed in action are interred. A total of 115 veterans are buried in Veterans Park, 14 of them World War I veterans.

The first bronze marker in the cemetery is dated 1861. Old markers used to have confederate flags on them and one of them is being restored for placement in the Kings

See Bennett, 2-A