



KM Bands present Spring concert

'Steel Magnolias' opens Friday 2-A

Mountaineers open State baseball playoffs



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KMHS baccalaureate is Sunday

Commencement exercises for 204 Kings Mountain High School seniors will begin Sunday night with baccalaureate at B. N. Barnes Auditorium and end on Friday night, May 29, with graduation exercises at John Gamble Stadium. Both programs are at 7 p.m.

Rev. John Futterer, pastor of Resurrection Lutheran Church, will deliver the sermon. Other ministers on the program are Rev. Theron Feemster, pastor of Miracle Tabernacle Church; Rev. Dale Thornburg, pastor of Eastside Baptist Church; Rev. Robert Little, pastor of Central United Methodist Church, and Rev. Mitchell Pruitt, pastor of Chestnut Ridge Baptist Church.

The KMHS Choral Union will sing two anthems: Driscoll's "I Am His" and Eilers' "Go Ye Now In Peace." Mrs. Sherry Young will be pianist.

Students will be on the program for the finals exercises May 29. Douangchit Mounghane will give the invocation, SPO president Aaron Allen will give the welcome, Angela Blanton will recognize honor graduates, Emily Campbell will present the class gift, and Dawn Hardin will pronounce the benediction. Ronnie Hawkins, chairman of the KM Board of Education, will accept the class of 1992 gift on behalf of the school.

The Choral Union will sing "Maybe Someday" by McPheeters and John Carter's "My Wish For You."

Melanie Dixon, chief marshal, will assist Principal Jackie Lavender and Supt. Dr. Robert McRae in presenting the diplomas.

Other marshals are Leanne Baity, Chris Blanton, Douglas Bridges, Binh Davis, Stephen Fisher, Kathryn Goforth, Angela Hardin, Edie Hicks, Jill Jimison, Tosheen Peters, Rebecca Senter, and Todd Ware.

Eugene C. Bumgardner will direct the choir and Gil Doggett will direct the ninth grade band in "Pomp and Circumstance" as the seniors are presented in the procession.

Senior Class officers are Leigh Kendrick, president; Dawn Hardin, vice-president; Angela Blanton,

secretary; and Emily Campbell, treasurer.

The class motto is "As we leave this school we leave as individuals but we are united forever by our memories."

The class colors are black and gold. The class flower is yellow carnations.

The class song is "It's So Hard to Say Goodbye (to Yesterday)."

Senior sponsors are Mrs. Peggy Baird, Mrs. Jean Beach, Mrs. Pam Goforth, Mrs. Brenda Lovelace, Mrs. Brenda Neal, Miss Annette Parker, Mrs. Juditha Reid, Mrs. Donna Russ, Mrs. Sheila Sisk, and Mrs. Betsy Wells.

Kings Mountain People

KM's Don Welch is 'Mr. Fix-it'

By ELIZABETH STEWART
of The Herald Staff

Don Welch could well claim the title of "Mr. Fix-it."

The popular repairman opened his radio and television repair business on a shoestring in 1957 but phased it out three years ago because it became cheaper to buy a foreign-made television set than to fix one.

Now, Welch and his son, Don Jr., do commercial painting in Welch's TV & Repair on Grover Road. They paint the tips for the life-saving Jaws of Life for Hurst Corporation and air-conditioner compressors for Copeland Corporation. The father and son team is the commercial engineering team which fixes on-the-air equipment for Radio Station WKMT and WBT in Charlotte.

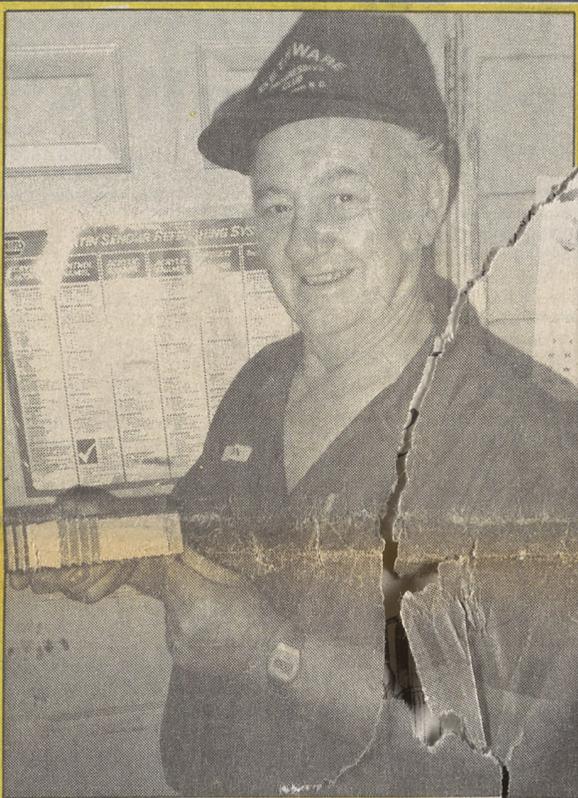
Don inherited his "Mr. Fix-it" title from his father, Lester Welch. During his high school days they worked together at the old Margrace Mill where Lester Welch was head electrician for 32 years. After graduating from KMHS in 1952 Don went in the Coast Guard. He enrolled at Gaston College in 1953 on the GI Bill. It was natural that he would study radio and television repair, he said.

Reared on the farm where his father still resides today, Don learned about hard work at a young age. He milked cows at the old Allen Dairy twice a day as a boy and helped his parents, Lester and the late Flora Caldwell Welch, growing up in a family of four sisters. He bought his first television tubes with a few dollars left from his weekly paycheck at the Margrace Mill.

Television tubes became obsolete about 10 years ago and were replaced with transistors. Welch said he has about 1,000 obsolete tubes in his shop. However, he said that many people have old sets stored in attics, garages, and barns but the repair bill to fix them would be costly, noting that tubes which once were \$6-a-piece now are \$45-a-piece. "When Taiwan started producing TV sets small repair shops had to quit because you can buy a 19 inch set with remote control for less than \$200," said Welch.

Don and his father built the business on Grover Road and also the house where Don and Bobbie Bennett Welch live on Dixon School Road.

Don married his high school sweetheart, Bobbie Bennett Welch. See Welch, Page 3-A



DON WELCH
KM's Mr. Fix-it

Board to meet on redistricting

Fine-tuning of the Kings Mountain District School's redistricting plan is on the agenda for a special board of education meeting Monday morning at 7 a.m. at the School Administration Building on Parker Street.

Supt. Dr. Bob McRae said that the work focuses on the North School area because North remains about 5 percent in minority population above the board's goal for the school of 25 percent.

"We want to try to give a better balance to all the schools," said McRae, who indicated that nodes would be moved from North School to another school which primarily housed majority children this year.

After school starts next year he sees little changes in minority population. "Once we move some students this year we should be in good shape for a number of years," he said.

With West School students moving out of the old Central School and into a new school in June, McRae said the board will be taking a long hard look on what to do with the old building. He said it is

the goal of the school board to move the current administrative offices to Central and renovate the building. "It doesn't make much sense to spend lots of money renovating the building until it becomes fairly apparent that we will be able to continue to exist as a city schools system. It's a dilemma the board will be tackling in months to come."

McRae said he is concerned that when vacant Central would be a target for vandalism. The Central plant would give the administrative staff the extra space it requires and offer plenty of storage facilities. He said the current facility is crowded.

At Monday's meeting, bids will be let for a library expansion at North School.

Redistricting was implemented with the current school year. B.S. Peeler and Sherra Miller came on the school board after the redistricting was in place. McRae said a work session on Monday by the full board reviewed the redistricting plan now in place so that the new members could be involved in taking an in-depth look at enrollment numbers and distribution.

288 make profession at Rick Gage crusade

The recent Rick Gage Crusade drew an average attendance of 1,700 for four services in which 288 professions of faith were made and over 500 people rededicated their lives to Christ.

"Kings Mountain has experienced a revival spirit," said Rev. David Philbeck, Crusade chairman and pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church. Philbeck said the revival spirit has spilled over to more than 30 congregations participating in the crusade. At Macedonia Church Sunday night 12 people made a profession of faith and will be baptized.

"I feel the Lord has blessed Kings Mountain in a major way," said Philbeck. He also credited the success of the crusade to the 500 people working behind the scenes for nearly a year.

Philbeck said that more than 100 counselors were used in the four services at Gamble Stadium. "Although we started praying daily for revival last year we had official prayer services beginning in January as plans began to shape up for the crusade," he said.

Philbeck said churches raised \$17,000 to meet the budget for the Crusade.



Rick Gage talks to worshippers who responded to invitation during crusade in Kings Mountain.

Council to clarify car wash ordinance

City Council will clarify an ordinance Tuesday to probably allow car washing by hand at detail shops and service stations in the Central and Neighborhood Business Districts.

The board will also consider a rezoning request by Barrett Floor Covering to allow additions to his property in the one-mile perimeter.

The two items are on the agenda for the 7:30 p.m. meeting at Governmental Facilities Center.

City Manager George Wood, finalizing a preliminary budget for the new fiscal year, will ask Council to set preliminary hearing on the budget for June 16. The

Council is expected to adopt the budget at the June 30 meeting.

Wood said that Barrett's request for rezoning is recommended by the Planning & Zoning Board and following a revision by Barrett to delete an area which adjoining property owners have been used for entrance into church and adjoining homes on Compact School Board.

Wood said a current ordinance restricts automated car washes in both Central and Neighborhood Business and also restricts hand washing of cars. He said the staff is looking at making changes to avoid confusion.

Beam in poultry 'Hall'

Cleveland County poultry producers inducted the late David E. Beam of Lawndale into its first Hall of Fame Tuesday night.

State Agriculture Commissioner Jim Graham presented the posthumous award to Beam's widow at the 30th annual barbecue which attracted 600 people to Cleveland Community College.

The award honored a pioneer in the poultry industry for his leadership, not only in farming, but in Cleveland County. Beam, 80, who died this year, was chairman of the county board of commissioners from 1964-66 and was chairman of the county Democratic Party from 1972-74. Beam, who stood six feet six inches tall, portrayed Uncle Sam in Lawndale's July 4th pa-

rades for many years. In 1981 as chairman of Upper Cleveland County Commissioners he campaigned for a rural water system which is now the Cleveland County Sanitary System.

Environmental concerns, animal rights, urban sprawl, and labor practices will be the major issues facing the poultry industry in the next few years, Graham said.

"As much as people like to eat, they don't want the mess involved with raising birds or processing them," Graham said. "The environmental fervor that is sweeping this country will continue to impact agricultural operations."

Graham recommended that every producer in the state follow the current laws precisely. "A mistake

by one producer is a black eye for the entire industry," Graham said.

Consumption of poultry products are projected to increase as consumers are looking for a more nutritious diet. The convenience of prepared poultry dishes, such as chicken nuggets or diced turkey, have made poultry a big business.

Each day, 2,216,000 broilers are slaughtered. Including eggs, the North Carolina poultry industry is the biggest farm income producer in the state, worth \$1.5 billion a year.

He said that the poultry industry ranks number one in agriculture income in Cleveland County worth \$15 million.

See Poultry, Page 3-A



Mrs. David E. Beam accepts the award honoring her late husband, inducted posthumously as the first member of the Cleveland County Poultrymen Association's Hall of Fame. Making the presentation Tuesday are John Hendrick, left, president of the Poultry Council, and State Agriculture Commissioner James A. Graham.

Public hearing set on zoning

Public hearing on a county land use task force proposal or proposed zoning along the industrial corridor near Grover will be held by county commissioners June 15 at 10 a.m. in Shelby.

The zoning proposal divides the 5,200 acres for 6 1/2 miles along Interstate 85 and U. S. 29 into residential, general business, and light and heavy industrial zonings.

Under the plan, 1,1080 acres would be zoned for light industry and 2,068 acres would be zoned for heavy industry.

Planning Director Bill McCarter has worked with the task force on the proposals for months and says the group has attempted to accommodate as many property owners as possible, hearing concerns from mining companies and residential property owners.