



## Mountain Fest a big success

The unique model train exhibit at The Depot attracted crowds estimated at 1500 to 2000 people to Mountain Fest Saturday, as overcast skies threatening more rain kept big crowds away from downtown.

"Despite the weather, we felt that Mountain Fest was a success," said Chamber of Commerce President Ruby Alexander.

Glenn Anderson, chairman of the highly successful train exhibit sponsored by BB&T, said that young and old alike contributed to the steady flow of train watchers inside the Depot Center, a perfect atmosphere for the gigantic display.

Hundreds of people also visited the historic old Post Office across from the entertainment stage at the intersection of Mountain and Piedmont. Mrs. Charles Neisler, a member of the Kings Mountain Historical Society, was the hostess for the display of World War I uniforms and artifacts from 1910-20 era.

Dr. Grady Howard Jr., chairman of the certified 10K, 5K, and Fun Run sponsored by Southern Bell, said the overcast skies and cooler-than-usual May 30 weather was perfect for the runs in which 119 runners participated.

The car show, expected to be a big crowd pleaser, drew only 35 entries because owners of antique cars were afraid the weather might damage them. George Shinn's Charlotte Hornets car was a popular attraction in front of the Kings Mountain Police Department. Other vintage cars were displayed in the parking lot of Central United Methodist Church. Craftspeople

moved inside the church and Woman's Club to display their wares. Vendors enjoyed a brisk afternoon business and talented performers went on schedule at Center Stage which opened with a concert by the popular band, "Mink," after welcomes were given by Mayor Scott Neisler and President Alexander. Mrs. Larry Wood sang "The National Anthem."

Sponsors, in addition to BB&T, were Eaton Corporation, face painting; Duke Power, Reliance Electric, and Hank Fink, entertainment; Wade Ford and Home Federal Savings Bank, car show; Southern Bell, races; and Home Builders of Cleveland County, fire safety house in which more than 300 children learned about fire safety from Kings Mountain Fire Department which manned the exhibit. Alexander also praised various departments of the city, including fire, police, recreation, electrical, and public works for their assistance in helping Chamber officials plan, put the show together, and clean-up afterwards.

Through the cooperation of the city and sponsoring businesses and industry the event was free to the public to enjoy. Except for food and crafts items, a family had to spend little money to spend the day in Kings Mountain.

With unseasonable weather promoters had to improvise. The Chamber plans to make the event an annual one. "It's by working together as a community that we are able to see these good projects come together," said Alexander.

