

Fisher breaks records



Kings Mountain Herald

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Mountain Fest is Saturday

The place to be on Saturday is downtown Kings Mountain for Mountain Fest from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

A full program of fun and entertainment is on tap for the whole family, according to the sponsoring Kings Mountain Chamber of Commerce.

Registration for both the car show and the 10K, 5K and fun runs starts as early as 8 a.m. Ronnie Whetstone will open the car show registration in City Stadium and Jeep Howard will register runners at First Carolina Savings Bank on West Mountain Street.

The car show judging will get underway at 1 p.m. and three awards for each of 24 classes of competition will be presented at 4:30 p.m. Admission to the show

is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children under 12. Registration is \$15.

Registration for the runs is \$12 on show day and awards will be presented in different age categories to both male and female participants. The run starts at 9 a.m.

Other big events will include a model railroad display in the lower level of the Kings Mountain Woman's Club and an historical display in the old Post Office on West Mountain Street. The Kings Mountain Historical Society is arranging the display of artifacts.

In addition, kids events are planned, including an astro jump, a little train for the small kids to ride, face painting, and a safety smoke house. Members of the KM Rescue Squad will take blood pres-

sure and most civic clubs in town will have displays. There will be a variety of food vendors and crafters.

The entertainment from a stage at the corner of Piedmont and Mountain Streets will feature a variety of bands. "Mink" will open and close the festivities with a concert from 9-10 a.m. and from 4-5 p.m. Other groups to perform during the day will include two gospel groups Southern Crusaders and Southern Daze, Silver Stars and Machines.

The popular model railroad display, a big drawing card for the event, will be set up at the Woman's Club and located in the same area as other attractions.



The popular variety band, Mink, will open and close Mountain Fest Saturday with a concert of special music. The local group will play at 9 a.m. to open the festivities downtown and at 4 p.m. Front row, left to right, John Gillespie, Penni Wahl and Dennis Litton; back row, Chris Cole, Butch Ellis, Mark Blanton and Mike Roof.

Grover defeats beer, wine

Grover voters narrowly defeated a beer and wine referendum Tuesday as 75 percent of the registered voters, a total of 261 people, went to the polls.

The question on allowing off premises sale of beer was defeated by 20 votes: 140 against, 120 for.

The question on allowing off premise sale of wine was defeated 24 votes: 138 against, 114 for.

"It was a good victory," said Martha Hicks Turner, who had been at the polls with other members of the "dry" forces since 6:15 a.m. Tuesday morning.

"I'll work on it until it is passed," said Jackie Hope Bennett, an observer at the polls who voted for the referendum because she said Grover needed the revenue from the sale of beer and wine and citizens could get beer and wine just across the railroad tracks at the South Carolina state line.

"I'll give the good Lord credit for this victory," said a jubilant Turner.

John Evans, who chaired a group called Concerned Citizens Against the referendum, agreed with Turner's observation. He said that voters rejected the proposal because it was "the right thing to do" and cited organization and hard work on the part of the opponents which had the backing of several churches in the area.

Some workers sat in cars in the parking lot and checked off names of voters as they came to vote, making their own tabulations as the day passed.

Mary Lynn Falls, 28, voted in her first election. She said she voted for the referendum because she wanted a grocery store and bank in Grover. "I plan to live here and raise my family and I want to see Grover grow," she said.

Bill Lail, local merchant who also favored the referendum, could not vote because he lives outside the city limits. Observing the sample ballots posted on the door of the Rescue Squad Building, he said he hoped that voters noticed that they would need to use a pen to mark it so that the electronic machine would tabulate it correctly. "It's critical in today's election that voters mark the ballots the way they want to vote," he said.

Lail predicted the vote would either pass or fail by about five or less.

Sam Stevenson predicted the vote would be even closer but he said he hoped it would pass. He said a win would bring a grocery store to compete with convenience stores just across the line where beer and wine are now sold and save residents from having to drive to Kings Mountain, Shelby or Blacksburg, SC to shop for food.

Forty or 50 people milled around the parking lot of the Rescue Squad Building about 15 minutes before the votes were tabulated. By 7:45 p.m. it was all over and onlookers left as quickly as they had come.

A number of women cheered when the results were posted but there was no outward celebration.

"I'm just glad it's over," said Lail.

"We'll all continue to be friends," said Turner.

Tony Eastman, chairman of the Cleveland County Board of Elections, said election day in Grover went smoothly with no problems and no challenges. He said it was the largest voter turnout in years for an election where 357 people were registered and 261 went to the polls to cast a vote. Never does Grover turn out in those numbers even for presidential elections. Just over 50 percent of the registered voters participated in the recent liquor by the drink vote in the City of Shelby, said Eastman, who helped election officials Marie Beam, Jackie Rountree and Ann McCarter Traugh.

Several days prior to the election emotions ran high in Grover but there was no outward activity although efforts to sway voters escalated.

See Grover, 13-A

Commissioners ban smoking, hear opinions on recreation

Cleveland County Commissioners banned smoking in all county public buildings, including the jail, during a five-hour meeting Tuesday night.

The smoking ban was a proposal by Commissioner Ralph Gilbert of Lawndale, who says he smokes, but outside the building.

A standing room crowd filled the Commissioners Chambers in Shelby, including representatives of all school systems and municipalities in the county, many of them who spoke, requesting that cuts not be made in recreation grants or to schools.

City Manager George Wood of Kings Mountain said that many outside city residents use the recreation facilities at Kings Mountain and asked that the recreation grant to Kings Mountain of \$47,290 be kept in place.

Representatives of the Town of Waco asked for a paramedic to be stationed in the community. The request was tabled until further study by Emergency Medical Services Director Joe Lord.

Hoyt Bailey, chairman of the Cleveland County School Board and other school people wearing blue ribbons that read "close the gap for education" asked that school budgets not be cut and recreation monies not be transferred from cities to schools, a proposal that came out of a recent budget meeting of the commission.



248 GRADUATE KMHS - Ginger Baity accepts her diploma from Principal Jackie Lavender during Kings Mountain High's graduation ceremony Friday night at Gamble Stadium

Harris received \$21,361 in PAC money

Kings Mountain Senator J. Ollie Harris (D) and Gaston County Senator James Forrester (R) were among the top 10 legislators receiving the most campaign contributions from a political action committee.

Harris received PAC money totaling \$21,361, or 85 percent of his campaign costs, and Forrester received \$18,450, or 53 percent of his campaign costs. Of the 10 top PAC recipients, Harris led the field in percentage followed by Ralph Hunt of Durham with 84 percent or \$23,354.

The price of a seat in the North Carolina General Assembly more than doubled during the past eight years, and political action committees are paying a growing share of the tab, according to a new study by the N. C. Center for Public Policy Research. Candidates who won seats in the state legislature in the 1992 elections raised \$21,482 on average for their campaigns, up from \$16,941 in 1988 and \$9,075 in 1984, the Center found in its study. The Center conducted its study of campaign finances as a supplement to its latest edition of Article II, "A Guide to the 1993-94 N.C. Legislature", which it released today.

"Our new reports show three major trends," says Ran Coble, the Center's executive director. "First, campaign costs are rising. Second, political action committees are becoming an ever-increasing source of campaign contributions. And third, the legislature demographic

makeup is continuing to change, with groups such as bankers, blacks, educators, and women growing in numbers."

The Center, in its study, said that the average amounts spent by state House and Senate winners in 1992 actually exceeded their base legislative salaries--\$13,026 a year in the 1993-94 session, not including expense money.

House Speaker Dan Blue (D-Wake) says that PACs have become a much more potent force over the past decade. "They're organized," Blue says. "From the early 1980s to the late '80s' they proliferated. Every organization that was anybody starting forming PACs."

A key focus of the Center's study of campaign finances was the relative importance of political action committees. PACs are legal devices that allow corporations, labor unions and other organizations to raise large sums of money and channel it into political campaigns. State law prohibits corporations, unions and other groups from contributing directly to campaigns. But PACs, like individual citizens, can give candidates up to \$4,000 per election. A 1990 study by the Center found that North Carolina was one of 16 states that allow PAC contributions exceeding \$2,000 per candidate.

In comparable studies, The Charlotte Observer found that PACs accounted for about 25 percent of the money contributed to the state legislative campaigns in 1984 and about 37 percent in 1988. The Center's study found that PAC contributions increased to 47 percent of the total for winning candidates in the 1992 elections and PAC contributions tended to favor incumbents, who tended to win elections. In the 1992 North Carolina elections, the 39 Senate incumbents who sought re-election all won; in the House, 78 of the 87 representatives who sought re-election won.



OLLIE HARRIS

SKIPPING CLASS

KM junior Shannon Caveny going to UNC-Charlotte

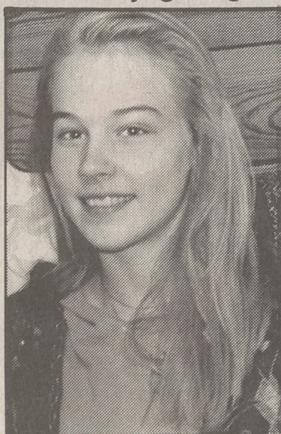
Shannon Caveny, 17, is a multi-talented rising high school senior. She will skip the 12th grade next year and go to college.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Caveny Jr. ranks third in the 200-plus rising senior class at Kings Mountain High School and was a junior marshal at Friday's commencement exercises.

"I will miss my friends and will miss getting my high school diploma but I'm excited that I've been accepted in the early entrance honors program at UNC at Charlotte," said Shannon.

Not only does Shannon rank high in academics but she has ice skated since the age of eight and has 40 or 50 medals to prove her agility and expertise on skates.

Shannon has skated every cate-



SHANNON CAVENY

gory of skills but dance and competed in figures, free style, pairs and couples, completing the difficult lifts, throws, spins and double loops. She mastered eight of the 10 hurdles/levels and recently skated in national competition in Dallas, Texas.

"My skating outfits aren't as fancy as the ones you see the Olympic stars wear but I have worn out about eight pairs of shoes since I started as a little girl," said Shannon, who is encouraged in the sport by her mother, Beth, a science and math teacher of 6-8th grades at St. Michael's in Gastonia, her father, who owns and operates Nationwide Insurance and her sister, Heather, 18, a sophomore at UNC at Wilmington.

See Caveny, 10-A



A jubilant Martha Hicks Turner, left, Beryl Hambright and Frances Caveny celebrate the "drys" victory Tuesday in a close election.