

KMHS tennis player
wins state championship

1-B

Jim Yarbro
Farmer of the Year

5-A

Win \$100 in
Herald Football Contest

6-A

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Spears, Grindstaff win in City Council election

Council will have three new faces



Dean Spears is all smiles as he greets his supporters after Monday's City Council election.

Political newcomers Ralph Grindstaff, 47, and Dean Spears, 59, won seats on Kings Mountain City Council Tuesday as a total of 1,567 or 35.6 percent of the city's registered voters turned out at the polls.

Grindstaff, a former city policeman and a driver's license examiner in Gaston County, edged Charlie Smith by 29 votes to take the Ward 3 seat sought by four candidates in October when voters ousted incumbent Elvin Greene and also turned down Gary Joy and Gilbert Hamrick. Grindstaff received 181 votes Tuesday and Charlie Smith, the second runner in October primary, received 152.

Spears, a building contractor, beat Jerry Mullinax by 100 votes for an at-large seat sought by four candidates in October. Voters in October rejected the bid of former mayor Kyle Smith and also fourth place finisher Frank Brackett. Spears was the front runner in the October primary.

Spears and Grindstaff will join a third political newcomer on city board. In the Ward 5 race, Rick Murphrey defeated incumbent Fred Finger.

"I'm looking to do the very best that I can for all the citizens and will work toward that goal," said Grindstaff, who hugged his wife, Judy, and thanked supporters and greeted friends in the lobby of City Hall.

Grindstaff had pushed for street maintenance progress and said the city's tap-on fees are too high.

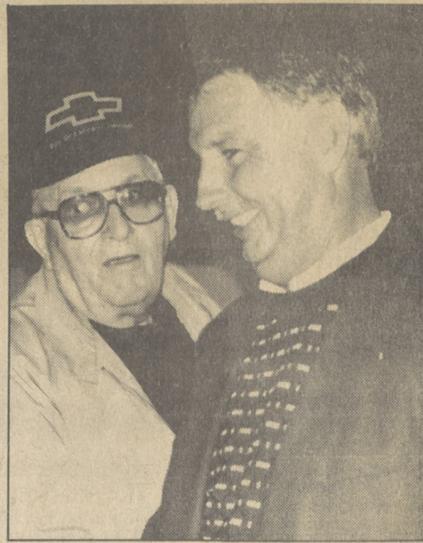
Spears, with his wife, Betty, and members of their family, including their granddaughters, greeted friends at City Hall. "It took a lot of support from a lot of people and we appreciate it," said Spears. He said he looks forward to working with other Council members next year.

Spears had promoted the recruitment of industry and said he wants to upgrade and expand utility services.

"Everything went smoothly," said Elections Supervisor Cook who said voting was steady at the two city precincts all day. She said there was some confusion at the polling places at The Armory and Community Center because the county board of elections was conducting a separate board election in the same buildings but there were no serious problems. Election officials were at the polling places to help get voters in the right places.

"There is always some confusion when there are two sets of books and you have city registrars set up on one side of a room and county registrars on the other," said Tim Miller. Miller said that election officials at City Hall handled only two transfer requests.

See Council, 14-A



Ralph Grindstaff receives congratulations from Charles Wilson after Monday's City Council election.

KM Fund surpasses 50 percent

Kings Mountain's United Fund for '94 is heading down the home stretch.

Chairman Jay Rhodes announced at Monday's report meeting of divisional chairmen that over 54 percent of the goal, or \$67,697.00, had been collected.

The campaign goal for 16 agencies is \$121,500.

Maude Norris, United Fund President, said that only one division chairmen has reached his goal. Kyle Smith, chairman of the Advance Gifts division, reported 100 percent contributions and a total of \$5200.

Norris said that the Professional division headed by Tom Tate has reported 72 percent of collections or \$2760; the Schools headed by Ronnie Wilson has reached 55 percent of goal or \$3918; the City of Kings Mountain has reported \$2600 or 74 percent of its goal of \$3500; the Commercial division has reported \$4,000 and industry headed by Ken Howley has reported 57 percent or \$46,000 from a goal of \$80,000. Collections are going well from Kings Mountain Hospital employees but only \$40 has been collected from local ministers from a goal of \$1,000.

Norris said that volunteers are hoping to wrap up the campaign on November 30. She encourages divisional leaders to make their last-minute appeals by telephone and to make their final reports as soon as possible.

"We know that we have strong community support but we need to get all the funds in before the busy holiday season," said Norris.



C.A. Allison, Ronnie Hawkins and Billy Houze, left to right, celebrate Tuesday night at City Hall after learning of their victories in Tuesday's School Board election.

Hawkins, Houze and Allison win seats on School Board

Two incumbent Kings Mountain district school board members and one former member easily won election Tuesday over four opponents as a large turnout of voters went to the polls.

Board Chairman Ronnie Hawkins, 41, retired school principal C.A. Allison, 74, and Rev. Billy Houze, 39, were elated as the unofficial returns were posted about 9:30 p.m. at City Hall by City Elections Supervisor Becky Cook.

An emotional and tired Hawkins, the top votegetter with 1,677 votes, said he could not pick two better men to work with, speaking of Allison and Houze. "Billy (Houze) was a good board member before he gave up his outside seat last year when he moved into the city limits and Connie (Allison) has been an excellent board member to work with," he said.

Hawkins, who is completing his first term on the school board, is Vice-President of Harris Funeral Home.

During the campaign he called for more parent involvement and promoted an individualized program to help students at risk of failure. He also wants to increase the use of technology in the schools.

Hawkins' mother, Aloyse Jones, worked at the polls all day. A foster parent of 82 children over a period of 23 years, Jones said she is proud of her son's involvement in the schools and with children.

"I'm excited to be getting back on the board," said Houze, elected to an at-large seat after formerly representing the outside-district. Incumbent Priscilla Mauney didn't seek reelection to the five-member board.

See School, 14-A

Rowland only incumbent to win in Grover race

GROVER - Only one of three incumbents kept his seat on Grover Town Board Tuesday as 248 voters went to the polls and also elected two political newcomers.

Unofficial election returns gave the clear wins to incumbent commissioner Tim Rowland who tied with Grover policeman Robbie Sides, the youngest candidate at age 28, as top votegetters. They each received 112 votes.

Finally Restaurant official Noel G. Spivey, who was endorsed by Citizens for Good Government, received 93 votes.

Cindy Cook, beautician and fourth place finisher, who received 89 votes, told Elections official Marie Beam Tuesday night she planned to call for a recount.

Other vote totals: incumbent Jim Howell, 75; incumbent Don Rich, 53; Kenneth Bell, write-in candidate, 45; James F. Goad Sr., 41; Evelyn Willis, 37; Juanita Pruette, 36; and Sam Stevenson, 30.

Kings Mountain and Cleveland County voters narrowly approved only water bonds among five issues before voters Tuesday but statewide the bonds for schools and water and sewer were approved but the constitutional amendment was soundly defeated.

Only 20 percent of the registered voters or 8,016 voted in Cleveland County, passing water bonds 4,007 to 3,210 and defeating other bonds and Amendment No.1 which would have permitted the General Assembly to issue bonds for economic development projects without a vote of the people.

With 2,349 of 2,458 precincts reporting, the statewide vote totals were:

See Bonds, 12-A

Grover Board okays parade

GROVER - Eighty units will step off in Grover's Christmas parade December 11 at 3 p.m.

Plans for the holiday event were announced by Bobbi Spivey at Monday night's Town Board meeting at which Mayor Ronald Queen announced that maps have been drawn up for new waterlines and paperwork is being done for grant and loan applications for the \$286,000 project.

"We've been running all over town trying to clean out the old lines," said the mayor who said the state is checking water samples. He said that 20 residents were asked to supply a gallon jug of water to be checked for copper content.

The board voted to continue its present system of garbage removal at cost of \$16,800 versus contracting at \$33,600 a year or \$8 per month per household.

"It took us a long time to get that garbage truck and I think we need to keep what we've got," said Commissioner Jim Howell.

The Mayor said that Grover's recycling bin is open five days a week from 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. in a fenced area near City Hall. Big boxes are provided for glass and newspapers and a trailer holds plastic.

Queen encouraged board members to walk the streets and set priorities for the needed street repairs. "We have about \$5,000 to spend on street repairs and we need to do it," he said.

See Grover, 12-A

Kings Mountain People

Bessie Bumgardner retiring



BESSIE BUMGARDNER

After 49 years of hairstyling, Bessie Lee Bumgardner is retiring from a profession she loves.

A Kings Mountain native, Bumgardner has lived on her family homeplace 69 years and never plans to travel far from York Road.

The well known beautician has never wanted any other occupation. She fell in love with hair styling as a young student when she held the curlers for good friend and mentor Ethel Falls.

The late Mrs. J. B. Falls gave Bessie sage advice. "Come in on Saturday and see the bad part as well as the pretty part of this business," said Ethel, reminding Bessie

that hours could be long standing behind a shampoo bowl or station and rolling head after head of hair.

"We both loved the business," said Bumgardner, who went to work shortly after graduation from Kings Mountain High School in 1944 and completion of a beauty course at Charlotte Beauty College.

"Back then we didn't have Cosmetology courses in high school and we had to go out-of-town to school and then serve an apprenticeship before we could be licensed," said Bessie. She served her apprenticeship at the old Vera's Beauty Shop under Falls and later worked for Sudie Jenkins when Jenkins bought Vera's on Cherokee

Street. Bessie also worked in the early years for Eloise Mabry at Central Beauty Shop before opening her own three-person shop in 1958 near her home on York Road.

Cold waves were the style and customers wanted their hair pin curled with hairpins when Bessie started setting hair back in 1944. Before that, customers were hooked up to a machine to get their hair permed.

Teasing came and went and styles changed.

What didn't change with the years were Bessie's customers. She had a following of customers who

See Bessie, 14-A



Tim Rowland and his stepdaughter, Leigh Anne Fulton, were all smiles after Rowland was reelected to the Grover City Council in Tuesday's election.