

## Barnes earns master instructor degree

Bob Barnes of Kings Mountain recently earned his master instructor degree with Eng School of Self Defense.

Barnes, who is employed by Temken Bearing Company in Lincolnton, and his wife, Shelly, live in Kings Mountain with their sons Robert and Matthews. Barnes holds a Bachelor of Technology in Business Administration from Appalachian University. He is a member of Community Baptist Church.

Barnes began his self defense training at the old Eng School of Self Defense on Gold Street in 1984. He also attended classes at other Eng schools in Belmont and Charlotte, taking up to 25 hours training per week.

Eng pointed out that most black belts have 400 hours of instruction besides their own study time, but Barnes has well over 1,500 hours. He became the first black belt to make his rank in one year's time.

Barnes became an instructor at the school and a sparring partner for many of the champions that have trained at the Eng School. He won the N.C. heavyweight title in 1986, and fought the heavyweight champion of the world, Demetris "Oak Tree" Sowards to a draw in his hometown.

"Barnes is a well-rounded black belt," said Eng. "He has leadership traits, he sets goals for himself and achieves them, and he is equal to anyone in the boxing ring and his teaching skills are premier. Barnes is a

giver, which has shown over the years with the hundreds of students he has helped through his teaching and sharing."

Eng said Barnes was the first

person to receive the fifth degree black belt which is the degree of master instructor. After fifth degrees, all other degrees are honorary.



Master instructor Bob Barnes receives a plaque and certificate from students he has taught. Left to right are instructors at Eng School of Self Defense, John Hall, Mickey Rose, Chris Taylor, Robert Eng, Barnes, Tommy Carpenter and Gary Carroll.

## CHAMPIONS

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honor but the whole team's honor. This is a great bunch of kids. If there's ever been a better group in our school's history, they were a great team also."

Stewart, a veteran coach who completed his eighth year at Crest, said no matter what the future brings this team will always occupy a special place in his heart.

"I've seen such a rallying point in this community since Donny's death," he said. "Now with football we have a great name for ourselves."

As for the game against Jacksonville, the Chargers dominated from the outset. The Cardinals brought in a 13-1 record which included a 14-0 playoff victory over perennial state champion Northern Durham, but Crest completely shut down their powerful running and passing attack.

"We felt like we needed to use our quickness to offset their quickness," Stewart said. "Everybody thought they'd be quicker and we surprised them by being quicker than they were. When we found out we could dominate the offensive and defensive line it took a lot of wind out of their sails. Anytime we wanted to move the ball we could move it. The only thing we had to do was execute."

And, execute they did. The Chargers did not commit a turnover and their offense had a field day, led by the running of fullback Brian Ivie and tailback Rocky Kimble and the accurate passing

of quarterback Ryan Hamrick, who, incidentally, played the final 2 1/2 quarters with a broken nose and won the game most valuable player award.

"That (executing perfectly) is a good feeling on the sidelines," Stewart said. "That's tough to do in high school, but this team has done it all year. We had no doubts they'd come through and do it again."

Stewart, who also won a state baseball championship when he was at Kinston High School, said winning the football crown was probably the greatest feeling anyone could ever have.

"This was the best season in history of Crest High School," he said. "I don't know if anyone else in the county has ever gone 15-0, but if they have bless their hearts! For the first time I can honestly tell you that we're a pretty good football team."

After several days of celebrating, Stewart said he will probably have a big letdown Thursday or Friday when he realizes the Chargers don't have anyone else to play.

"I came in Monday morning and actually started to put a practice schedule up on the board," he said. "Then I remembered we weren't practicing. I will really miss it when I realize it's finally over. Our equipment is still in the locker room and we have Christmas lights up in the locker room. I think I'll just leave everything the way it is until after the holidays. The day I take everything up I'll realize it's finished."

Meanwhile, Stewart said he'll just cherish the memories and hugs and handshakes. Soon, though, he and Ron Greene will have to turn their attention to next season and that big opening game before a packed house at Burns.

## Cobb wins big at KM sports banquet

Senior tackle Mike Cobb won the coveted Dr. George Plonk Most Valuable Player Award, the Fred Plonk Blocking Trophy and the Mountaineer Club's Most Outstanding Defensive Lineman Award at the annual Kings Mountain High fall sports banquet Tuesday night at the KMHS cafeteria.

The boosters honored athletes and cheerleaders from all fall sports, including football, girls volleyball, cross-country, soccer and girls tennis.

Cobb became the 42nd winner of the Fred Plonk Blocking Trophy, which is the longest-running award given to a Mountaineer football player. The late Fred Plonk, who was a member of Kings Mountain's first football team in 1921, started the award and it has been given in his honor and memory ever since.

The Dr. George Plonk MVP Award was first given in 1959, and Cobb becomes the first KM football player to win both awards in the same year.

Other football trophy winners included:

Brian Lefevers, Mountaineer Club Coaches Award,

Mountaineer Most Outstanding Special Teams Player, and John Gamble Scholastic Award; C.T. Williams, American Legion Most Improved Player and BDF Construction Company Tackling Award; Shane Logan, Hardees Most Outstanding Offensive Back; Jarvis Bell, Hardees Most Outstanding Defensive Back; Chris Carrigan, BDF Construction Offensive Lineman.

Award winners in other sports included:

Cross Country - Most Outstanding Runners, Michelle Fujita and Sage Fulton.

Soccer - Most Improved, Rusty Putnam; Coaches Award, Israel Angeles; Player of the Year, Jordan Angeles.

Volleyball - Most Outstanding Player, Karen Queen; Most Outstanding Offensive Player, Holli Hollifield; Most Outstanding Defensive Player, Christy Bridges; Team Before Self, Charity Moss; Most Improved, April Putnam; Coaches Award, Erika Randall.

Tennis - Jan Fryer Memorial

Award, Jackie Houston; Mountaineer Doubles Award, Amber Jordan, Sarah Tignor; Coaches Award, Amanda Keen. Cheerleading - Most Outstanding, Cindy Phifer; Coaches Award, Katie George.



Chief Wahoo McDaniel to wrestle in Kings Mountain

## Wrestling Saturday at KM Armory

Professional wrestling returns to the Kings Mountain National Guard Armory Saturday, Dec. 17 at 8 p.m.

The tag team title will be on the line when former pro football star Wahoo McDaniel and Chief Jay Eagle face the champions, The Texas Outlaws. There has been a long-running feud between McDaniel and Eagle and the Outlaws, and it will be settled in a best of three bout with a one hour time limit.

Semi-final action will see newcomer Ric Michaels of Atlanta facing Gorgeous George South. Flying Chris Hamrick will face Hard-boiled D.L. Keel.

Returning to the ring at Kings Mountain will be the masked hero, Mr. Wrestling. He will face one half of the feared Tucker Brothers, Jim "Sweetman" Tucker.

Tickets will be on sale at the door beginning at 7 p.m.

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