

## KM School Board approves budget

A uniform school budget of \$20.9 million for fiscal year 1995-96 and a local fund budget of \$3.8 million was unanimously approved by the Kings Mountain Board of Education Monday night without discussion.

Supt. Dr. Bob McRae said the members had taken a hard look at the budget during the recent board retreat in Boone.

The budget includes an increase in the supplement for classroom teachers.

McRae said the board will look at improving the supplements for non-certified employees and administrators at the November meeting.

Salaries for classroom teachers will total \$477,973, up by \$82,480.

After a closed session, the board extended contracts of McRae, Dr. Jane King and Ronnie Wilson to June 30, 1999. State law allows a four year contract if boards choose and for the past several years the

local board has "rolled over" contracts of top administrators. King is assistant superintendent for instruction and Wilson is assistant superintendent for personnel and administration.

Another major action of the meeting was the approval of plans to limit optional testing in the schools this year, the board choosing instead to let the schools focus their energies on required testing.

In the elementary schools the testing approved was end of grade reading and math in grades 3-5 and writing assessment test in grade 4. End of grade reading and math in grades 6-8 at the middle school and writing assessment in grade 7.

Optional testing will include a random sampling of 30 percent of social studies and science students in grades 6-8.

Required testing in the high school will include Algebra I, Biology, English I, English II

(writing) civics and U. S. history.

Testing administrator Jean Thrift said the state board emphasis is on basic subjects and that the testing will be reevaluated every year.

The board also adopted a new policy, historically underutilized business programs, after a final reading. It specifically recognizes vendors who qualify as HUB vendors that are not on the list provided by the Division of Purchasing and Contract, inviting them to bid on projects and assuring that a minimum goal would exceed the four percent goal set by the state.

Houze suggested that the board set "10 percent as a reality." He said that if the board can exceed the state's goal that the board is saying to the community that it gives ample opportunity to subcontractors for major projects without regard to "race, gender or handicap."



New Kiwanis President Ronnie Hawkins, left, presents a plaque to outgoing president Tom Howard at Thursday's installation of officers of Kings Mountain Kiwanis Club.

## HAWKINS

From Page 2-A

Hal Schwantes, second vice-president; David Neisler, treasurer; and Tom Potter, secretary. Directors are Doyle Campbell, John Clemmer, Jerry DePew, Tim Miller, Gene White, Helen Hatch and Jeff Mauney.

Two major projects of the organization are the Terrific Kids program and the annual Schools Talent Show.

The club meets each Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at Central United Methodist Church fellowship hall.

## SIMPSON

From Page 1-A  
at Gaston College.

Five years ago he met his bride, Susan Greene, at Pumpkin Center. Mark was in rookie school at the time. They found they both liked music and their first date was at Rock Springs Camp Meeting where her family had a summer house that Mark describes as a circle of tents or barn-like structures for family camping that includes a kitchen, sleeping loft and baths where they spend summer vacations and attend camp meetings.

"Camp meetings have been a big part of our family's life and we love it," he said. Matt, a fifth grader, became a Christian at Rick Gage Crusade in Kings Mountain, said Mark, and he aspires to be a chaplain in the U. S. Navy.

Mark and his wife are active in school affairs and the family is active in Second Baptist Church and Mark sings in the choir. Simpson sees community in-

volvement as a big plus for a cop, noting that it's important that people meet the officers on the Kings Mountain Police Department.

"Some people in Kings Mountain have the misimpression that crime doesn't occur here but it does, just on a smaller scale with Charlotte," he said.

Recently the whole family completed a do-it-yourself project at their home, putting up vinyl siding, redoing the hardwood floors and building an attached garage. Shift Commander of Patrol Squad C, he oversees the active patrol division,

training new officers, checking and inspecting equipment and evaluating his team.

He calls his squad "the best", giving them high marks for performance and dedication to the job. He says the morale is excellent at KMPD and that each person on his team, the three patrolmen and dispatcher on his squad, go beyond the call of duty in responding to calls of citizens.

"When someone calls for help we go and police work never takes a back seat."

## Kings Mountain Weather Report

(Compiled by Kenneth Kitzmiller)

	Oct. 4-10	Year Ago
Total precipitation	2.05	1.61
Maximum one day	1.74 (4)	1.50 (9)
Year to date	49.64	47.98
Minimum temp.	49 (9)	47 (10)
Maximum temp.	79 (6)	76 (8,9)
Average temp.	66.5	61.7

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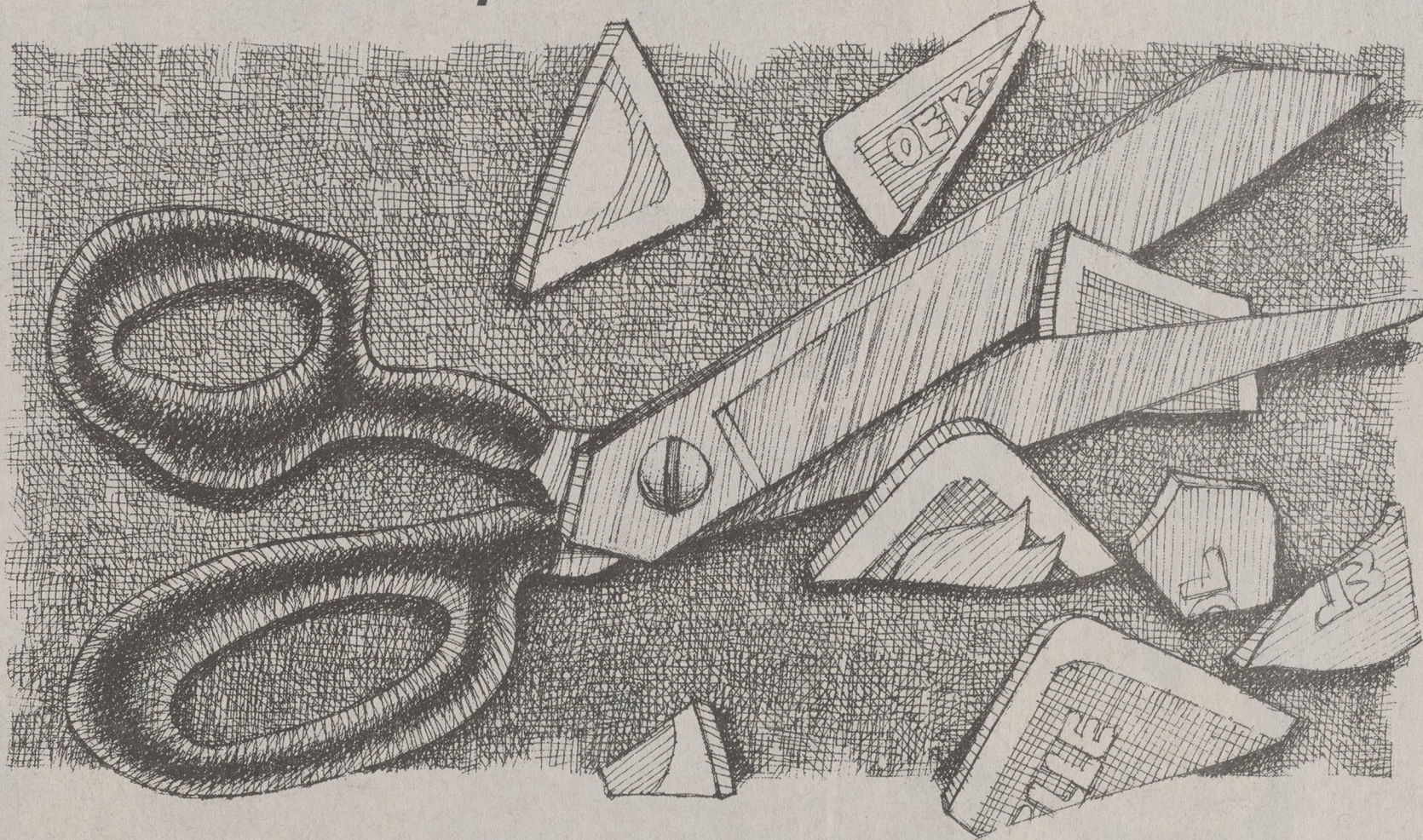
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