

## WILLIAMS

From Page 1-A

He said he was not advised by the county commission in time to answer valid questions from them and the public concerning his performance on the board.

"The lawful purpose of the DSS Board is to oversee the DSS, not to prop up public support for an agency well known to be in dire need of reform and control," he said.

The county board of commissioners may name a replacement for embattled Robert A. Williams on the board of the Department of Social Services at Tuesday's 7 p.m. meeting in Council Chambers in Shelby.

Williams, of Fallston, who may be the first DSS board member to be forced from office in North Carolina, was removed from the board during a hearing he did not attend Monday night.

The full board, with the exception of Van Hoy who left the room in protest of the hearing, found Williams' alleged uncooperative and disruptive presence at board meetings since 1993 constituted good cause to remove him from office.

Citing N. C. statutes, Williams charged last Friday that DSS Director Lorene Rogers should be fired for what he called "insubordination" and a failure to follow and enforce N. C. law.

In a faxed memo that was distributed to DSS Board members and the press, Williams said Rogers should be dismissed because DSS failed to investigate a report about the Shelby Nevel family that was made in August by a Shelby Schools social worker.

Social Services Board members are legally empowered by G.S. 108-A-12 to appoint the agency's director.

Rogers said at the September meeting of the county board of commissioners that although DSS workers did not visit the Nevels home in Shelby that the agency "did what it was supposed to."

But Williams claims under the law that DSS should have accepted the neglect report and sent an investigator to the Nevel residence within 72 hours of receiving the social worker's report.

Eleven-year-old Tony Nevel, who suffers from muscular dystrophy, was beaten by three Shelby youths - allegedly at the urging of the handicapped boy's father.

Police charged William Nevel with felony child abuse.

Shelby Schools Social Worker Lucretia Bell said she contacted DSS after visiting the Nevel home because Nevel had not returned to Shelby Middle School since he enrolled on August 21.

Bell said during her visit to the home that she noticed several "red flags." Bell said the 15-year-old Nevel daughter had not been enrolled in school, which is a violation of state law. She said she tried to secure the girl's school records from a Catawba County counselor

and was told that DSS in Hickory had been involved with the Nevel family.

Bell said she called an intake worker in DSS child protective services and relayed the information and her personal concerns. She said a letter signed by a DSS employee informed her that DSS was not responsible for enforcing school attendance laws and that Bell's report for neglect had not been accepted. The letter said that DSS had referred the girl to Services for the Blind.

Rogers responded to the charges at the recent county board of commissioners meeting, responding to questions of both Van Hoy and Ralph Gilbert. She said Child Protective Service workers checked the state social services registry and found no records regarding the Nevels.

"Don't wait until after the facts to do something," said Van Hoy at that meeting.

## MEETING

From Page 1-A

to join the other two school boards in the county for conversation about public education. He said he had talked with chairpersons of both the Shelby and Cleveland County Boards of Education and suggested that Kings Mountain would like to be a part of the meeting. He said he would work with the group on a tentative agenda after he receives more input from the local board.

"We have always cooperated in a spirit of friendliness with both boards," said Peeler.

Peeler said that one instance of cooperation is Parker Street School, the county-wide alternative school now located at the former administrative office building on Parker Street.

Peeler said that although the M word does not appear in the letter that "we all have a fear that merger will be the main topic of conversation."

"We need to be clear on how the board feels about it before we go to the meeting," he said.

McRae said he saw no great necessity for the joint meeting until after the first of the year, probably before the boards begin budget preparations about February.

## ELECTION

From Page 1-A

"Amen," Hager called out in the crowded City Hall lobby Tuesday night when the vote totals were announced, and he quickly left the room.

Hager led a three-man field with 152 votes followed by Joe King with 100 votes and Tim Johnson with 31.

Hager, the city's first minority council member in the city's 121-year history, was reelected to a second term at City Hall.

"It's been a long day," said Hager, who said he worked the polling places since early morning.

Hager, who was nominated by the Cleveland County Chapter of the NAACP for a seat on the county board of commissioners but was not chosen by the county board, had said several months ago during that selection process that he wanted to regain his seat on City Council.

Among Hager's strong supporters for city political office was his brother, Bill Hager, who died last week.

"I really can't smile too much," he said as election results were being posted.

King, a former policeman who had sought a seat on the board previously, quickly congratulated Hager.

"I was hoping that I could do it in the first round," said Neisler, the city's youngest mayor who took office four years ago after serving as Ward 4 Councilman.

"I am very encouraged that I got the leading vote count in the mayor's race. It makes me feel good to know that voters believe I am on the right track in making the recommendations I have made to City Council," he said.

Childers, a former two-term commissioner who was defeated by Neisler four years ago and who has missed few meetings of Council since he went off the board, said he felt good about the voter confidence and will work even harder in the next weeks before the runoff.

Gene White, who waged a campaign to restore credibility to city government, was knocked out of the race but he said the voters had made a decision and he would support the winners.

At Tuesday's election 32.6 per-

cent of the registered voters of 4,760 went to the polls, a larger turnout than most political observers had predicted.

"I am very pleased with the turnout," said Neisler. But City Elections Supervisor Becky Cook said that she was disappointed that the turnout was not more.

A total of 638 people voted at the East Kings Mountain precinct at the Community Center.

A total of 915 people voted at the West Kings Mountain precinct at The Armory.

The campaign, hailed by observers as one of the quietest political seasons in recent history, was marked by a clean race by 13 candidates pushing for four seats open at City Hall.

Even after two years of at times divisive controversy among the seven board members about the city finances, it was impossible, longtime political poll watchers said to predict winners in Tuesday's municipal election.

"I wouldn't bet on this one," said long-time pollwatcher Clayvon Kelly.

Neisler said that city finances were not in crisis but improving and that 1994 property tax and utility rate hikes were unnecessary.

"The city has had serious financial problems but new board members took the actions needed to turn the city finances around," said Childers.

White organized a voter referendum in June that reduced board and mayoral terms of office from four to two years starting with the Tuesday election. He charged that government is focused on special interests and called for major changes at City Hall, including cuts in salaries of city council and the mayor.

"I'm very happy," said Bridges, a former mayor pro tem, who said she will work harder in the week prior to the runoff. "It makes me feel good that people still have trust in me as a Council member."

"This was a good experience for me but the city voters have made the decision," said White, who said he doubts that he will run for city office again.

## Moore joins Shelby law firm

The legal profession is not the glamorous job that some envision, says Tim Moore, of the reason that so many law school students opt for other careers.

"It's work and seven years of schooling," says the young Kings Mountain man, who recently passed the North Carolina Bar and has joined the law firm of Hamrick, Mauney, Flowers and Martin in Shelby after working as a summer intern.

Moore, the new associate in the firm, works with Fred Flowers on civil and criminal litigations. He says he puts his clients first and first and foremost he considers the rights of everyone.

"One day I will get my big case but right now I'm learning how I can be the best lawyer I can be and the first lawyer in the Moore family," he said.

Moore said his parents and his sister, Carla, support him wholeheartedly.

Son of Rick and Jean Moore of Kings Mountain, Tim graduated from Kings Mountain High School in 1988 and always had the dream of one day practicing law. He graduated from UNC at Chapel Hill with a degree in political science in 1992 and enrolled in Oklahoma City School of Law and graduated in May 1995 with his JD degree. In Oklahoma he found a diverse student body and was in a graduating class of 160 students, one-third of the student body of 240 dropping out during the second year of law school.



TIM MOORE

"The second year is the hardest and you have to work," said Tim.

He spent the summer in Chapel Hill preparing for his bar exam in Raleigh in July.

Moore says the rewards in the legal profession are many. He likes to help people and he has good mentors in the law firm of which he is associated.

Active in Young Republicans, he is currently chairman of Young Republicans of Cleveland County and on the county GOP executive committee. His hobbies are mountain biking and hiking. He is a member of Kings Mountain First Baptist Church. Moore highly recommends the law profession as a promising career for young men and women but says they should be committed and not be afraid to change their minds in law school.

"I love it and am spending 100 percent of my time building my law practice," he says.



# FALL FESTIVAL

*The Halloween Alternative*  
**Saturday • October 28th, 1995**  
 Christian Living Center • Macedonia Baptist Church  
 1101 S. Battleground Avenue, Kings Mountain, NC • 739-6811  
 6:00 - 6:40 pm • Light Refreshments  
 6:40 - 9:00 pm • FESTIVAL ACTIVITIES  
 Door Prizes, Games, Best Costume Contest & Candy



ENJOY MORE AFFORDABLE INSURANCE

## Save with Nationwide's Home & Car Discount!

Insure both your home and car with Nationwide, and get a special money-saving discount on your homeowners insurance AND another money-saving discount on your auto insurance. Call today.

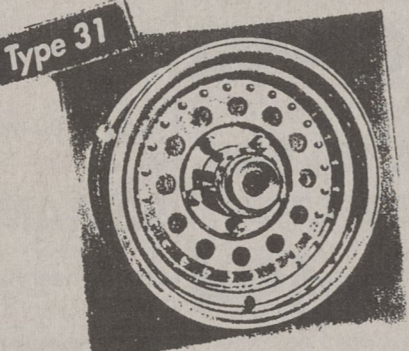


John C. Caveny  
 306 E. King St.  
 Kings Mountain  
 (704) 739-3953

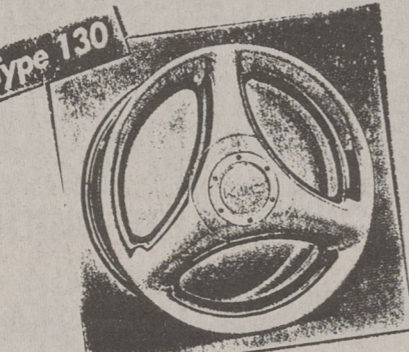


Nationwide is a registered federal service mark of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company and Affiliated Companies • Home Office: One Nationwide Plaza, Columbus, OH 43216

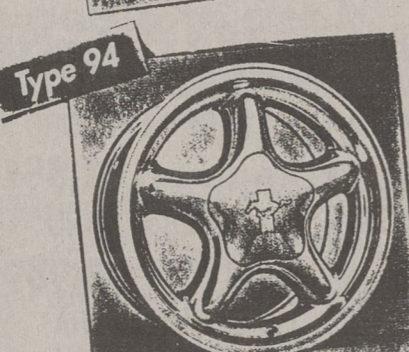
Sets of 4  
**ALUMINUM WHEEL HOT DEALS**



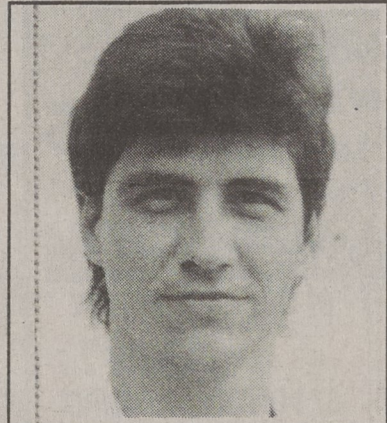
15" POLISHED  
**\$328**



15" POLISHED  
**\$529**



16" CHROME  
**\$984**



Dale  
 "The Wheel Man"

## PLONK TIRE, INC.

227 S. CHEROKEE STREET  
 DOWNTOWN  
 KINGS MOUNTAIN  
**739-0193**

90 DAYS SAME AS CASH WITH APPROVED CREDIT



## Hamrick's CLEARANCE CENTER



**VALUES**  
*You can use!*

### Missy & Women's Acrylic Jacquard & Silk/Angora Sweaters

Complete your Fall wardrobe with a selection of new sweaters and vests by Colter Bay. Choose from these acrylic jacquard sweaters, silk/angora, cable-front, mock-neck sweaters, and harvest or holiday theme sweaters. Missy or Women's sizes. Select styles in Petite sizes.

**Our Everyday Low Price, \$17.98-\$19.98.**

**On Sale Thurs.-Sat., Oct. 12-14 Only**

**\$12.98 each**



Colter Bay

Shelby Plaza • Hwy. 74 West • 300 W. Dixon Blvd.  
 (704) 480-6979 • Shop Monday - Saturday, 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.