



Bethware fifth graders recently participated in DARE graduation after spending the first semester in classes with DARE officer Lisa Capps. Pictured are the students who were essay winners from their classes. They are Jonathan Wheeler, Melodie McSwain, Officer Capps, and Jeremy Harrelson



BLANTON'S TIGER TIGERS - Top Tigers in Mrs. Blanton's first grade at North School are, front row, left to right, Steven Welsh, John Witherspoon. Second row, Brianna Grant, Megan Lowery, Sarah Russell, Andy Siravanta. Third row, Kyra Alexander, Chad Chapple, Tayler Deaton, Casey Ellis. Back row, Mrs. Blanton, North School Tiger.

## Angling Expertise

By  
**Guy Eaker**

No matter how much intelligence, cunning or reasoning power we give to largemouth bass in being able to hide from us, one fact always remains constant: a bass is a bass wherever it lives.

There are certain conditions the fish generally relate to if they're available and if you remember these, you can usually catch them. In North Carolina the similarities are easy to see: creek channels, gravel or rocky points, bridges and riprap, main lake pockets and tributary creeks. There are other common factors, of course, but these are some of the most obvious.

If you're absolutely at a loss at where to look for bass on a lake, think back to the places like these where you're caught bass before, and see if you can duplicate the conditions. Three places I always check in every tournament I fish are boat docks, riprap, and vegetation.

Of these three, vegetation is probably the first I try to find. Hydrilla, milfoil, coontail moss or any of the other varieties are generally considered perfect bass habitat because they provide shade, cover, and food. If you look at any of the top bass lakes in America, their one common denominator is abundant vegetation.

### FISHING WEEDS

The best-producing summer grassbeds tend to be those in deeper water, such as those in the main lake rather than in tributaries. This is because more oxygen will be present.

One of the ways I like to fish vegetation is with a 3/16- or 1/4-ounce spinnerbait that I retrieve right over the top of the greenery. I try to guide the lure to any potholes and openings that might be present, and swim the lure like a small minnow.

Many of my friends like to fish plastic frogs or rats, and there is hardly a more exciting way to catch bass. Rat fishing is often more of a fall technique, especially down on Lake Guntersville where it gained its fame, but it works in the summer too.

### MAN-MADE COVER

Another place I always look for bass, and can usually find them, is around boat docks. On lakes that receive a lot of boating and ski traffic, boat docks frequently offer excellent action because the bass seem to use the structures as sanctuaries. Bass also relate well to boat docks in clear water.

Boat docks located on points leading into a creek or cove are normally the best. Migrating fish coming into the coves stop at these docks first since they offer the nearest access back to deep water.

I have seen many instances where only specific docks produce fish while those nearby did not and deep water access is one reason they do. Your key that brush may be under the surface is the presence of rod holders and/or lights around the dock.

My favorite lure for boat dock fishing is a 1/2-ounce jig but I also use spinnerbaits, crankbaits, buzzbaits and top water chuggers. Crankbaits will help you find the underwater brush, which you can then fish with jigs, plastic worms or even topwater baits.

When you're fishing boat docks, don't stop after fishing the front and outer pilings. Make parallel casts along the edges, then move to the back pilings nearer the shore and work them too. In the spring, bass usually spawn in the shallow water behind docks and in summer the fish may move to the back to feed.

### HARD ROCK ANGLING

Riprap is another common type of structure that often produces surprisingly good summer patterns. The rocks can become magnets for bass because they provide hiding places for crawfish and other creatures bass eat, and also because algae grows on the rocks to provide food for minnows.

Don't forget the magical shallow water/deepwater combination nearly always present with riprap, especially around bridges. In places like these, bass can make short vertical moves rather than long horizontal ones to feed.

One of my favorite ways to top fish riprap is to parallel cast the rocks with a crankbait, worm or jig, working different depths until I locate fish. I usually start on any little point or bend the riprap makes.

Another way I'll fish riprap is by casting directly into it and working my lure down into the deeper water. This is a great place to practice slow-rolling a heavy spinnerbait because it can produce some huge catches. In the heat of mid-day, you can even bring bass up occasionally with a slow, noisy buzzbait.

### BOTTOM LINE

These are just three of the possible patterns I look for when I'm practicing for a tournament. They're common on lakes all across the state and more often than not, one of them will produce fish. Keep them in mind the next time you're wondering where the bass have gone.

## Cop's goal is to be Chief

Ptl. Harold Wayne Carpenter, 23, has a high goal.

He aims to be Police Chief in Kings Mountain some day and wants to be promoted through the ranks as in the case of the present Chief of Police Bob Hayes who has been with the City of Kings Mountain 34 years.

"I'm young but I want to learn," said Carpenter, the youngest sworn officer on the Kings Mountain Police force. He joined KMPD nearly eight months ago after graduating from rookie school at Gaston College.

A native of Bessemer City, Carpenter is the son of Harold and Elizabeth Carpenter and graduated from Bessemer City High School

in 1991. A self-taught welder, he worked at Cleveland Welding before he changed his career. He has one married sister, Mary Thorpe of Kings Mountain and one niece, Dovic Postell.

"They said I was in a dangerous profession as a welder but being a policeman is more dangerous because we put our lives on the line each time we go out on a call," said the young officer who said he always respected the uniform and looked up to all law enforcement.

"I guess it was just something I had always wanted to do and I'm going for it," he said.

Carpenter, like all other police officers, were on call recently during a big gambling sting.

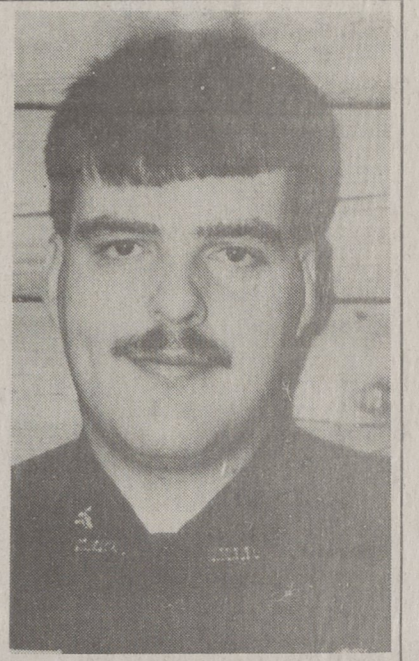
"I guess we've received all kinds of calls including a call from a woman who had frozen pipes during the ice storm and needed help," he said.

He is a member of Sgt. Bob Myers' squad which also includes officers Jerry Tessner and Penny Fulton and dispatcher Vivian Payne.

When Wayne isn't working he likes to fish and hunt. He admits to landing some pretty big fish on the Catawba River and Lake Wylie.

Carpenter recommends law enforcement as a promising career for young people who are dedicated, who like people and want to work.

"Start when you are young" is his advice.



Ptl. WAYNE CARPENTER

## Rezoning request for Ingle's gets mixed reviews

A proposal by an Oak Grove couple for annexation so they could close the deal on a sale of land for a new Ingle's Supermarket got mixed reaction from Kings Mountain City Council Tuesday night.

Council gave the go-ahead for the city clerk to investigate the petition for annexation but two

Council members, Jerry White and Phil Hager, said they are opposed to spot zoning and Dean Spears questioned when the city would have to provide all the required services in the one-mile perimeter area.

"I am opposed to any type of satellite annexation or spot zoning," said White.

"Spot zoning has left a bad taste in the mouths of citizens in the past and the Gold Run community opposes it," said Hager.

Planning Director Steve Killian said investigation of the petition is preliminary to a firm decision of the board which could call a public hearing.

"Certainly it is your prerogative

not to annex," said Killian.

Ingles wants to build a new grocery store about one mile from the city limits on Oak Grove-Scism Road and has approached Paul and Judy Scism for land.

Ingles recently completed a new store on Pleasant Hill Church Road and Highway 226.

## Special events at Parent Center

Two special events are planned at the Parent Center at West School in February in addition to the regular computer and Adult Education Classes.

Agnes Webber from the Cleveland County Extension Office will conduct two nutrition workshops February 7 and February 21 from 10-11:30 a.m. Participants may help with the food preparation or they may observe as it is prepared. Webber will provide helpful information on good nutrition and distribute recipes. The program is free.

Dr. Stephen Freeman, a psychologist currently practicing in Shelby, will conduct a workshop February 10 from 7-8 p.m. at the Parent Center on "Attention Deficit Disorder/Hyperactivity." The focus of the workshop is to help parents deal with issues such as homework, discipline and how to work with the school. Freeman has worked with the Southwest Virginia Child Development Clinic in Bristol and the Developmental Evaluation Center in Cleveland County.

## City to provide emergency water

City Council okayed emergency water for the Cleveland County Sanitary District Tuesday.

Water Supt. Walt Ollis said the hookup will be on Oak Grove Road and he is unsure how much water will be needed.

Former City Council member Al Moretz, one of four engineers for the Sanitary District, said Upper Cleveland has faced major problems in recent weeks with rising water in the First Broad River overwhelming district pumps.

Maney said the state has mandated that the agency obtain emergency connections from area water supplies in Shelby, Boiling Springs, Kings Mountain, Cherryville and Lincolnton.

"The state is really putting on the pressure because that district has 13,000 customers and if power to the water pumps is lost for any reason they will be without water indefinitely," he said.

For 5 1/2 hours January 22 eight firemen from Kings Mountain and Bethlehem Fire Departments connected two fire hydrants with a four-inch hose on Fredell Street in the Midpines Community and 300,000 gallons of city water was pumped and metered, Ollis reported.

## Operation ID set at KMHS

Operation ID will get underway at Barnes Auditorium Saturday at 9 a.m.

Jessica Brown, Captain of the Kings Mountain Police Explorers and Ptl. M. E. Jamerson, Explorer advisor, are encouraging parents to take their small children to be fingerprinted and their pictures taken for an official record.

"This is an important tool if a child is reported missing to the Police Department," said Jamerson.

Jamerson said the record will include all the information the Police would need to begin a search for a lost child. The child would also receive an ID card with a picture on it.

Explorers, high school students interested in a career in law enforcement, are using the proceeds from the event, \$3 per child, to raise money for uniforms and equipment.



These fourth and fifth grade students at Bethware School were honored as Terrific Kids by the Kiwanis Club for the second nine weeks of school. They are, left to right: first row - Mary Brooks, Brandon Jenkins, Raquel Welsh, and Matthew Cavender. Second Row - Chris Ashe, Jackie Jarvis, Ashley McDaniel, Orlando Curry, and Chad Young. Back row - Stephanie Stark, LaShay Lail, Jeremy Harrelson, Ross Ellis, and Deric Carroll. Principal Mary Accor and Kiwanis Club member George hatch are shown with the students.



Bethware School students recently participated in a Geography Bee sponsored by National geography Society. These were the finalists in the competition. They are, left to right: seated - Jordan Crisp, Courtney Osteen, Drew Gibson, and Matt Frazier. Standing - Mark Scruggs, Patrick Bolton, Dustin Calvert, Rachelle Chryst, Bronda Mason, Vincent Keller, and Brooks Tate, who was the Bee champion. Matt Frazier was the runner-up.



HARRICK'S TIGERS - Top Tigers in Mrs. Hamrick's kindergarten class at North School are, front row, left to right, Brooke Avery, Chris Hall, John Avery Blake, Johnnie Johnston. Second row, Justin Moore, Khadijah Banks, Kaitlyn Teague, Kristen Causby, Tripp Welch. Back row, LaShae Bowen, Laura Hollifield, Nikki Mull, Preston Lee, Rebecca Broadway, Tiffany Brooks.