



**BIKE WINNER** - Lindsay Taylor of Kings Mountain and John Schanewolf of Schanewolf's Cycle Sport in Shelby show off the Haro VO mountain bike Lindsay received for winning the Republic Newspapers coloring contest.

## Blake to take math on road

Instead of teaching next year at Kings Mountain Middle School Gary Blake, 37, will be taking math on the road as a member of a state ABC's of Education team recently appointed by the State Board of Public Instruction.

"I'm excited," says Blake, who is one of 60 people, including 30 teachers, among 1500 applicants and one of three Cleveland County residents selected after interviews. Other local people on the team are Gail Daves, elementary principal from Boiling Springs, and Vickie Spangler, Shelby's Graham Elementary school principal.

Blake, who has taught math for 13 years, will share his expertise as a math teacher with teachers at schools which are ranked under achievers. He will teach and demonstrate, observe teachers and analyze schools, diagnosing the problem and offering a prescription to get the schools back on track.

These leaders have been charged with getting the students back on track even if they have to terminate teachers and run the school themselves, Blake says.

Blake will attend several



**GARY BLAKE**

training sessions this spring and will report to his new job July 1 and will be assigned schools in the Charlotte region as far west as Cleveland County where students rank below the state average in reading and math. Next year the program, which will run from 3 to 5 years, is expected to expand from grades 3-8 to the high school level.

Dr. Sam Houston, formerly of Kings Mountain, is coordinating the program.

Blake is resigning his local position this year but has the option to return next year or to continue with the new program. His selection was based on exemplary test scores on the new state scale of teaching.

Blake joined the Kings Mountain system 13 years ago, taught at Central six years, at Kings Mountain High four years and has taught 120 students math at the middle school three years.

He is a graduate of Blacksburg, SC High School and a 1984 graduate of Winthrop University. He is working on his master's degree in educational administration at Gardner-Webb University. He is the son of Nancy and Leroy Blake of Grover and is married to Jane Bryson Blake, assistant principal at Jefferson Elementary School in Shelby. They have a four-year-old son, Alex, and live in Shelby and attend Shelby's First Baptist Church.

Blake says his interest in teaching began as a small boy growing up in the Dixon Community.

"I wanted to make a difference in a kid's life by giving some guidance and supervision so they could be productive citizens," said Blake.

## Ingles wants to file permits under old ordinances

Ingles' Super Market, which holds an option to buy property for a new store on Oak Grove Road, wants its application for building permits to fall under the old, not recently adopted, new city ordinances.

The owners of the property, Judy and Paul Scism, will formally request a change in the city ordinance governing building permits at Tuesday's meeting of the Kings Mountain Planning and Zoning Board at 7 p.m.

Scism seeks a change in the ordinance text which, in effect, would mean if Ingles got permits under the old version of

the ordinance, even though there is a new ordinance in place, Ingles would abide by the old standards as outlined in the older versions of the city ordinance.

Planning Director Steve Killian says Ingles had asked questions about compliance with ordinances in materials sent to his office but had never formally applied nor made any payments for building permits.

"Ingles could conceivably fall under the old ordinance but that would be up to the City Council which acts on planning board recommendations," he said.

The board will also hear: a request from Sam Mitchem for rezoning of a lot adjacent to Community Grocery on Waco Road from residential to neighborhood business. Mitchem wants to make improvements to his current property.

a request from Olin Love for rezoning from residential to general business three lots on the east side of Love's Fish Box.

a request from Jody Champion to rezone a tract of land fronting N. C. 161 near Hardin's Body Shop from residential to light industry.

## JENNIFER

From 1-A

Salem and become a registered nurse.

According to her mother, Jennifer is one of an estimated 15,000 children in the United States to have a growth deficiency. And her growth disorder is only one of several that can stunt growth.

While most short children don't have a serious growth problem, several genetic or hormonal disorders can stunt growth. Jennifer's pituitary gland doesn't secrete enough growth hormone, a condition known as hypopituitarism.

A genetic disorder - achondroplasia - stunts the growth of long bones. A mysterious disease called Silver's Syndrome causes the body's two sizes to grow at different rates. Turner's Syndrome, a genetic disorder, both dwarfs a child and affects the child's sexual maturing.

Sometimes the growth disorder goes undetected during childhood but Ms. Hickman is thankful for doctors like Day who knew of the new hormone therapy that has worked miracles for Jennifer.

"Dr. Day told us that he believed everyone should get a good start in life," says Ms. Hickman.

Jennifer weighed in at 3 pounds, 5 ounces at birth. A seven-months baby, she remained in a Charlotte Hospital 51 days before her parents

brought her home. Jennifer says she is in perfect health now, gained five pounds this year and eats all the time.

With a 3.6 grade point average, her favorite subjects are Chemistry, English III and US History but the love of her life is the cheerleading squad where she has been a varsity cheerleader for three years. At KMHS, she is also active in the Pep Club and Spanish Club. She belongs to St. Peter's Missionary Baptist Church in Grover. She placed third in the Dream Girl Pageant.

It's no secret that Jennifer likes sports. She cheers not only for the home team but she's a big fan of the Duke Blue Devils.

Although Jennifer fears her height will keep her from shooting the baskets, she is happy to stand on the sidelines and cheer her team to victory.

## TAX HIKE

From 1-A

schedules and placements of 250-270 classified employees.

He recommended that the board adopt the state board recommendation on minimum and maximum pay and adopt a 30-step schedule for all classified employees with one year increments similar to the plan under which teachers are employed. He estimated the cost would approximate a one percent increase in pay the first year.

The salary increase would cost the system \$226,000 in next year's budget, according to finance officer Terri Haas, who said teacher assistants would get a total of \$107,000, custodians \$15,000 and food service employees \$43,000 in the

increase. "This has been a long time in coming and we need to get a handle on it now," said Chairman Ronnie Hawkins.

McRae said the increase in the supplemental tax could take care of \$90,000 and there would be other resources to make up the difference. McRae said the system may have to look at increasing lunchroom costs a nickel for operational costs. "It would take a 20 cent increase on lunch costs to pay employees from the money that school lunches generate," he said.

The board endorsed the pay plan concept to implement in next year's budget if possible.

Public hearing on the proposed current expense budget will be conducted April 7 at 7 p.m. by the board of education at the school administration building.

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