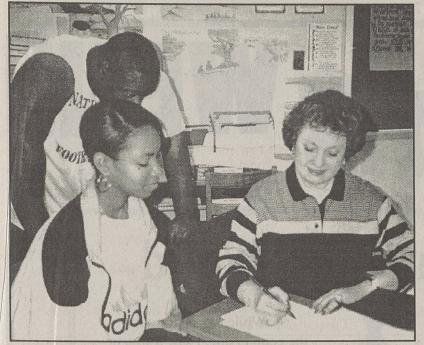
June 19,1997





Christina Falls and Heather Adams share their pattern book "What Do You Hear?" Children, left to right, are Polly Etters, Troy Pennington, and Joseph Adkins.

Ron Harrill edits book by Freddy Gladden, Amanda Maples and Annie Walters. The riddle book was entitled "What Am I?"

### **Students share books with first graders**

Annette Parker's sophomore writing class at Kings Mountain High School recently participated in an activity which demonstrated that writing can be a fun, creative, and product-oriented experience.

As an end of the year project, students embarked on an adventure which strengthened their own writing skills and brought joy to the first graders in Suzie Roberts' class at West **Elementary School.** 

The assignment was to write and illustrate a children's book to be shared with young children in a first grade class. To create interest for the assignment, Parker invited Ron Harrill, a local writer of children's books. to speak with students about the writing process and the steps involved in actually publishing a book. Harrill is a graduate of North Carolina A&T State University. He researches and lectures on the history of Africa and African people, noting that his extensive travel experiences have extended his sources of material for future books.

In a second visit to Parker's classroom, Harrill read and critiqued the students' books. As the project neared completion, students polished their final drafts, submitted their work to be laminated and bound, then practiced their oral presentation.

Twenty-three first graders ea-

gerly awaited the arrival of 15 high school students who would share their original books with them.

'The writing project was successful and well worth the time and energy extended by teachers and students," Parker said. "Me Roberts reports that her students were thrilled with the experience of having guests writers from the high school join them and were enthusiastic about the prospective of writing their own books someday soon."

Brooke Baity, one of Roberts' first graders, commented that she liked the books which were read to her. "The one I really liked is Colors because I like to color, and I'm and artist, and I like colors."

Parker said many first graders were partial to the book entitled The Magic Teddy, a story which enabled the child holding the magic teddy bear to give a squeeze of the hand and be transported to distant lands.

Writing and sharing their books with an exuberant, receptive audience was a magical experience for the high school students. Ranata Wingo suggested that the project should be continued next year and expanded to include first graders at all Kings Mountain elementary schools.

"What did all the students engaged in the writing project learn?" asked Parker. "Styles of writing? Perhaps. Types of chil- experience? Definitely! The dren's books. Perhaps. That writing project exemplifies edusharing a story can be a magical

cation at its best."



Christy Hamrick and Julius Curry consult with Annette Parker about needed changes in their book, "Brownie's Bad Behavior."

## The Kings Revue auditions planned August 26 at KMHS

The Kings Revue will be holding auditions for the 1997-98 school year on Tuesday, August 26 at 3:30 p.m.

Any student auditioning must prepare a solo of their own choosing. The solo may be any style. Each soloist should provide their own accompanist or use an accompaniment tape or CD. Acapella singing is discouraged.

Preparation will be judged, as well as showmanship, natural ability, musicianship, coordina-tion, and personally. Each stu-dent will be asked to sight read a melody and to clap a standard rhythmic pattern involving quarter notes, half notes, eighth notes, etc. Students can practice sight reading by singing hymn tunes. Contact Eugene Bumgardner, director, for other sightreading materials. Students will also be asked to do group movements together to demonstrate coordination skills.

school group which meets at during which time they will see least one day a week (usually an Atlanta Braves baseball Thursday, 3:05-4:30 p.m.). The game. The cost is \$30 plus mongroup is made up of students ey for meals. chosen from the whole student body. Prior singing in chorus is esting in having a group pernot a requirement. Musical form for functions, call Eugene training and knowledge is a Bumgardner at the high school great help in being chosen. (734-5647 ext. 37), or at his Anyone in the 9th through 12th home (739-6639).

grade may audition. It is a yearlong commitment. Anyone chosen will be expected to stay in the group all year because of the difficulty of training replacements. Flexible schedules is also a consideration for membership. The Kings Revue tries to meet the public demand, and members must have a flexible scheduled to meet all performances.

The 1996-97 Kings Revue had an outstanding year. They re-ceived first place in the Musicfest Show Choir competition in Orlando, Florida. They performed "Get Happy," "The American Dream," and "Hope is Alive," complete with choreography and props. Their choreographer is Lora Karabatsos. They started out their year in Gatlinburg, TN on the "beginning of the year" retreat, where they got a head start on learn-ing all their music.

The 1997-98 Kings Revue will be traveling to Atlanta The Kings Revue is an after September 12-13 for a retreat,

Any community group inter-

#### KM students earn degrees at UNC-CH

were among more than 4,600 earning bachelor's, master's, doctoral and professional degrees from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Commencement was held

Sunday, May 11 in Kenan Stadium, featuring remarks by Erskine Bowles, President Clinton's Chief of Staff.

Local graduates included Virginia Leanne Baity, 121

Six Kings Mountain students Camelot Court, BS in Nursing with Distinction; William Douglas Bridges Jr., 581 Chestnut Ridge Road, BS in Mathematical Sciences; Jacqueline Elizabeth Canipe, 902 Monroe Avenue, Bachelor of Arts; Jill Renee Jimison, 602 Oak Grove Road, BS in Biology with Highest Distinction; Aime Noelle Powell, Route 3, Bachelor of Arts; and Cari Alisa Sipe, 135 Muirfield Drive, Bachelor of Arts.

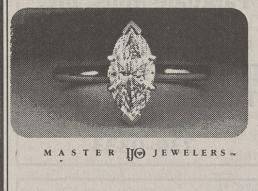




First graders Paul Philavong, Megan Ellis and Kelli Bolt enjoy a concept book entitled "Colors" by Ricky Watson.

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