



THE HARDWARE - Ten-year-old Dustin Ruppe of Kings Mountain is pictured with four huge trophies he won in a Big Buck Contest at a sporting goods store in Winnsboro, S.C. Ruppe, who has been sitting in the tree stand with his father since the age of six, got his first turn at actual deer hunting this past season and killed 10 deer, winning trophies in his age division for biggest buck, biggest deer, first buck and widest spread.

Ten-year-old Dustin Ruppe's first year hunting memorable

Killing ten deer in ten hunting trips is a pretty good accomplishment for even the most experienced outdoorsman.

But, for a 10-year-old, first-year hunter it's a record that may be unmatched.

Dustin Ruppe of Kings Mountain, a fourth grader at Bethware Elementary School, hit the jackpot in his rookie season of hunting at his dad, Tony's, farm in Winnsboro, SC. His big deer was a 155-pound, eight-point buck, and that deer and others he killed earned him trophies in the season's Big Buck Contest sponsored by No Name Hunting and Fishing, a Winnsboro sporting good store.

The eight-pointer won Dustin first place in the Big Buck Contest for ages 15-and-under as well as a trophy for killing his first buck, and he also won second place for the biggest doe and third place for widest spread.

Although this deer season was his first "official" one as a hunter, Dustin has been preparing for it for a long time. He has sat in the stand with his father on numerous occasions since the age of six, but this is the first time he's been big



DEER SLAYER - Ten-year-old Dustin Ruppe of Kings Mountain is pictured with an 8-point, 155-pound buck he killed this hunting season in Winnsboro, S.C. The rookie hunter averaged a deer per hunting trip in his rookie season, getting his limit of 10 deer in 10 outings.

by himself.

"He has gone and sat with me before," his father said, "and I still sit with him. I don't leave him by himself. I take him about every other weekend so I get to hunt some on my own."

Hunting is an old habit for Tony Ruppe, who got the bug in 1972 and has spent most of the deer seasons since in the woods. He and his partner, A.C. Woody of Lincolnton, own about 800 acres in Winnsboro and they have leased 3,000 adjoining acres. They call their place the Little River Hunting Lodge.

"Only four people hunt that club unless we take them as guests," Ruppe noted, so there is a lot of big game on it - not only an abundance of deer but also turkeys, coyotes, raccoons, and bobcats. The spread also includes about 10 lakes from which Ruppe has landed some big bass.

Ruppe said Dustin has also been bitten by the fishing bug and most of his summer time is spent riding a four-wheeler across the big spread.

"He likes spending time down there."

enough to hold a gun and shoot it

Briefs

Football recognition Monday at KM High

Kings Mountain High's championship football team will be honored with a recognition ceremony Monday at 6:30 p.m. at B.N. Barnes Auditorium.

All players will be recognized and awards will be presented to players who received all-star

recognition. There will not be a meal or speaker.

The event is open to the public.

The Mountaineers finished with a 10-5 record last fall, sharing the Southwestern 3A Conference title and becoming the first KMHS team to advance to the Western Regional championship game.

Middle School begins '98 basketball season

Kings Mountain Middle School's Lady Patriots will open their season Thursday, January 8 at 4:15 at home against Burns.

Returning players from last year's 8-4 team include Crystal Miller, Ashley Leigh, Stephanie Moore and Meghan Potter. First-year players include L'tisha Bell, Shonda Cole, Kristen Hardin, Georgia Dawson, Latoya McClain, Lequita Curry, Lesley Potter, Rachel Hunter, Amy Robinson, Sherrica Cole, and Pam Parker. Team managers are sixth graders Baria Adams, Jessica Adams and Jackie Jarvis.

"We will be young and inexperienced and have had limited practice time, but I expect this group to play well," said Coach Candy Albergine. "Their best asset so far has been their unselfishness and their desire to work together to become a good team."

THE SCHEDULE

JANUARY
8 - Burns; 15 - at R-S Central; 20 - East Rutherford; 22 - at Crest; 26 - at West Lincoln; 29 - Lincolnton.
FEBRUARY
2 - East Lincoln; 5 - Shelby; 9 - at Burns; 12 - West Lincoln; 17 - at Lincolnton; 19 - at East Lincoln

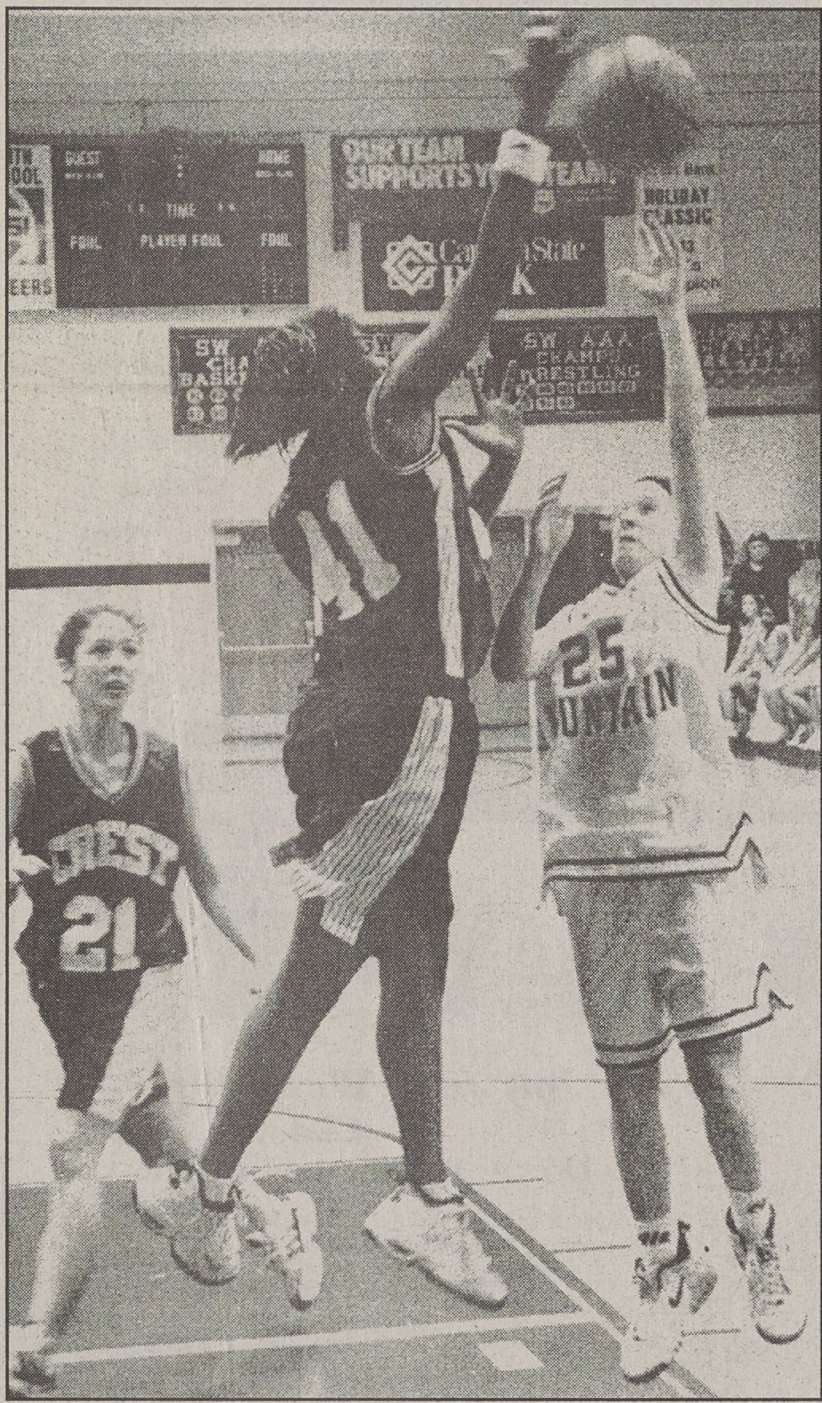
Third quarter begins in KM bowling league

The Dead Ducks and Head Pinners share the lead after the first week of third quarter action in the Tuesday Night Mixed Duckpin Bowling League at Dilling Heating.

The Dead Ducks defeated the Lucky Ducks 6-2 while the Head Pinners were defeating the Lame Ducks 6-2.

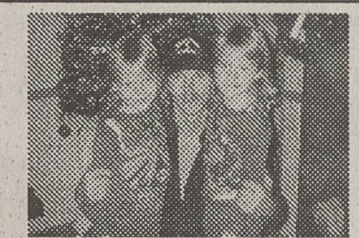
John Dilling led the Dead Ducks with a 127 line and 338 set, and Mack Ramsey added a 118 line and 325 set. Betty Hullender bowled a 114 line and 322 set, and Carol Raymer added a 116 line and 310 set for the Lucky Ducks.

Zeke Rybczyk's 121 line and 336 set led the Head Pinners over the Lame Ducks. R.W. Hullender led the Lame Ducks with a 127 line and 348 set, and Mark Abernathy added a 123 line and 324 set.



COME ON, GET IN THERE! - Kings Mountain's Tario Campbell (45) uses a little body english to try to help his shot go through the basket in Tuesday night's nonconference game with Crest at the KMHS gym. The Mountaineers had trouble getting their shots to fall in a 67-51 defeat.

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Daddy, oh daddy why have you gone and left me here alone.

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Joseph O.R. Greene December 29, 1985.

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HOME FOR SALE BY OWNER. 5 room home for sale by owner. 109 Waco Rd., Kings Mountain, N.C. Vinyl siding, large lot, back area fenced. Excellent condition. Please contact Bill Davis 704-739-3306. 1:7

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NEEDED. Backhoe Operator. Must have license. Need someone with CDL license also. Call 435-1812. Sellers Landscaping. 1:7,14

FOR RENT. 2 bdr. apartment. Bath, hall, all electric, Cherryville area. No pets. Credit references required. Call 435-9045. Closed on Sundays. 1:7

When should we consider Assisted Living and how much does it cost?

When Should We Consider Assisted Living?
It's important to look into Assisted Living as soon as you have concerns about your parent's or loved one's ability to live on his or her own without assistance. Sadly, many wait until a crisis occurs. A fall, decreased physical abilities, even mis-managed medications can make a swift change necessary. By doing your homework now, you can alleviate the stress of a quick decision and avoid making an inappropriate choice.



How Much Does It Cost?
Obviously it's impossible to place a cost on the security and well being of your loved one; however, the cost of Assisted Living is probably much less than you think. It costs less than a live-in aide, it is less than using a Home Health Agency, it is considerably less than the cost of a nursing home, and can even be less than it costs your parent or loved one to live in his or her own home.



Did you know if an individual needs intensive help, his or her eligibility for Assisted Living may be limited? So, those who wait to make care decisions until they must sometimes find they've missed out. Don't put off considering an Assisted Living lifestyle for your loved one until it's too late.

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