

Kings Mountain Herald

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This Week

THURSDAY

12 noon - Kings Mountain Rotary Club meets at Ramada Ltd.

6:30 p.m. - Kings Mountain Kiwanis Club meets at Central United Methodist Church.

5-10 p.m. - Third annual Mountaineer Christmas in downtown Kings Mountain, sponsored by the Kings Mountain Business Association. Horse and buggy rides, food and entertainment.

7 p.m. - American Legion Auxiliary meets at Otis D. Greene Post 155.

7 p.m. - White Plains Shrine Club meets at the Masonic Lodge.

FRIDAY

7 p.m. - First round of North-South Basketball Tournament, Kings Mountain High School gym, featuring Kings Mountain, Hunter Huss, Blacksburg, SC and Boiling Springs, SC.

SATURDAY

7 p.m. - Final round of North-South Basketball Tournament at KMHS.

Inside



Kings Mountain High School football coach Ron Massey yells encouragement to his team during Friday's state championship game in Chapel Hill.

1B Late fourth quarter touchdown pass and defensive stand lifts Winston-Salem Carver's Yellow Jackets to a 33-28 victory over Kings Mountain in state 3A football championship game at Chapel Hill.



MAYES STEWART

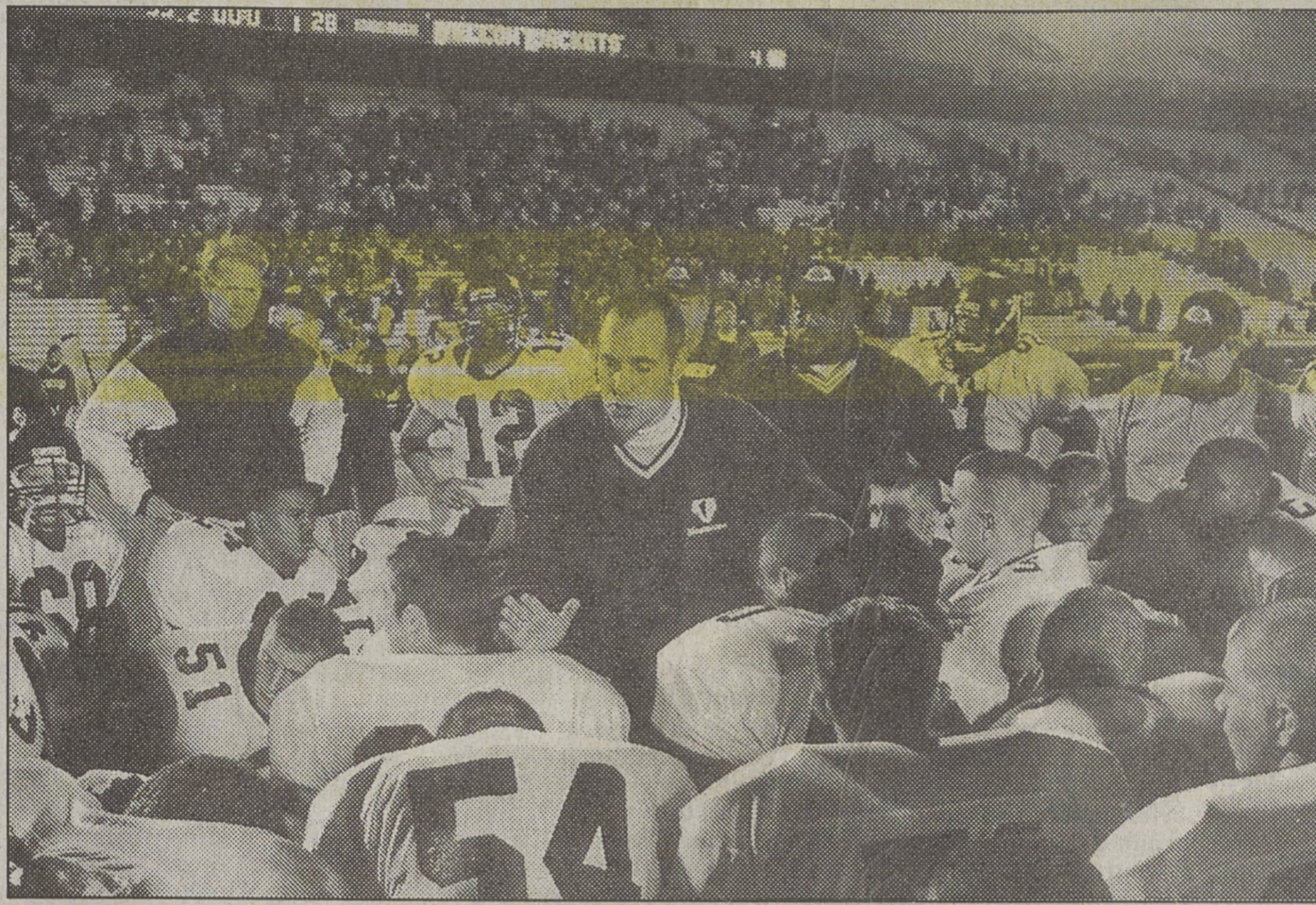
5B Lib Mayes of Kings Mountain celebrates her 88th birthday, and Essie Stewart turns 100.

6B 7-year-old Billy Bridges, who has been fighting Ellis Van Crevelle syndrome since his birth, was serenaded by his classmates with Christmas carols. Now, he wants a computer.

8B East School students saved their pennies to give to hurricane victims in Honduras, and you'll be surprised at the amount.

12B Kings Mountain native Christopher Still paints portrait of late Florida Governor Lawton Chiles.

END OF A GREAT RUN



Kings Mountain High football coach Ron Massey comforts his team after 33-28 loss to Winston-Salem Carver Friday night in the 3A state championship game at Kenan Stadium in Chapel Hill. The loss was a bitter pill to swallow, but Massey reminded the Mountaineers that they will be remembered as the best team in the school's history. Game story on more photos on page 1B

Mountaineer Christmas is Thursday night

The third annual Mountaineer Christmas Thursday from 5-10 p.m. in downtown Kings Mountain will have something for everyone.

Sponsored by the Kings Mountain Business Association, the event will include plenty of music, food and entertainment, and even some fund-raising activities for local causes.

The event was originally scheduled for last Friday night but was postponed because of Kings Mountain High School's participation in the state championship football game in Chapel Hill.

Kathy Neely of the Business Association said it's hard to predict what kind of turnout the celebration will have, but she will gladly settle for "as many people as we had at the football game."

"It's hard to tell with us having to change at the last minute," she said. "A lot of people are committed to other events. We chose Thursday night because we felt like our only other choice was the weekend before Christmas and everyone would be too busy then."

Last year's event included Kings Mountain's annual Christmas parade, and Neely feels like splitting those events could help the crowd this year.

"Last year it was so cold and by the time people watched the parade, all the little dancers and young people were just too cold to stand outside and most of the people went home. We thought it

See Christmas, 3A

Committees gearing up for KM ABC battle

Committees on both sides of the alcohol beverage control issue in Kings Mountain are gearing up for big campaign kickoffs in the new year.

Gene White, Ward 4 councilman and a leader in Citizens for a Better Community pushing a petition effort to stop all alcohol sales in the city, said tentative date for a kickoff meeting for "drys" is January 11. White said a chairman has not been appointed but the committee work will takeoff once the Board of Elections presents a petition identifying Kings Mountain's voter registration list.

Meantime, opponents of the petition effort to call for an ABC election, may mount a petition effort of their own and ask for a vote on alcohol by the drink, Danny Goforth, local convenience store owner, said this week. Goforth said a chairman and a committee will be appointed after the holidays.

White said that approximately 1800 names, one third of the registered voters in the city, would be required on petitions calling for an

"The opposition would require the same number of names on their petition," he said.

White said he expects to get the petition from the county board of elections later this month, possibly as early as December 17.

"Kings Mountain has annexed several areas and voters in those new areas as well as all voters' names must be validated and the petition will be prepared exactly as voters will see it on the ballot next year," he said.

See ABC, 3A

Hit and run driver splinters power pole

By Alan Hodge

"It could have been a whole lot worse." That's what Kings Mountain Electric Director Nick Hendricks had to say about a hit and run accident Thursday that left a major power pole dangling by its wires.

Located at the corner of E. King Street and S. Oriental Avenue, the pole was apparently clipped by a tractor trailer truck. The fact that the pole simply dropped straight down instead of falling to either side meant that instead of west Kings Mountain going black, only a few homes temporarily lost power.

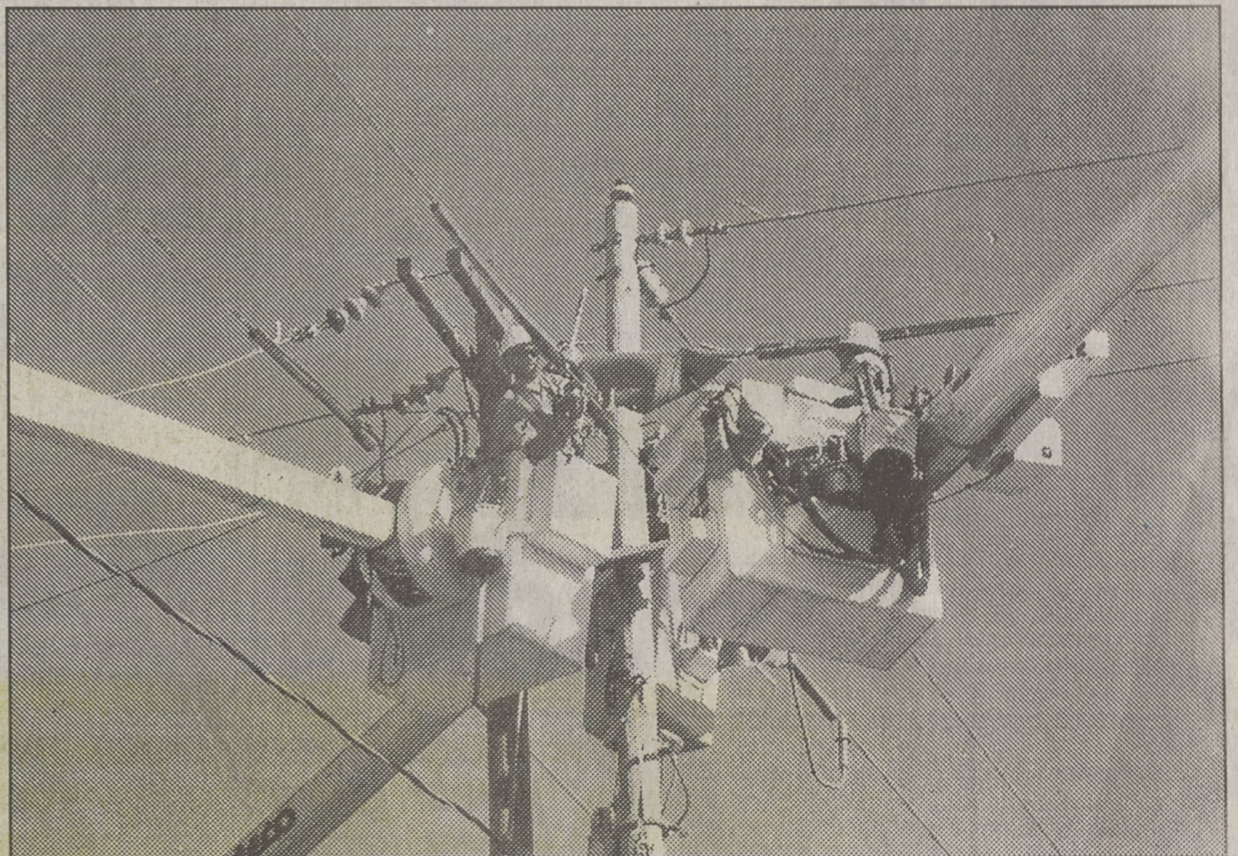
A crew of eight workers on the ground and in four baskets overhead worked all day Thursday to change out the shattered pole and its mass of

cables. Crews returned Friday morning to finish up the job. Though the job looked daunting, crewmen handled it with aplomb.

"We have a highly qualified group of workers for situations like this," Hendricks said. If people need to report a problem with their power, they can call us anytime."

Throughout the repair job, traffic was directed though a chicanee of orange cones, but moved smoothly with few delays.

Looking at the splintered pole as it was finally pulled up and the new one put in place, it was easy to be grateful that Lady Luck and the professionalism of the crew that did the job worked hand in hand to keep the lights burning in Kings Mountain.



LET THERE BE LIGHT- Technicians from the Kings Mountain power company work to replace a utility pole damaged by a hit and run driver Thursday. On the cherry picker are John Houser (left) and John Putnam.

Ward lines approved for KM

The U. S. Justice Department has approved the city's redrawn ward lines, City Attorney Mickey Corry told City Council Tuesday night.

"This is good news," said Corry. In other major business of the December meeting Council approved immediate demolition of two derelict and abandoned properties and gave a third owner a 30-day reprieve to clean up.

As Council ordered the clean up, it also heard the resignation of the city's two building inspectors. Andy Scoggins and Lee Hayes are taking new jobs December 28 in similar positions in Gaston County.

"The only difference in their new jobs is that they won't be involved in codes enforcement which we know is a tough job to do and they both have done well and their shoes will be hard to fill," said City Manager Jimmy Maney who will begin taking applications for the two positions.

Council okayed ordinances to demolish properties off Watterson Street and 931 Grace Street and delayed for 30 days the demolition of a building at 518 E. King Street. Councilman Rick Murphrey said owners of Carquest had asked for extra time to clean up the property.

An old motel on East King Street across from the Kings Mountain Herald will soon go down during a fire burning exercise of Kings Mountain Fire Department.

In other actions, Council: Started the upset bid process, receiving bid at \$500 per acre for 3.386 acres of city property on North Piedmont Avenue from Pattie and Randy Cash.

See Council 3A

Old Park Grace School to become dining hall

The old Park Grace Elementary School may soon ring with laughter of voices again.

Businessman Kelly Bunch and his wife, Bernice, are rehabilitating the six-classroom school building for a dining hall to seat up to 200 people.

"We are restoring the old auditorium to its original design using a rounded stage and are opening two of the classrooms for wedding parties and meetings," said Mrs. Bunch.

Wendell Bunch of Town and Country Barbecue has opened a kitchen for his catering business at the site.

City Council gave the green light to the Bunch project Tuesday night by rezoning 3.8 acres east of Park Grace Road and Battleground Avenue on recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Board and after a public hearing.

Planning Director Steve Killian said the rezoning is in line with the city's land use development plan. Buffering is a requirement of developers.

Bunch said he envisions the project at completion will resemble the former Vauxhall, formerly housed in the old Elks Club in Shelby. "This renovation will be on a smaller scale but we think the community will like it," said Bunch.

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