

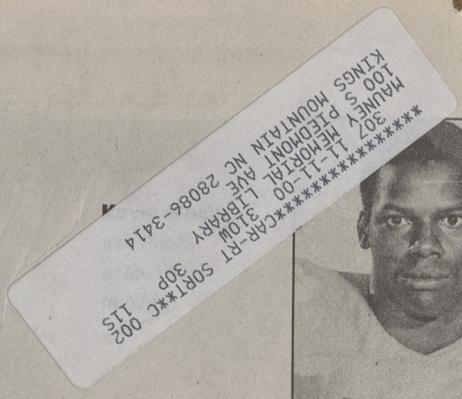
KINGS MOUNTAIN The Herald

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Since 1889

50 Cents



SPORTS



Quarterback Matt Ash tries to get off a pass in Kings Mountain High intra-squad scrimmage Saturday night at John Gamble Stadium.

Mountaineer gridders brave 90+ heat wave

Kings Mountain High's football team is braving 90-plus degree temperatures to get ready for their 1999 opener August 27 against East Gaston. The Mountaineers held an intra-squad scrimmage Saturday and will travel to Fort Mill, SC Friday for a scrimmage. 2B

Mack, Jones selected players of the 1980s

Two of Kings Mountain's greatest all-time athletes had banner decade in the 1980s. Bryan Jones was a tennis sensation at KMHS and UNC-Chapel Hill. Kevin Mack was an All-Pro running back for the Cleveland Browns. 1B

BUSINESS

Rick Moore sells Ole Country Store

Rick Moore has sold the "Ole Country Store" to Bob and Barry Patel. Moore will concentrate fully on operating Timms Furniture which he purchased recently. 2A

COMMUNITY

Annexation work session set Monday

Kings Mountain City Council will hold a work session Monday night on revisions to its annexation plans. 3A

SOCIAL

Gospel sing to help KM anorexia patient

A gospel singing August 14 at Christian Freedom Baptist Church will raise money to help offset the medical expenses of Christy Walker Kinmon. 9A

SCHOOLS

KM District Schools enrollment increases

Enrollment on the first day of school in Kings Mountain was 4,314, up 75 students from the same period last year. 5A

Field complete for fall election

Filing by last-minute candidates swelled the total to 31 seeking eight seats in November on Kings Mountain city council, two seats on the Kings Mountain Board of Education and three seats on Grover Town Board.

Annexation work session Monday at KM City Hall 3A

Home free are Ward 3 councilman Clavon Kelly, unopposed for his second two-year term at city hall, and former Ward 4 councilman Dean Spears, who lost to Gene White two years ago.

The addition of Gilbert "Pee Wee" Hamrick in the mayor's race brings to five the number of candidates seeking Scott Neisler's job. They are former mayor Kyle Smith; at large councilwoman and mayor pro tem Norma Bridges; Ward 5 councilman Rick Murphrey and political newcomer Ted Chandler.

One of the biggest races is for the two open at-large council seats now held by incumbents Bob Hayes and Norma Bridges. Mrs. Bridges is running for mayor and Hayes has announced for reelection. Also running are Ward 4 councilman Gene White;

See Election, 3A

Council says no to 4-year term

All seven city council members said they agreed with Mayor Scott Neisler on four year staggered terms Wednesday night but they voted against putting the vote to the people in November, saying that a petition drive was the way to go.

Led by Phil Hager, who called it a political football, and by Gene White, who argued that the issue on the ballot at the same time that all seats on council are up was a political risk.

"Do you want to take that chance that the two people on this board (Norma Bridges and Rick Murphrey) running for mayor could lose by 100 or 200 votes because of this?" asked

White. Neisler first brought the idea before council on June 29. He said the outcome would not affect those elected in 1999.

The issue last Wednesday night at a special meeting, however, wasn't whether or not council members prefer four year terms or whether they should be staggered. The issue was whether or not the council itself should vote to let the voters decide or let the citizens of the city organize a petition drive to change the policy.

The mayor said after the meeting that he may organize a petition drive

See Council, 3A



Mayor & City Council Candidates

It's official! KM scores top county

BY ALAN HODGE
Staff Writer

Teamwork and just plain hard work kept the Kings Mountain schools on top countywide in final ABC state testing scores released August 5. Not only did the Kings Mountain District Schools top Cleveland County in ABC testing, East Elementary made the top 25 list of most improved K-8 schools statewide.

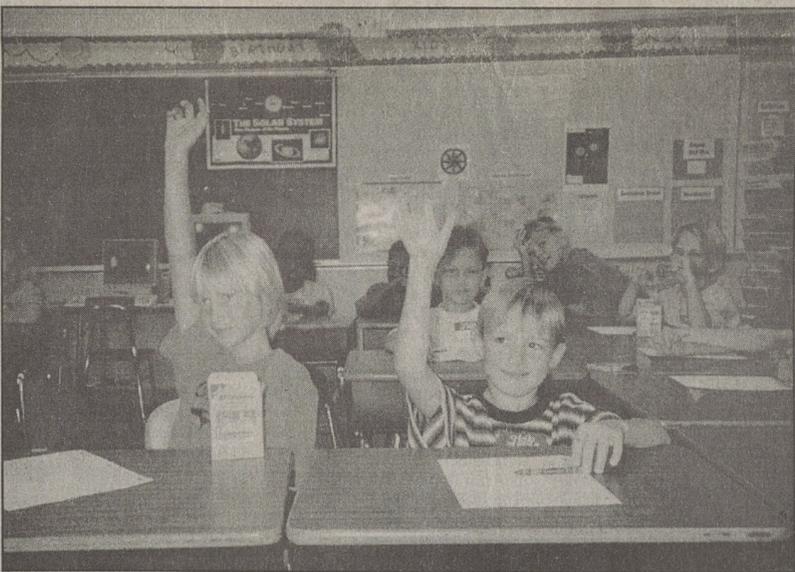
"The Kings Mountain District Schools superintendent and board has high expectations," said assistant superintendent Dr. Jane King. "This concern trickles down to teachers and students. We are constantly looking for ways to meet the needs of our school system, including examining the teaching strategies employed by other successful systems."

The State Board of Education developed the ABCs of Public

Education in response to the School Based Management and Accountability Program enacted by the General Assembly in 1996. The ABCs concentrates on high levels of accountability with focus on high educational standards. An accountability model for elementary and middle schools was put into effect in 1996-97. A high school accountability model was developed in 1996-97 and implemented the next year.

Schools are judged and held accountable for the progress of their students with two types of annual performance goals set by the State Board of Education. Performance standards are the absolute achievement of the percentage of students in a school at or above Achievement Level III. Growth and gain standards are those set annually to measure a school's progress to-

See ABC, 3A



ALAN HODGE/THE HERALD

The first day of school at East Elementary in Kings Mountain had students Kenneth Denton and Brittany Myers eagerly answering questions in Mrs. Moton's third grade class. East is one of the top twenty five elementary schools in the state.

Gazebo will be focal point for city cultural activities

BY ALAN HODGE
Staff Writer

Ground was broken Friday in Kings Mountain for a gazebo destined to be a focal point for the city's cultural and social life. To be located on an acre and a half lot at the corner of Railroad Avenue and Gold Street, the 30-foot tall gazebo was designed by Kings Mountain building codes inspector Holly Galloway and Shirley Brutko of the Kings Mountain Chamber of Commerce.

The project is a joint effort between the Kings Mountain Business and Professional Association, the Chamber and the City.

"The Kings Mountain Business and Professional Association has been working for two years to get the gazebo built," said president Joe Smith. "It was a long and arduous task that has finally paid off."

Supporters of the project hope to have the large, octagonal structure completed in time for October's Mountaineer Days festival in Kings Mountain. Most of the work to erect the structure will be done by volunteers. Mark Thompson of Shelby is the consulting architect.

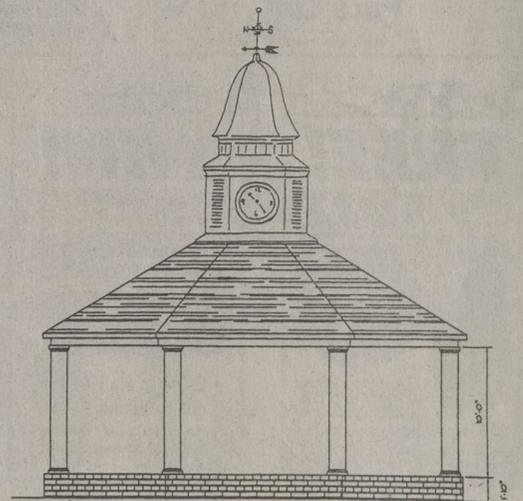
Blending the old and the new, the gazebo will be topped with the cupola which once crowned the old City Hall. Inside the

cupola will be bells and a \$6,000 clock bought with a donation from Caswell Taylor of Belmont. Taylor is a relative of the late Jette Plonk of Kings Mountain.

Original plans called for a structure with a wooden base, but realizing that the cupola was too heavy for such a frame, plans were altered to allow the gazebo to be put on concrete and bricks. This structural change accounted for some of the delay in getting the gazebo going.

"The way we are going to build the gazebo means it will stand the test of time," said

See Gazebo, 3A



Drawing of gazebo for downtown KM



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