

KINGS MOUNTAIN The Herald

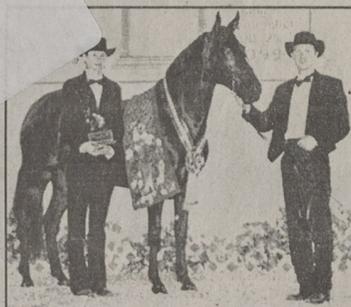
Thursday, May 18, 2000

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BRIEFLY

KMDS interviewing coaching prospects

Kings Mountain school officials were busy this week interviewing possible successors to departing football coach Ron Massey.

Asst. Supt. for Personnel Ronnie Wilson said he has received 15 applications, some of which are from veteran coaches with established winning programs.

Wilson, outgoing KMHS Principal Phil Weathers, and incoming Principal John Yarbrow conducted three interviews Tuesday and four Wednesday.

The veteran head coaches are from eastern and western North Carolina, and the list of assistants interested include two members of the current KMHS coaching staff.

In addition to the 15 applicants, Wilson said he has had inquiries from coaches in Florida, Arkansas and Virginia.

Wilson said he hopes to have a new coach hired by the end of next week.

Massey resigned last week to become head coach and athletic director at A.L. King High School in Kannapolis.

KMHS graduation Friday at Stadium

Kings Mountain High School's 2000 commencement ceremony will be held Friday, May 19 at 7 p.m. at John Gamble Stadium.

Over 225 graduates will receive their diplomas.

For a complete story on commencement exercises and pictures of all the graduates, see Section C in today's Herald.

Subway reopens in Kings Mountain

The Subway on York Road, Kings Mountain, reopened for business late Tuesday afternoon after being closed for almost three weeks while settling with the State Department of Revenue Sales Tax Division on past due sales tax.

Store Manager Paul Brintley said the store will be open from 10:30 a.m.-11 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Second primary slated May 30

The second Republican Primary election will be held Tuesday, May 30 at all precincts in Cleveland County.

Runoffs are scheduled in the Commissioner of Agriculture race between Tom Davidson and Steve Troxler; and in the Commissioner of Labor between Cherie Killian Berry and John G. Miller.

INSIDE

Grace Methodist plans celebration

Grace United Methodist Church, Kings Mountain, will hold its 100th anniversary celebration Sunday morning in grand old style just like Methodists did it a hundred years ago. The pastor, Dale Swofford, will ride to church on horseback in the tradition of the Circuit Riding Preacher, with the bridle in one hand and a Bible in the other. 3A

Father, son drown in Moss Lake



Rescuers and volunteers drag Moss Lake for the bodies of James Roy Carroll Sr. and James Roy Carroll Jr., who drowned during a fishing trip on Saturday afternoon. The body of young James Carroll was found by an underwater camera Tuesday morning at 10:30 a.m. in 50 feet of water. Rescuers are continuing the search for James Carroll Sr.

James Roy Carroll Jr.'s body found Tuesday, rescuers still searching for James Carroll Sr.

By GARY STEWART
Editor of The Herald

A Shelby man and his son drowned Saturday while on a fishing trip at Moss Lake.

The body of James Roy Carroll Jr., 17, was found in 50 feet of water at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday. Rescue personnel and volunteers were still searching for the body of James Roy Carroll Sr., 41, at The Herald's press time Wednesday morning.

According to Lt. Melvin Proctor of the Kings Mountain Police Department, the men had been fishing about three hours when some other boaters heard someone yelling for help and noticed a man in the water flailing his arms. But by the time the boaters got to him, he had gone under.

Proctor said he feels like the two had gone swimming, and one got into trouble and the other tried to help.

According to rescuers on the scene, the men's shoes were still in the boat and their keys and wallets in the shoes, indicating that they were swimming.

"This is a tragedy," said Lt. Proctor. "They were both good Christian people. We ask that the people remember the family in their prayers. This is a tough hit for them."

Over 70 rescuers, firemen and law enforcement personnel from 70 miles around gave up their Mother's Day to help search for the men, Proctor said. About 45 people took time off from work Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday to continue the

search.

The tragedy occurred in one of the most difficult parts of the lake to conduct a search, Proctor said. The area is off Zeb Cline Road where an old bridge and barb wire were left in place when the lake was built, and also where two creeks feed into the lake and two old road beds are situated.

"That's probably the most dangerous place in the lake to dive," Proctor said. "You can't see once you get below 20 feet. You sort of go into a blackout condition. No light can penetrate it below 20 feet. Even with your light source you can't see your hand in front of your face because the silt just hangs in the water and never settles."

See Search, 2A

Stop, look and sign

Hearing impaired KMMS students learning to drive

By ALAN HODGE
Staff Writer

Alert, focused, and full of desire to drive safely, that's how Kings Mountain High School Driver's Education instructor Bo Goforth describes students Hunter Caldwell and Greg Ingram.

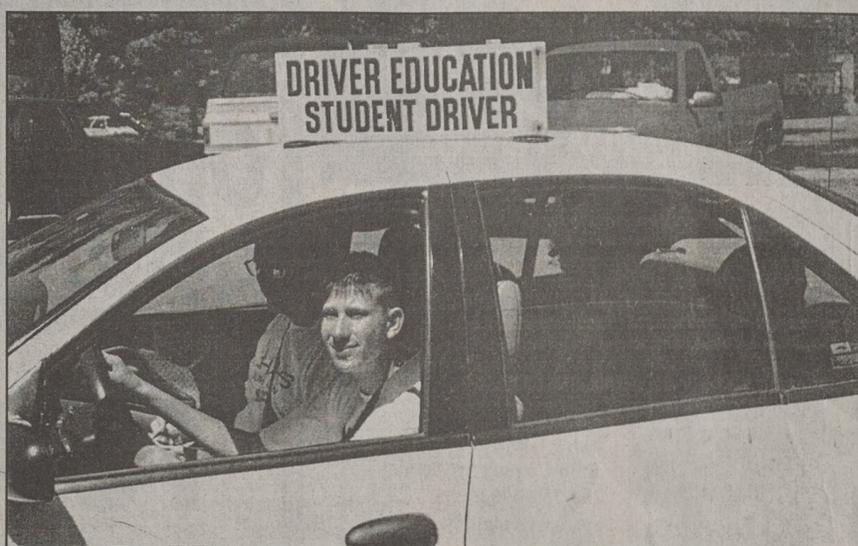
The unique thing about Caldwell and Ingram's training is that they are both hearing impaired and need a fourth passenger in the Driver's Ed car-sign language expert Alene

Williams, to relay Goforth's instructions. Though it sometimes makes for extra stops along the way, the combination seems to work like a charm.

"The boys can't hear sirens and other sounds," Goforth said. "But that makes them all the more alert and focused on their driving."

A Driver's Ed teacher for 30 years, Goforth also teaches physical education at Grover School. Though he's had other

See Driving, 10A



Kings Mountain Middle School student Hunter Caldwell gets set for another round of Driver Ed training with instructor Bo Goforth. Hearing impaired, Caldwell uses his other senses in special ways to make himself a smooth and safe driver.

ALAN HODGE/THE HERALD

Merger hearing Monday

KM Schools to seek injunction to stop State Board from acting

By GARY STEWART
Editor of The Herald

Kings Mountain District Schools' attempt to get an injunction preventing the State Board of Education from acting on Cleveland County Commissioners' school merger plan will be heard Monday at 10 a.m. before Judge Henry Barnette in Wake County Superior Court.

The Kings Mountain and Cleveland County School Boards, and many parents and other interested parties from Cleveland County, will be in attendance.



HAWKINS

KMDS won a temporary restraining order which stopped the State Board from acting on the merger plan at its May meeting. The Board meets again on May 31-June 1.

Judge Barnette can approve or deny the injunction request Monday, or take time to consider his decision.

The plan calls for the July 1, 2000 merger of the Kings Mountain, Cleveland County and Shelby City School systems. However, Kings Mountain is contesting the plan because it does not include 183 Gaston County students who live in the Kings Mountain School District, and also that the projected cost of merger is inaccurate.

The county's original plan estimated that implementing merger would cost an estimated \$3.4 million. KMDS countered that the estimate was low by some \$1.1 million, bringing the total to over \$4.5 million.

The State Department of Public Instruction agreed with Kings Mountain's figures, and the county board of commissioners Tuesday night amended the merger plan to include the higher figure.

Kings Mountain School Board member Ronnie Hawkins, who is running for County Commissioner, heard at the last minute Tuesday afternoon that the commissioners intended to discuss merger at its meeting, and he made a quick trip to Shelby to speak before the board and again ask commissioners to stop its merger plan.

"Merger was not on the agenda, and there was no notification to anyone that they were going to discuss it," Hawkins said. "One of our contentions from the very beginning is that the commissioners adopt an agenda as they go without informing the people."

Hawkins claimed that County Manager Lane Alexander and the commissioners' merger lawyer, Gil Middlebrooks, went to Raleigh last week to look at the financial figures compiled by Kings Mountain's merger lawyers, Richard Schwartz and Brian Shaw.

"The DPI is agreeing with our numbers, and before the commissioners can present a plan to the State Board it has to be pretty much in line

See Merger, 2A



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