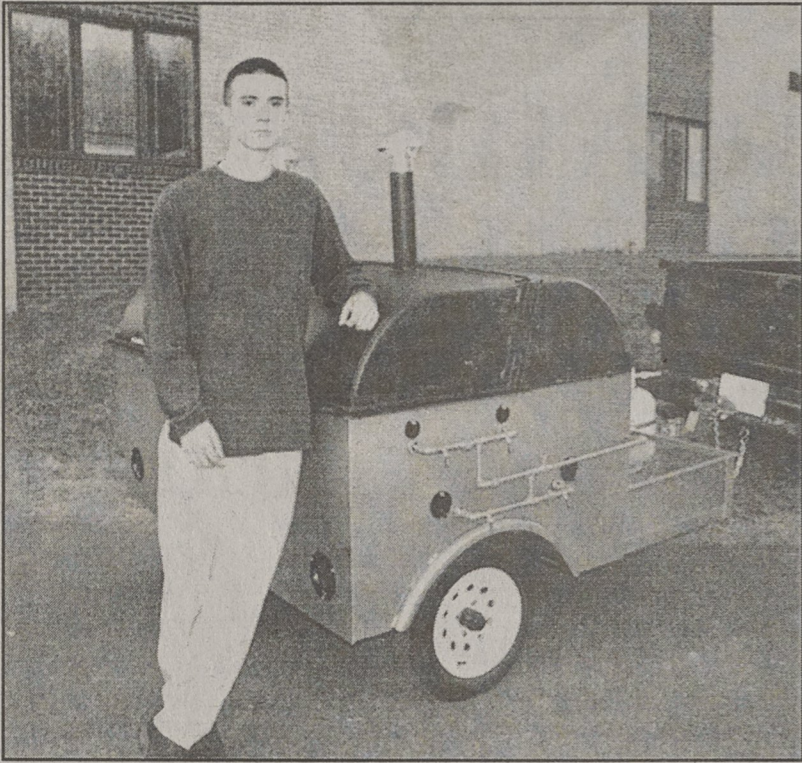


SCHOOLS

Senior projects combine creativity and hard work



ALAN HODGE/THE HERALD
Craig Ledford's hand built barbecue smoker was his entry in the Kings Mountain High School senior project event. Ledford said the cooker could hold 40 turkeys.

BY ALAN HODGE
Staff Writer

Kings Mountain High School 12th graders combined creative spirits and superior work ethics to come up with this year's Senior Project presentations. The projects were judged Tuesday afternoon.

Judging of the individual projects began at 4 p.m. Tuesday with 87 entries divided up throughout the campus. The students were assigned to panels of five judges and their presentations ranged from five to eight minutes each. Project topics varied from future occupations to personal interests and hobbies.

"The projects teach students the principles of time management, responsibility, independence and decision making," said English teacher Donna Russ. "They learn what work in the real world can be like."

Russ also said that the projects count as 30 percent of the student's overall English grade for the semester.

Projects were as varied as the students themselves. For her presentation, Miranda Dixon performed a clown routine. Her choice of project has proved practical as well as entertaining.

"I go to Bethlehem Baptist Church where we have a clown ministry," Dixon said. "At first I thought clowning would be easy, but it's not."

Dixon says it takes her at least 20 minutes just to put on

the face paint. She's been clowning for about a year now and did an act for the judged part of the project judging.

Curiosity drove senior Chad Yates to his project choice of taxidermy. Using a variety of chemicals and techniques, Yates tanned a deer hide and brought it for all to admire.

"First you have to get the flesh off, then you soak it in a solution," Yates said. "After that, you let it dry and put oil on it."

Yates said it took about 30 days to do the hide. He plans to use it as a wall decoration or rug.

The smell of cooking barbecue is in the future for student Craig Ledford. Taking an old home heating oil drum, Ledford worked for three months fashioning it into a full blown 'cue cooker that can be towed behind a car.

"It can cook up to 20 turkeys or shoulders at one time," said Ledford. "It's gas fired and can also cook 40 hamburgers at once."

Ledford plans to custom make the cookers and sell them. He reckons he has about \$1800 in the one he used for his project.

A departure from term papers and computers, the senior project experience at Kings Mountain High School serves as a practical example of what students can do when they put their minds to projects that have personal meaning.



Kings Mountain High School seniors presented their special semester projects to judges on Tuesday. Miranda Dixon was serious about her project of clowning around.

OBITUARIES

ROY E. SMITH
BALTIMORE, MD - Roy E. Smith, 76, formerly of Kings Mountain, died September 30, 2000 at Stella Maris Hospice-Mercy in Baltimore.

A native of Cleveland County, he was the son of the late Bennett Alexander and Bessie Truberger Smith. He was also preceded in death by his wife.

He was retired from the insurance industry as a collector. He is survived by his brother, Bobby Smith of Kings Mountain.

A memorial service was conducted by the Rev. Dale Swofford at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

MARY STEWART
KINGS MOUNTAIN - Mary Stewart, 74, 408 Chestnut Ridge Church Road, died December 4, 2000 at Kings Mountain Hospital.

A native of Gaston County, she was the daughter of the late Julius Fredell and Carrie Yandale Fredell and wife of the late Cofard Lee Stewart. She was also preceded in death by a son Vernon Lee Stewart and daughter Cheryl Ann Stewart. She was a member of Pentecostal Holiness Church, Kings Mountain and retired from the textile industry.

She is survived by sons Eddie Stewart and wife Susan of Kings Mountain, Steve Stewart of Bessemer City, Jimmy Stewart of Kings Mountain; daughter Elaine Stewart Owensby and husband Larry of McAdenville; brother Roy Fredell of Lincolnton and Herman Fredell of Kings Mountain; sister Betty Faye Patterson of Kings Mountain; also 16 grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

The funeral was conducted Wednesday at Chestnut Ridge Baptist Church at 3 p.m. by the Rev. Mitchell Pruitt. Burial was in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Harris Funeral Home served the family.

DONALD FRANKLIN
KINGS MOUNTAIN - Donald Robert Franklin, 51, 217 West Ridge Street, died December 1, 2000 at Kings Mountain Hospital.

A native of Cleveland County, he was the son of the late James and Annis Cody Franklin. He was a textile worker.

He is survived by his brothers and sisters-in-law, Terrell and Barbara Franklin of Kings Mountain, Johnny and Glinda Franklin of Shelby; sister, Jane Sexton of Kings Mountain; nieces and nephews.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. Gene Ware at 6 p.m. Saturday at Greene Funeral Service Westside Chapel. Burial was at 2 p.m. Sunday at Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Michael Franklin, Terrell Franklin, Johnny Franklin Jr., Shane Neal, Johnny Neal Jr., and Johnny Franklin Sr.

Memorials may be made to Funeral Fund, c/o Terrell Franklin, P.O. Box 966, Kings Mountain, NC 28086.

LUCY WIGGINS
Lucy Cash Wiggins, 81, formerly of 1622 Craven Street, Gastonia, died November 28, 2000 at Gaston Memorial Hospital.

A native of Cleveland County, she was the daughter of the late Ralph Cash and Nancy Jane Watson Cash and wife of the late George Wiggins. She was a member of Unity Baptist Church in Gastonia where she belonged to the WMU.

She is survived by her son and daughter in law Ronnie A. and Joyce Wiggins of Dallas; grandson and spouse Billy and Elaine Wiggins of Burlington; great grandchildren Jessie and Jacob Wiggins.

The funeral was conducted Friday at 3 p.m. at Sisk-Butler Funeral Home Chapel by Rev. Larry Bostian. Burial was in Gaston Memorial Park.

Sisk-Butler Funeral Home, Bessemer City served the family.

BRIEFS

Bridges inducted into Phi Beta Kappa

Wesley Hudson Bridges, a senior biology major from Kings Mountain, was recently inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's highest academic honorary society, at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Bridges is the son of William and Barbara Bridges of Kings Mountain.

To be inducted, a senior must have completed at least 105 hours - not including physical education - with a 3.65 grade-point average. Those hours must include at least 45 graded hours taken at UNC-CH.

Won by One group sets Christmas party

The Won by One Christian singles group will hold a Christmas party December 9 at 6:30 p.m. at Penley's Chapel.

There will be a covered dish dinner, carols and other Christmas activities.

For more information call the church at 739-9064.

Rogers Sisters to sing at KM Baptist Church

The Rogers Sisters of Shelby will present a mini concert of Christmas Music at Kings Mountain Baptist Church, 101 W. Mountain St., Sunday, Dec. 10 at 10:50 a.m.

Dr. Charles Horton will be the guest speaker. The public is invited.

For more information call 739-2516.

First Baptist Church sets Family Christmas

First Baptist Church's Music Ministry will present "A Family Christmas" Sunday at 7 p.m.

The program will be presented by the Sanctuary Choir, Youth Choir, Older Children's Choir, Younger Children's Choir, and Special Adult Ensemble.

The congregation will be invited to sing the old familiar carols at various times during the service.

The public is invited.

Choirs to present program at East Gold

"A Christmas Invitation: Come Just As You Are" will be presented Saturday, Dec. 9 at 7

See Briefs, 3A



BRIDGES

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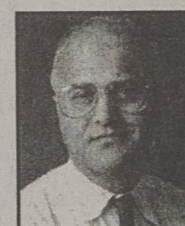
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