

## Dancing the Night Away

KMHS Junior-Senior Prom held Friday at Cleveland College

BY BEN LEDBETTER  
Staff Writer

SHELBY - Cleveland Community College was the site of a black tie function for one night.

Limousines were driving to the entrance with chauffeur's letting the guests, often couples in groups, out of the car.

Friday at the college, Kings Mountain High School held its annual Junior-Senior prom.

Although a sparse turnout early in the evening, many people had not yet arrived.

"I expected a lot more people to be here," Sheena Owens said, who had arrived with her date for the evening, Ben Godfrey.

Owens said they went to the Capital Grill in Charlotte and made their way on Highway 74. Some Uptown Charlotte streets were closed Friday night because of Center City Fest.

More than guests and administrative help goes into a prom, drinks need to be served, and people are needed to do that.

At the Kings Mountain Prom, sophomores got an early taste of the one-night rite of passage usually reserved for juniors and seniors.

The sophomores were elected by the junior class to serve as wait staff.

But the wait staff was not just in one place, they were able to take in the evening from both inside the door and outside.

"Well I hope it will be very special for the juniors and seniors," Courtney Smith said, who was serving drinks during the first part of the night along with Sloane McDaniel.

Smith said he was already looking forward to attending next year.

While teachers, administrators and staff from the high school usually attend the event, representatives from the school board were present as well.

One of the attendees, Kings Mountain Schools Superintendent Dr. Larry Allen said he enjoyed attending.

"It's a good event," Allen said. "The students are really dressed up in their finest."

While the prom is primarily for juniors and seniors, graduates usually come as well.

One of the graduates, Justin Kies, is a freshman at UNC-Charlotte, and saw the event as one of the last one's seniors spend with each other.

Taking pictures at both houses is another prom tradition, and can usually take a large part of the evening, said Misty McCree.

McCree, who was accompanied by graduate Kassim Turner, had skipped eating out

and went straight to the prom because of that.

While different people attend the prom, how many people attend, and how long they stay depends on the group, Kings Mountain Teacher Carol Ann Peeler said.

"Some year's they'll stay until the very end," Peeler said. "Then others don't, you just never know."

Peeler has been in charge of the prom for 15 years.



BEN LEDBETTER/THE HERALD  
Sophomore Servers Sloane McDaniel, left, and Courtney Smith take a break from pouring drinks at Kings Mountain High School's Prom Friday at Cleveland Community College.



BEN LEDBETTER/THE HERALD  
Brandon Gist and Nikki Hull take a break from dancing the night away to pose.



BEN LEDBETTER/THE HERALD  
Attending the prom in groups is another way to experience the evening as well as save a few dollars. From left, Matthew Stilwell and Carrie Kelly, Brandon Gist, Cynthia Doster and Josh Wylie



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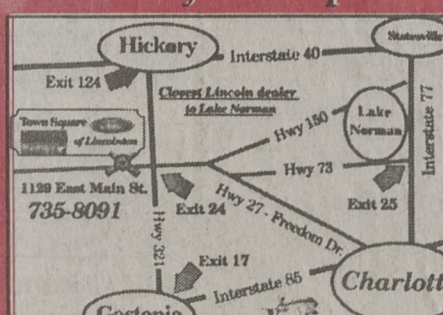
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