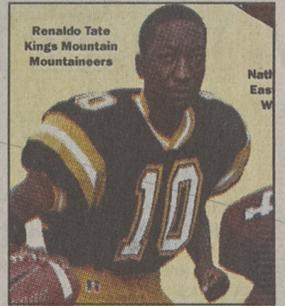


# The Herald

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PREP  
 FOOTBALL

Special 2001  
 edition inside  
 today's Herald



Thursday, August 23, 2001

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## Cop says man tried to run him over

By GARY STEWART  
 Editor of The Herald

Two Bessemer City men are in Cleveland County Jail following a fight last week in which they allegedly assaulted numerous persons, including a 2-year-old child and a Kings Mountain policeman.

David Wayne Randall Jr., 26, and Brandon Stewart Shronce, 17, both of 5211 Dallas Cherryville Highway, were jailed on bonds of \$250,000 and \$150,000 respectively.

Randall was charged with two counts of assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury, one count of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill, one count of assault on a child under age 12, and one count of first degree burglary.

Shronce was charged with one count each of assault with a deadly weapon, assault with a deadly weapon on a law enforcement official, and driving while impaired.

According to Officer W.E. Ellis of KMPD, he received a call to a fight in progress on North Gaston Street. He said upon arrival he found several subjects that were bleeding and screaming.

According to Ellis' report, witnesses charged that three men were armed with brass knuckles and a hammer. The report said two men originally waited by a vehicle while another approached three men who were sitting on the porch. The report indicated that two of the three men ran inside the house, where a woman was reportedly bathing a child. The report said the man who did not run was struck by a hammer, and he then struck the suspect and ran inside.

Meanwhile, the report said, the other two suspects came to the scene. Webb's report alleges that one suspect broke the glass on the door and struck the woman in the face with brass knuckles while she was holding the child. The report said one of the men began kicking the door until it opened and then went inside "and tried to assault the victim's daughter" but she ran away. One man and the child were allegedly struck inside the house.

Det. Derek Johnson said when officers arrived at the scene they arrested two men on the front porch. Officer Webb claims that Shronce ran to a vehicle which was parked in the parking lot of a nearby church, and he ran after him.

"I ran to the corner of the church (and) Mr. Shronce then came at me with the vehicle," Webb claimed. "I moved and Mr. Shronce struck the church approximately five feet from me. He then backed up and struck the fence. At this time I grabbed Mr. Shronce from the vehicle and placed him into custody."

Three persons, including the 2-year-old child, were taken to Kings Mountain Hospital for treatment of lacerations, Webb said.

Det. Johnson, who is still investigating the case, said additional charges may be filed against another individual. He said a six-month-old and 4-year-old child were also inside the house.

## County passes 1/2 cent sales tax resolution

By BEN LEDBETTER  
 Staff Writer 4

SHELBY - A resolution has no power. But at Tuesday's Cleveland County Board of Commissioner's meeting, a resolution supporting a possible sales tax increase powered discussions among citizens and leaders.

State Representative Andy Dedmon, D-Cleveland, said he had asked several commissioners to consider a resolution asking the legislature to look for local

revenue sources, including a half-percent sales tax increase.

Commissioners passed the resolution 3-2, with voting done along party lines.

The Democrats, Chairman Willie McIntosh, Vice Chairman Tom Bridges and Mary Accor, voted to support it while the two Republicans, Ronnie Hawkins and Charlie Harry, voted in opposition.

Most of the people speaking were against the proposed measure.

Jack Robinson said the tax would hurt

senior citizens who live on a fixed income.

"It's going to take a tremendous hit on senior citizens," Robinson said.

Cleveland County Republican Party Chairman Tim Moore said money generated from the sales tax would not provide enough support to Cleveland County. Counties would only see \$70 million of an approximate \$400 million the state would take in from a proposed tax increase, Moore said.

"A lot of money is going to be taken

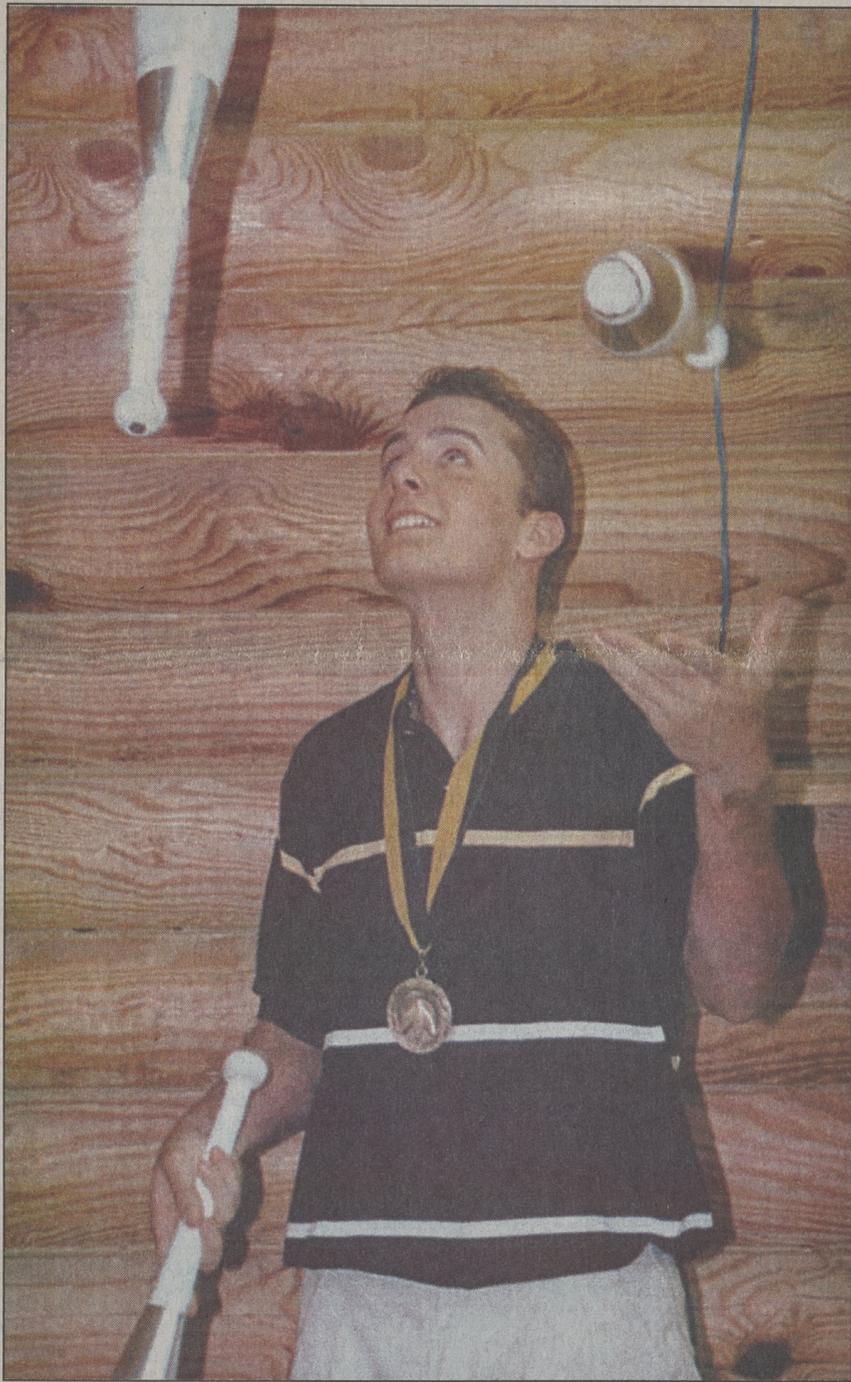
out of Cleveland County," Moore said. "Any sales tax increase at this point would only hurt."

Moore asked the board not to pass the resolution supporting a sales tax, but to pass one asking for a tax decrease. He said the state would collect more money than needed to cover the \$160 million shortfall before a tax increase.

Betsy Wells, Cleveland County Democratic Party Chairman,

See Resolution Page 3A

## WORLD CHAMPION JUGGLER



16-year-old David DiMuzio of Kings Mountain has turned a five-year juggling hobby into a business and world championship. He recently won the 18-and-under world championship at the International Juggler's Association Juggler's Festival in Madison, WI. See story on page 3A.

GARY STEWART / THE HERALD



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
 The new Kings Mountain Fire Department sub station, pictured above in a preliminary design, will increase response time to the west side of the city. The building will cost approximately \$600,000 and is expected to be completed in six to eight months.

## Ground broken for Fire Station

By BEN LEDBETTER  
 Staff Writer

The Kings Mountain Fire Department's new sub station will serve two purposes when it is completed.

Response time to the area divided by the railroad track downtown will be able to be increased and mutual aid in the county will be bolstered also.

A groundbreaking for the station was held Friday morning at the building site on Shelby Rd.

The city's fire department, now in its seventeenth year of service, has seven full-time, four

part-time and 25 volunteer fire-fighters. It has three fire engines, one ladder truck, two brush trucks and one light truck/command post.

"This is a great occasion for us," Burns said. "It puts fire protection on this side of town."

A second station for the fire department has been talked about for about four to five years, Burns said.

And when the city annexed land on its west side, a need to spread city services out had occurred.

"The ISO requires a station to be within 1.5 miles of the city,"

Burns said.

The Insurance Service Office is a rating bureau that grades fire departments on their ability to fight fires and other job-related skills.

The station, which will cost \$586,920 is expected to be completed in about six to eight months, according to Michael Pastorius of the Charlotte firm PAVCO.

The Charlotte firm, which uses the name Pavilion for other projects based on cost, is also doing work on the city's

See Fire Station Page 3A



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