

KINGS MOUNTAIN

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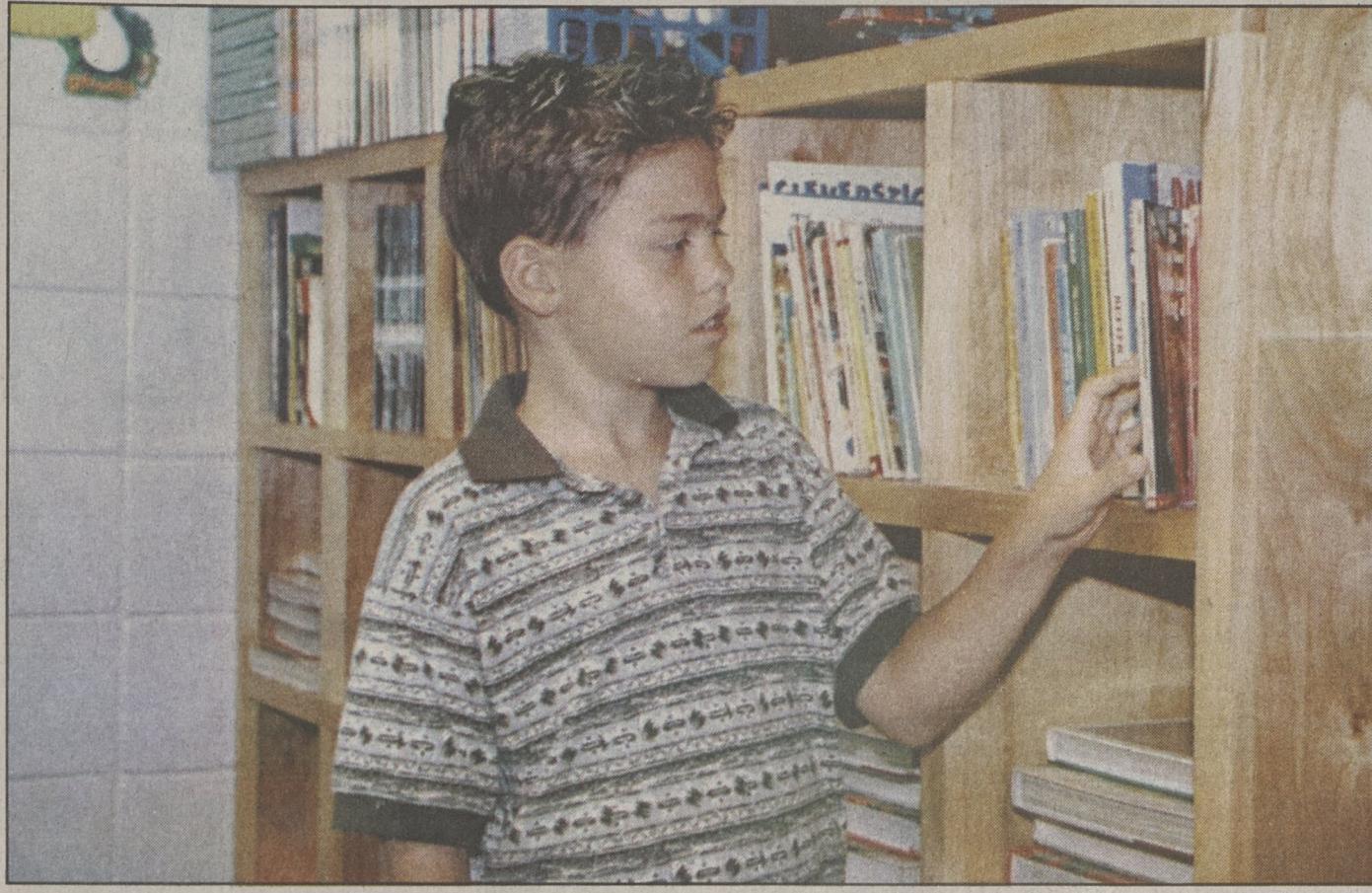
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8B



SCHOOL DAYS



GARY STEWART / THE HERALD

Daniel Adams (top photo) looks over some of the books in one of the new classrooms at Kings Mountain Intermediate School during Sunday's Open House. Below, Principal Ethel Pedersen welcomes the public to the spacious new facility that will serve all of the fifth and sixth grade students in Kings Mountain District Schools.

KM Intermediate shows off school

By GARY STEWART
Editor of The Herald

Kings Mountain will open its first new school in almost 30 years Monday morning when 740 fifth and sixth grade students walk into Kings Mountain Intermediate School on Kings Mountain Blvd.

But approximately 1,500 local citizens got a sneak preview of the impressive building Sunday afternoon at an open house. A formal dedication ceremony will be held in the Fall.

The school represents an investment of approximately \$11.5 million and although Kings Mountain's school population is projected to grow, should serve the system's fifth and

sixth grades for many years to come.

The school will also alleviate overcrowded conditions at the system's five elementary schools and Kings Mountain Middle School.

Visitors on Sunday were amazed at the accessibility of all parts of the building, its impressive wide halls and spacious administrative offices, media center, library, and gym, and 40 classrooms equipped with all the latest equipment and special storage rooms for classroom supplies.

The building, set on 53 acres of land, totals 114,000 square feet of floor space.

"Accessibility is probably one of the key fea-

See Intermediate, 6A



KM schools open Monday

By GARY STEWART
Editor of The Herald

School bells will ring for some 4,500 Kings Mountain students on Monday morning.

Dr. Larry Allen, Supt., looks for a smooth opening and another year of academic success. He said the major emphasis will be to continue "preparing our students to do well on end of grade and end of course tests."

Enrollment is up at almost every school, especially at the high school where seven mobile units will be used to ease overcrowding. He said the increased enrollment and construction of a new intermediate

See related stories 4-6 B

school in the same area shouldn't present a traffic flow problem, but he may ask for some assistance from the Sheriff's Department in moving traffic the first several days.

The high school expects 1,250 to 1,300 students this year compared to 1,125 last year.

The growth has been the result of continued population growth in the outlying areas of the city that are served by KMDS. Allen said projections are that KMHS will continue to

grow over the next several years and cap off at about 1,600 students.

"In years past our high school graduating classes have been around 200," Allen said, "but our classes down below, in most cases, are around 400 kids. Those numbers are now getting up to high school and the high school enrollment is going to be higher in the next two or three years than it's ever been."

The seven mobile units, located at the edge of the bus parking lot, will be used for language, exceptional children, career and technical classes, and a social studies class. The School Board recently approved the purchase of the old Lambeth Rope

See Schools, 6A

Phifer's transplant could be any day

By BEN LEDBETTER
Staff Writer

Don Phifer, who needs a liver transplant to beat cancer, recently received good news.

Phifer is between the first and fifth spot on a donor list and could go in for surgery any day.

Phifer was at Duke University Medical Center when he found out about his new spot on the list, a point which took him nine weeks to arrive.

While he needed \$50,000 to get on

the list, community members have more than helped him reach the financial need.

Phifer said they have raised \$85,000 currently and could reach the goal of \$150,000 in four months.

One group that has helped raise money has been his fellow church members at Boyce Memorial ARP Church.

When he has his surgery, Phifer will be at Duke for six weeks.

Although he is in need of a transplant, one could not tell.

He still works every day, building cabinets for Ronnie Blanton's Custom Woodworking in Kings Mountain.

"I feel like I don't need a liver," Phifer said. "I feel great."

Feeling great is one feeling Phifer used to characterize the

See Phifer, 6A



DON PHIFER



BEN LEDBETTER / THE HERALD
Johnny Kerns, left, and Clarence Spratt work on installing equipment for a service at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church.



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