

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

What tradition is growing?

To the editor:

Being loyal supporters of Kings Mountain High football for many, many years, we have to ask ourselves "What tradition is growing?"

Is it a tradition of sportsmanship, pride, 110% effort, enthusiasm and respect?

After Friday night's exhibition at East Gaston, we don't think so.

Tradition is not about winning and losing, but about having the respect and loyalty of fans, town, foes and State.

We feel what we saw on the sidelines was a disgrace to every supporter that bought a ticket to watch the game.

There was no enthusiasm on the sidelines, when good plays were made or bad ones.

We had a coach having to deal with police after halftime, because a player had gotten into an argument with another coach, mother and policeman. Why is a player even allowed to talk to fans or parents during a game?

When a defensive player made a good play to stop East Gaston on 4th down, the only person to congratulate him on a fine

play was the news cameraman.

After the game we had players disrespecting the other team and us fans by not shaking hands, and putting on a display of childish unsportsmanlike behavior on the track.

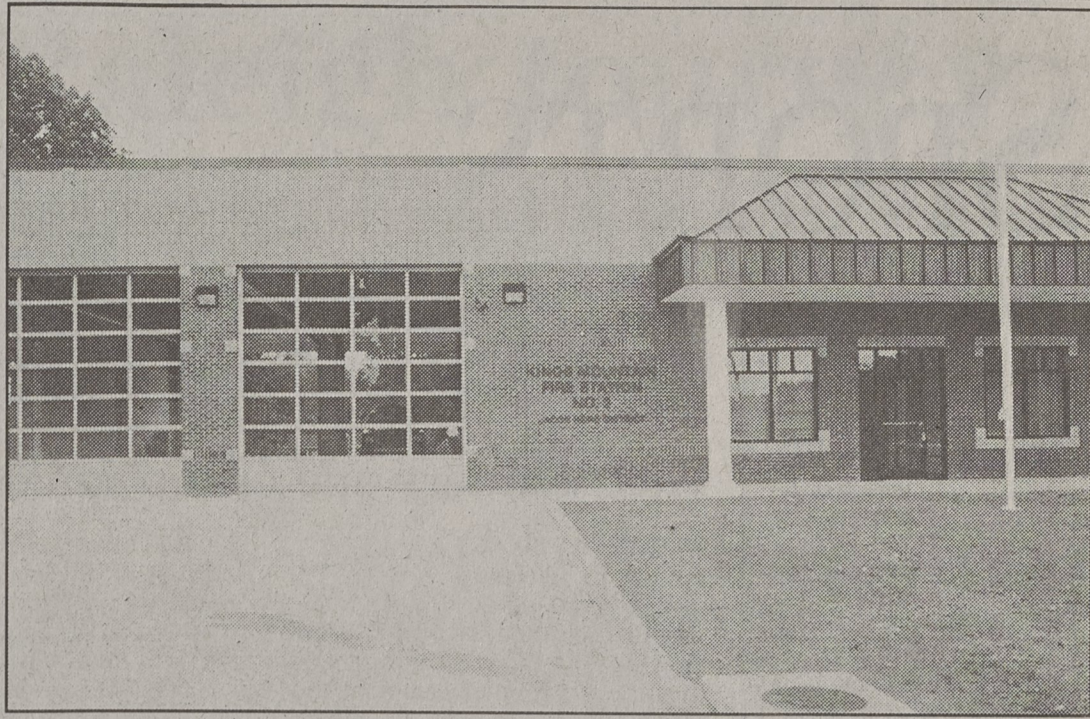
Our kids have character traits they learn every month at school. This month is "Respect." Maybe the school administration and coaches need to enforce this on the athletic field.

The public is watching, our kids are watching and the fans are watching and none of us are pleased with what we see.

While we all enjoy winning and having a winning season, we tolerate losing when we feel the team and coaches gave us 110% and treated us with the respect we deserve as fans.

"Mountie Pride" is more than a saying on a shirt. Players and coaches, show some "pride" in what you do and the proper "tradition" will continue to grow at KMHS.

Greg Dixon, David Dixon, Dan Dixon and Mark Dixon
Kings Mountain



BEN LEDBETTER / THE HERALD
The new Kings Mountain Fire Department station on Shelby Road will have its grand opening later this month.

GUEST COLUMN

Ask an expert before you fall for 'money back' guarantee

By Roy Cooper

"Your money back if you aren't completely satisfied."

We've all heard that phrase included in a sales pitch at one time or another. Money-back guarantees sound very attractive to consumers. But don't part with your hard-earned money just because you think you can easily get a refund. To learn why you should be cautious, consider the case of magnetic mattress pad and seat cushion dealers.

These products first came to our attention a couple of years ago via consumer complaints. Most of the complaints came from senior citizens who tried a mattress pad in the hopes that it would help with back pain or other ailments. "It sounded like it might work," one reported, "and they told me I could get my money back if it didn't."

Many of these consumers got a postcard in the mail inviting them to a free meal at a local restaurant if they were willing to listen to a sales presentation. During the sales pitch, the dealers praised the magic powers of magnetic mattress pads and seat cushions, which they claimed could cure a host of ills from arthritis to diabetes.

These elderly consumers, who were more likely to be under treatment for health problems and looking for relief than other consumers, were pressured to buy on the spot. They were told that if they didn't purchase immediately they would lose out on special discounts. The dealers said that the magnetic mattress pad came with a full money-back guarantee after a 90-to-110 day trial.

For many consumers who might have been skeptical about the health benefits of magnets, or who were reluctant to make a quick decision, the money-back guarantee eased their doubts.

But when the trial period ended and the consumers were dissatisfied with their purchases, in many cases

they found that the company had gone out of business and there was little chance they'd ever see a refund.

There are a few simple steps you can take to make sure this doesn't happen to you:

- Research the company before you buy. Resist pressure sales tactics. Check with my office to find out if we have received any consumer complaints about the company.

- If you decide to purchase, pay by credit card. This gives you more remedies if the seller goes out of business or if the sale was obtained by fraud.

- Know your rights as a consumer. If you purchased the product at a restaurant or other location that is not

the seller's usual place of business, North Carolina law gives you a three-day right to cancel the purchase.

- Ask the experts. Consult your physician or health care professional before purchasing any product that claims to be a treatment for medical conditions.

(Roy Cooper is the Attorney General for the State of North Carolina)

LOOKING BACK

School Board campaign was under way in September '83

Excerpts from the Thursday, Sept. 1, 1983 edition of the Kings Mountain Herald:

- The Cleveland County unit of the American Cancer Society is holding the Annual Awards Dinner on Sept. 6th at the Cleveland Country Club at 7 p.m. Jeanne Swanner robertson, the 1983 Honorary Crusade Chairman for the North Carolina Division of the American Cancer Society will be the guest of honor/guest speaker.

- Paul Hord Jr. announced today that he will seek the two-year outside city seat on the Kings Mountain Board of Education in the November election. Hord was appointed to fill the vacancy when Harold Lineberger moved out of the district. Three other seats will be available, including the six-year inside seat held by Kyle Smith, the six-year outside seat held by Bill McDaniel and the four-year inside seat created by the resignation of Jerry Ledford. Doyle Campbell has announced for that seat. Smith and McDaniel are also seeking reelection. Hord has been active in school activities for a number of years. In addition to serving on

the board of education, he also is a member of the Kings Mountain District Schools Vocational Education Advisory Council. He served on the Blue Ribbon Commission which studied the system's facilities and organization.

- Angel Allen, senior at Kings Mountain High School, was named Cleveland County Junior Miss during the sixth annual program Saturday night at Malcolm Brown Auditorium in Shelby. Three other KMHS students - Holly Dellinger, Joy McCoy and Laura Wright - were among the seven finalists.

- Persons who earlier announced that they would seek election to city commissioners' seats in the Oct. 11 election have filed with Elections Board Chairman Luther Bennett. But to date, no one has expressed an interest in the mayor's seat, which has been held for the past 18 years by John Henry Moss. Mayor Moss told The Herald today that he plans to announce for reelection next Wednesday, Sept. 7 at 11 a.m. and that he will issue a formal statement at that time.

BEN

From 4A

the most heated issues. If one meeting is too much, there should be another for things such as zoning matters and public hearings. The proverbial "fat" that could be cut from agendas include awards and proclamations and excessive stagnation periods.

Those stagnation periods include the times when every board member talk about an issue (whether or not it's relevant) just because they are there.

And the concept of rewarding people in a locale is nice, but making it a sizeable part of an agenda is not.

One way to still honor people in the community for their achievements is to hold, a citizen's recognition night every couple of months.

And a way to keep meetings more succinct is to keep all the discussions relevant to the particular agenda point.

Keeping those ideas in mind could also bring more people out to meetings.

JIM

From 4A

cost-cutting measure. In other words, if you can't get on the Internet, or simply don't know how, you will have to pay an additional \$20 for a paper ticket. If you do have an Internet connection, the ticket you print out, supposedly, will be on paper anyway, but won't cost anymore. Make sense?

One carrier has reduced the contents of their salads by a single olive, thereby saving \$40,000 a year. I don't think I've ever seen an

olive in an airline salad, and I worked for one of them for over 26 years.

We all are in favor of better airport security, but bringing the current security screeners into the federal government is akin to watering down good whiskey.

As far as the Constitution goes, I think the sixth grade student who, in answer to a test question, said:

"The Constitution of the United States was adopted to secure domestic hostility," was pretty close to right where airport security is concerned.

Find your way home

We know you are looking for a home that is safe and secure.

We also know you value a quality dignified environment for a loved one...or for yourself.

At Manorhouse, we want you to feel at home.

Manorhouse
Assisted Living

2755 Union Road
Gastonia, NC
(704) 810-0111
www.manor-house.com

Manorhouse
Defining Quality of Life
in Assisted Living

★ Please Consider ★

TOM KEIGHER

Conservative for
COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Accountable - Open Government
Sound Education System
Economic Development
Logic and Common Sense

"Elect a Public Servant,
Not Another Elected Official"

Paid for by Tom Keigher

Stamey~Cherryville Funeral Home
Family Owned and Staffed by People of Our Community
Cherryville's Only Family Owned Funeral Home
704-538-8631 704-445-8144
Fallston Cherryville

"We provide comfort..."

Barbara Poole

Barbara Poole has served as the office manager for Stamey Funeral Home for four years; she has over nine years experience in funeral service office management. Barbara truly enjoys working with the Tysinger family and the wonderful staff at Stamey Funeral Homes, and she is looking forward to continuing to assist them in their service to the families of the community.

Providing Service with Dignity and Respect
web site: www.stameyfuneralhome.com