

# KINGS MOUNTAIN The Herald

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## McIntosh, Ledford advance

By BEN LEDBETTER  
Staff Writer

Incumbent Willie McIntosh and Kenneth Ledford will be the two Democrats in the general election for the two seats on the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners.

McIntosh, the current board chairman, said he's running his campaign on his past achievements.

"Well, I guess, when you're in my position, you're running on the record," he said. "What I've done in the past is what I want to continue to do. So I just hope that will be people will look at."

McIntosh garnered 7,769 while Ledford had 6,788 after Tuesday's unofficial count. The other challenger, Freddie Ellis had 2,662.

The two winners in the democratic primary are residents of northern Cleveland County.

Both McIntosh and Ledford will run against Republicans Jerry Self, an incumbent, and John McBrayer in the November 5 general election.

See Ledford, 5A

## NATIONAL GUARD CONVOY



**GARY STEWART / HERALD**  
A convoy from the 505th Engineering Battalion, Kings Mountain National Guard, leaves Kings Mountain for Fort Bragg Friday for Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom. After two weeks of training at Fort Bragg the soldiers will be assigned to bases in the United States. People lined the streets in several areas of town to wave, salute and wish the soldiers good luck.

## Hamrick big winner in primary

By BEN LEDBETTER  
Staff Writer

Tuesday night in Cleveland County, the political landscape changed

when Raymond Hamrick soundly defeated his former boss, incumbent sheriff Dan Crawford, in the Democratic primary.



**HAMRICK**

"I'm very excited," Hamrick said. "I've had a long year and I've had good campaign support with my folks here and we're just tickled to death to come to this point."

After Tuesday's unofficial count, which was posted at the Cleveland Volunteer Fire Department, Hamrick defeated Crawford 7,702 to

3,510.

With the first votes coming in around 7:46 p.m., the absentees, Hamrick led by a total of 407-230.

And the pace continued with the rest of the precincts with Hamrick capturing most of them. He captured all but one Kings Mountain precinct as well as Grover, Bethware and Oak Grove.

While Cleveland County has been a historically strong Democrat area, Hamrick said he's not looking past the general election in November, but taking the whole process in steps.

"The kind of person I am, I take things a step at a time," he said. "We'll look forward to November. We'll take care of that, then we'll move on."

And with his upcoming bid for election, Hamrick said he was surprised to make it out of the primary.

See Hamrick, 5A

## KM vocational students rank #1 in State test

By GARY STEWART  
Editor of The Herald

Kings Mountain High School is #1 in the State.

This time, we're not talking sports but vocational education.

Sheila Sisk, Director of Career and Technical Education for Kings Mountain District Schools, announced at Monday night's School Board meeting that the 1,100-plus KMHS students that took the State end-of-course Career and Technical Education courses during the 2001-02 school year had the best average score of all high schools in the State.

Sisk explained that the State only recently went to mandated "secured" end-of-course testing for vocational education courses. There were 348,462 career and technical students enrolled

across the State.

Of every 100 North Carolina students who took an end-of-course test, 57% answered correctly at least 65 of the 100 test items (Level III), with 74.98% of KMHS students answering at least 65 items correctly.

Alleghany County ranked #2 at 73.33%, followed by Union County, Yancey County, Elkin City, Mt. Airy City, Davie County, Transylvania County, Gaston County, and Clay County.

Sisk, who is now being asked by other systems to share strategies that Kings Mountain teachers used to achieve the high scores, said hearing the news is "one of the proudest moments of my career."

She gave all the credit to the students.

"I am just real proud of all

See Test, 5A

## Second field house approved for KMHS

By GARY STEWART  
Editor of The Herald

Kings Mountain's Board of Education Monday night gave its approval for a field house at Lancaster Baseball Field that will cost between \$100,000 and \$150,000.

Dr. Larry Allen presented the proposal on behalf of parent David Brinkley, who is spearheading a public fundraising drive to raise the money and volunteer labor that will be necessary to build it.

The School Board stipulated in its action that no work can begin on the field house until "all the money is in hand."

Jerry Blanton, who along with fellow board member Terry

See KMHS, 5A

## Remembering 9/11 Special ceremonies at KM schools recall terrorist attacks of last year

By BEN LEDBETTER  
Staff Writer

With the anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks Wednesday, schools, towns and other groups of people planned observances.

Several schools in the Kings Mountain school district either had patriotic programs or special studies and projects geared toward remembering the date and the victims and their families.

At Kings Mountain Intermediate School, students worked on a peace chain.

The links contained words and pictures from the fifth and sixth grade students and were connected with links from other classes

The chain was placed outside the school Wednesday morning.

The school-wide project was organized by KMIS teacher Elaine Stewart

Although the attacks happened last year sixth-grade teacher Lynda Frye said feelings still exist over them.

"The purpose is for us to remember the events of the past," she said. "Hopefully, to grow and learn and wish for peace and look at the positives."

Tuesday, Frye's classroom had newspaper

See Schools, 5A



**BEN LEDBETTER / THE HERALD**  
KMIS students Lavonda Gash, top, and Brittany Bingham (foreground) and Cristy Cain, bottom, color part of the peace chain remember September 11.

## Grover gets grant for water study

By BEN LEDBETTER  
Staff Writer

The town of Grover's water system may be improved in the next few years.

And the process moved forward after the N.C. Rural Economic Development Center awarded the lower Cleveland town a \$40,000 grant to go toward a feasibility study for improving its system.

The N.C. Rural Center's board of directors voted recently to award \$22,793,000 in grants to rural communities struggling to improve their water and wastewater systems. The board reviewed 126 grant proposals and selected 60 for approval.

"It is especially important in these tight economic times to keep our communities growing and to protect

the health of rural citizens and our environment," Billy Ray Hall, Rural Center president said. "These grants will help create and retain more than 3,500 jobs and serve more than 50,000 customers in 41 rural counties."

The town has documented problems with outdated, galvanized water lines and the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources has notified the town that the treatment plant is using non-approved disinfection procedures. Grover's project is expected to have a developed capital improvement plan along with a review of water and wastewater treatment facilities.

The town applied for the grant through the Forest City engineering firm Odom and Associates.

The grants, which are funded through the

See Grover, 7A



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