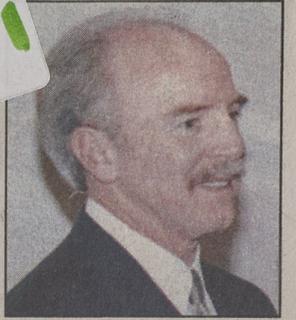


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City Manager
 Jimmy Maney

9A

Thursday, January 23, 2003

Vol. 115 No.4

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M.L. KING DAY



ABIGAIL WOLFORD / HERALD

The junior dance team of International Gates of Dance (above) performed an interpretive dance at the second annual Martin Luther King Oratorical Competition at B.N. Barnes Auditorium Monday night. Below, Lester Williams of Kings Mountain, who won first place, recites King's famous "I Have A Dream" speech.

Oratorical contest keeps dream alive

BY ABIGAIL WOLFORD
 Staff Writer

Numerous people gathered at Kings Mountain High School on Monday evening to hear the emotional performances of Martin Luther King's famous "I Have a Dream" speech at the second annual Martin Luther King Oratorical Competition. Those who gathered were not disappointed, as the five competitors delivered the speech in ways they felt they could best honor King.

King originally delivered the speech to 200,000 civil rights marchers at the Lincoln Memorial on August 28, 1963. His memory was not distorted as the young and old gathered in the auditorium to hear his words spoken from both those who remembered him and those who were not born until after he died.

Donna Huie Brooks, of Cleveland Headline News, was emcee for the evening. She opened the evening with remarks about the competition and the day. She thanked the city for being willing to host such an event.

"While it's for the entire community, the city of Kings Mountain has taken upon itself to host this event in honor of Martin Luther King," said Brooks.

She honored the spirit of Martin Luther King and the strivings of those who still long for his dreams to

See King, 3A



69 apply for KM's City Manager job

By GARY STEWART
 Editor of The Herald

Sixty-nine people have applied for the position of Kings Mountain City Manager and City Council will begin screening applications in a closed session on February 4 at 6:30 p.m.

Current City Manager Jimmy Maney retired effective December 31, but has agreed to stay on as interim city manager on a part-time basis until his replacement is named.

Mayor Rick Murphrey said the city has received applications from all over the United States with an experience range of zero to several years in municipal administration. Murphrey said no one currently employed by the city has applied.

The city recently advertised the opening in some state and national trade publications, and that has helped draw quality appli-

cants, Murphrey said.

"We have a wide range of applicants," he said. "The Council has indicated they would like to have someone from North Carolina and also from this area, if we could, because they are more familiar with the state codes and statutes, which is very important."

Other important qualities would be someone experienced in utilities and communication skills, Murphrey said.

"We would like to have someone with as much utility experience as they could have," he said. "We're a utility-driven town. We're one of only eight cities in North Carolina that sell four utilities, so that's where we get most of our revenue. We're hopeful we'll get someone with good utility experience."

"And, one of the other things we've discussed is that they have good com-

See City, 3A

Man electrocuted Sunday afternoon

A Kings Mountain man was electrocuted Sunday afternoon while attempting to trim a tree on Center Street.

According to Kings Mountain Police, David Allen Parker, 33, of 1361 Center Street, was on a 40-foot extension ladder and tried to throw a nylon rope around the tree to secure the ladder. The rope came into contact with a primary electric line containing 7200 volts, that was located within three feet of the tree. Parker was shocked and fell from the top of the ladder to

the ground.

Sgt. R.S. Davis of KMPD administered CPR to Parker until EMS arrived. He was transported to Kings Mountain Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

According to investigating officer Lee Farris, two men were on the ground holding the ladder for Parker. Parker landed on the men and one, Lynn Heatherton, sustained injuries to his neck and back. He was transported to Cleveland Regional Medical Center. The other man was not hurt.

Two charged in connection to drug raid

Two individuals were charged last week in connection with a December drug bust in Kings Mountain.

Garreth Deron Thompson, 27, of 210 Maple Street, Shelby, was charged with one count of possession with intent to sell and deliver cocaine, and one count of maintaining a vehicle/dwelling for the purpose of selling controlled substances.

Both are felony charges. He was given a \$20,000 secured bond.

During December's bust, which law enforcement officials called "Operation Sleigh Ride," Thompson, who at the time was residing at 939 Grace Street,

Kings Mountain, was charged with one count of possession with intent to sell/deliver cocaine, and one count of sell/deliver cocaine. He was jailed on a \$15,000 secured bond on those charges. According to Det. Sgt. Lisa Proctor of KMPD, Thompson was in court Thursday for a probable cause hearing on those charges when he was served with the latest charges.

Proctor said Thompson and others who were living at the Grace Street house in December have been evicted by their landlord.

Also charged last week was Jonathan Edward Adams, 26, of 319 Wilson

Terrace. He faces one count each of sell and deliver controlled substance, and possession with intent to sell and deliver cocaine. Proctor said his charge was connected to the December bust but he was not connected to the Grace Street charges.

Twenty-one persons were charged in December on 59 counts of various drug charges. To date, Proctor said 17 of the suspects have been arrested. The other four are entered on the law enforcement network all over the United States.

See Charged, 3A

KINGS MOUNTAIN PEOPLE

I.G. always has camera in hand



ALEXANDER

BY ABIGAIL WOLFORD
 Staff Writer

I.G. Alexander has been taking pictures since the 1950s. Alexander and his camera have seen many Cleveland County events, like weddings and family reunions. Although he does not cover as many events as he used to, he still enjoys his time with his camera.

"When I was in high school, I had a camera that my sister's boyfriend gave to me—it was his excuse to see my sister—and the f-stops and shutter speeds could be changed. It challenged me to get good pictures," said Alexander.

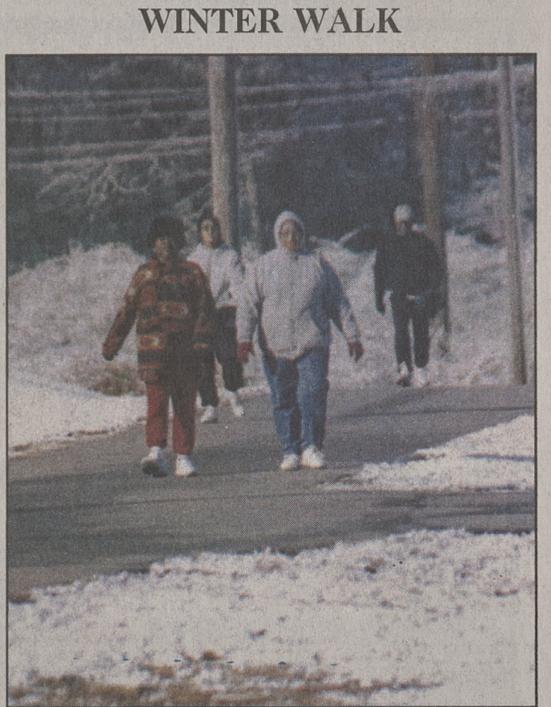
He said he would send his film through the

drugstore to be developed. On a roll of 24 exposures, he would sometimes get back 16-18 prints.

"The challenge for me was to get back 24 out of 24," he said.

In the army, he had a friend who had brought his camera with him to Orlean France, where Alexander was stationed for two years in the late 1950s. Alexander asked the guy if he could take some pictures of him to send back to his mother in the states. The friend encouraged him to send home for his own camera, which he did. When Alexander received his camera, it still had undeveloped film in it. The friend showed him how to develop the film.

See I.G., 3A



GARY STEWART / THE HERALD

Not even snow will keep the most dedicated walkers from getting their daily exercise. These men and women were walking after Thursdays snowfall at the walking track at Jake Early Sports Complex. The weatherman is calling for another chance of snow today.



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