

## We live on the edge of two worlds

BY J.R. ROBBINS

As I write this article today, I am just returning from an out of state trip where I was called to help in the funeral of my aunt. It is at times like these that we



ROBBINS

are greatly aware that we are living between two worlds. As humans we live here in a world that is limited, temporary, many times pain-filled and always challenged by the uncertainties of life itself. We live knowing that at any moment we could be transported beyond this life into eternity that awaits every one of us. Most people do not like to face this truth even at times when disease and/or death have taken hold of themselves or someone they love. It is precisely for this reason that we share the message of death, burial and resurrection of Jesus.

There is a great difference in the two places to which we go. As believers we choose to live in this world experiencing the joy of a relationship with God through Jesus. We choose to follow the principles of the Word of God, seek His guidance and trust His protection in our lives. No, we or our loved ones are not exempt from disease, death and danger. We face days of discouragement and darkness, but we do not face these days or the future with the same perspective as those who do not believe.

We know through prayer and the aide of the Holy Spirit that our lives are forever changed. We live preparing to move to a place of inexpressible beauty, where there is no more disease, death or darkness; a place where all believers will be reunited around the throne of God. We face these times of death knowing that death is simply a vehicle that transports us into that eternal place called Heaven.

We live with hope, expectancy and anticipation of being with Jesus and other believers who have gone before us. Paul put it this way in Philippians 1:23-24 "...I am in a strait between two, having a desire to depart and to be with Christ, which is far better: Nevertheless to abide in the flesh is more needful for you."

We remain here to share the love of God with others, especially those who have not yet made a decision to turn and follow Jesus. Next

See Robbins, 5A

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH



Bethware Elementary School students listen attentively as entertainer Michael Parker sings during a Black History Month program Thursday afternoon.

GARY STEWART / HERALD

## Wishing and hoping, and singing and praying...for snow

Last week was a disappointment. Weather forecasters had called for icy weather.

Wednesday night I drifted off to sleep with visions of inclement weather in my head. In this dream the roads were impassable. No one dared venture out unless a flashing red or blue light was attached to the top of their vehicle. Of course this being a dream, there were few emergencies.

So sure that icy weather was on its way, I was truly content Wednesday night. I had my Thursday planned already and it did not include work.

I would sleep until 9 a.m. and only then awake to let Susie outside. In the dream world, even she slept until after daybreak. A leisurely breakfast and lots of steaming hot coffee followed. Well sated, I would camp out on the sofa with a stack of books.

In this make believe world, the weather was bad enough to justify not coming to work but, of course there were no electric outages. All my modern conveniences - heat, hot water, radio, lights - were assured.

Alas, my little fantasy world fell apart Thursday morning. As I let Susie out all I saw from the front door was rain. Maybe a little slush on the porch. The low place in the front yard filled with water, not ice.

Again this week my hopes were dashed. I was visiting my friend Carol at her Shelby home Sunday night. Her son's girlfriend came over from her upper Cleveland home. Bundled up for winter weather, she informed us it had snowed on her almost all the way there.

We let out an excited yelp. There would be no work Monday, we were convinced. And we were wrong, real wrong. Despite the patches of white stuff in yards here and there, there was nothing on the roads the next morning.

At this point, I'm seriously considering moving somewhere with guaranteed frozen precipitation. Maybe Buffalo, New York or Nome, Alaska. Problem is, employers in those towns expect you to come to work regardless of the weather.

I guess in Buffalo they devote five or six billion to snow removal. There are probably close to that many employees with "road clearing" at the top of their job descriptions.

In Nome I'm sure the situation is a little different. Maybe sled dogs get you to work on snowy days. Or if you've been a good girl, Santa will send Rudolph over.

Maybe I should just schedule a vacation day or two but

See Andie, 5A



Andie Brymer  
Staff Writer

## Finding jazz album was like turning back clock

Because a friend of mine was so diligent, I am in possession of my all-time favorite jazz album.

I had mentioned to Robert Ward, ace graphics man at the Kings Mountain Herald, that my favorite jazz tune was Little Girl Blue by the Dave Brubeck Quartet, from their album "Red, Hot and Cool."

I had the album when I was a member of the U.S. Navy. I wore it out while stationed at Okinawa, but replaced it later. Over the years it disappeared.

I used to lie on my bunk for hours listening to jazz, and I played that one twice as much as any other.

Robert, a music buff himself, searched for the album for over a year before discovering that it had been reissued as a CD.

He told me where I could find it on the Internet, so I went to the website and ordered it.

The day it came, I played it and it was almost like turning the clock back 50 years. I had forgotten some of the other tunes on the disc. They were all classics. There was Fare Thee Well Annabelle, Alice Blue Gown, Sometimes I'm Happy, Love Walked In and several others.

The company that remastered and issued the CD used the original dust cover art. The cover has a young Brubeck at the piano (I think he was 32 at the time) and one of the original super models, Suzy Parker, enjoying the tunes. The album was recorded live at Basin Street East in NYC.

The quartet at that time was composed of Brubeck, Paul Desmond on alto sax, Joe Dodge on drums and Bob Bates on Bass. Dodge was replaced with Joe Morello in 1956, who had just completed a three year stint with the Marian McPartland Trio. Brubeck and Morello are now in their eighties, Desmond is dead and I don't know about the others. I'll bet my friend Doug Norwood knows.

All the great big-band and jazz artist are dying out. The only way to preserve them is to preserve their music.

Orchestra leader Billy May passed away last weekend, and Milt Bernhart, a remarkable trombonist, died last Tuesday.

If you want to hear a great trombone solo, get a copy of I've Got You Under My Skin by Frank Sinatra, and listen to Bernhart at his best.

One of the best pianists of all time, Loonis McClohon, died a little over a year ago. He wasn't just a jazz artist. Loonis was a marvelous composer, and he could play in almost any style. I like his jazz cuts best, but he penned

See Heffner, 5A



Jim Heffner  
Columnist

## LOOK BACK

### City had to cut budget in Feb. 1994

From the February 17, 1994 edition of the Kings Mountain Herald:

City Council unanimously approved City Manager George Woods' recommendation to cut \$153,609 from the city budget to prevent an immediate increase for industrial water users in a special meeting Tuesday night at City Hall. And, after a lengthy discussion, new councilmen assured Wood and the public that they are not interested in firing Wood or other personnel and returning to a mayor/commissioner form of government.

Kings Mountain was spared any major damage in last week's ice storm, but many homes sustained cosmetic damage due to frozen precipitation which forced water under shingles and into homes.

Cleveland County Health Department will provide a full-time nurse at Kings Mountain Middle School beginning in mid-March.

The Parent Resource Center at West School was recognized at Tuesday night's School Board meeting as one of the 14 winners of the Governor's Program of Excellence in Education.

Kings Mountain High's boys swimmers won their third straight Southwestern 3A Conference championship Wednesday at the Neisler Natatorium.

Kings Mountain's boys played their best game of the season Tuesday to upset Shelby 78-50. Sharee Hopper and Jarvis Bell led the Mountaineers with 12 points each and Marcus Bell and Eric Tate added 10 each.

Raymond and Ina Blanton of Oak Grove Road recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

Stacey Lee Reynolds, daughter of John and Marlene Reynolds, has been recognized for outstanding scholastic achievement with a Western Scholarship to attend Western Carolina University.

Although the number of building permits are up slightly from 1992, the dollar amount for permits issued by the City of Kings Mountain is down \$16,000. Tap fees were up in 1993, according to Dottie Elkins, codes/inspection secretary, who listed those totals as \$38,846.27 for 1993 and \$24,711 for 1992.

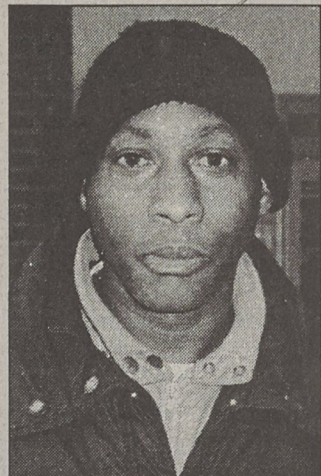
## SIDEWALK SURVEY

By ANDIE BRYMER  
HERALD

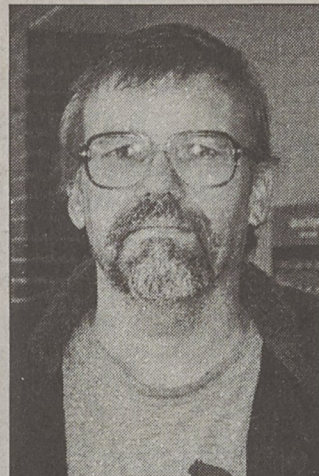
### Do you believe the economy is rebounding?



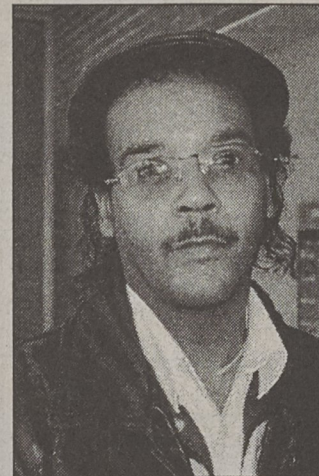
Yea. I believe President Bush is doing a good job.  
Lyna Franklin  
Gastonia



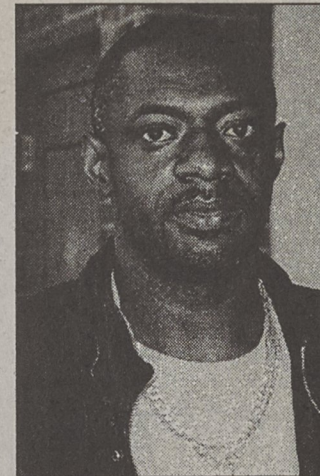
No. Unemployment is still up. The job situation is no better.  
Ogden Jackson  
Kings Mountain



No. There's no jobs. Prices are going up.  
Gary Pal  
Kings Mountain



No. It seems like it's getting slower. Places aren't taking applications.  
Dewey Young  
Kings Mountain



No. I think it's getting worse. They're putting jobs some place but not where the jobs are needed.  
Jackie Burris  
Kings Mountain