

**You can help
Samaritan's
Purse help
tsunami victims**

To the editor:
Our God is so good to us. We are blessed with plenty of food, clothes, running water, a warm dry place to sleep, and are able to worship in a free country, praising our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Other people are not as blessed as we are. Thousands of people now left homeless, without any food, no clothes except the clothes on their back. I am talking of the disaster areas where the killer tsunami hit. It's time we as Christian brothers and sisters step up to the plate and help these people who are suffering so much.

Here is your chance: Samaritan's Purse is having an Easter Shoe Box collection for these people. It is just like Operation Christmas Child. The only thing is all shoe boxes will be gathered in Boone instead of the Charlotte Operation Center due to time restraints. However, being led by the Lord we are setting up a drop off point for these shoe boxes at Macedonia Baptist Church. This will save a lot of money in mailing these to Boone.

If the Lord leads you to make a donation fee free to do this also. We will make sure all monies reach Boone. Listed below are the dates and time for you to bring your shoe boxes to the collection center:

- Friday, March 18 - 5:30 p.m. till 9:00 p.m.
- Saturday, March 19 - 9 a.m. till 12 noon.
- Thursday, March 31 - 5:30 p.m. till 9 p.m.
- Friday, April 1 - 5:30 p.m. till 9 p.m.

God bless all of you. Remember, these people need our prayers as much as anything. Search your hearts and give as God leads you to. Any questions feel free to call Macedonia Baptist Church at 704 739-6811, Steve Wilson at work Monday-Friday at 704 734-4225, or after 5 p.m. at 704 739-1870.

**Steve Wilson
Kings Mountain**

Opinion Page Policy

The Herald welcomes your letters to the editor for publication in each Thursday's paper. All letters must be signed, and for verification purposes include the address and phone number. Letters should be limited to 500 words.

Mail your letter to Editor, The Herald, P.O. Box 769, Kings Mountain, NC 28086; fax to (704) 739-0611; or e-mail to KMH Letters@kingsmountainherald.com. Letters sent by fax and e-mail must also include name, mailing address and phone number for verification purposes.

LOOKING BACK



Kings Mountain High baseball players and coaches celebrate after winning the state championship in June 1989. The team will be inducted into the Kings Mountain Sports Hall of Fame May 14 at KMHS.

HERALD / FILE

If shoe fits, make sure it's not high heels



**Andie Brymer
Staff Writer**

I should have listened to my mother but, of course, I didn't. Now I'm paying for brushing aside her advice.

A few weeks ago I bought a pair of dress shoes. They were cute, almost dainty. The two inch heels were slender and looked nice on me. I wore my footwear to work, full of pride in my appearance. I was so happy to finally be a little dressed up.

Two days after I wore the shoes it happened - the inevitable back ache. I was walking into the Lincoln County Library when the pain started. Within seconds I could hardly walk. Every step was labored. I was breathing heavy. The discomfort forced me to sit down and rest before looking up my books on the computerized card catalog. I couldn't even walk to the far end of the library to fetch the 920s.

I drove home and immediately hit the bed, laid down and waited for the Aleve to kick in. I called Joey who was on an assignment. He offered to bring pizza home. I turned to Susie the cat and told her how glad I was to be married to him. She purred which in cat talk means "I'm happy for you."

Friday morning came and I could walk a little faster but I still wasn't back to my old self. As I write this on Tuesday I'm still experiencing some pain and now my feet hurt.

If I had just listened to my mother this wouldn't be happening. Before I was born she worked in her brother's shoe store. She took seriously finding well fitting shoes for her customers.

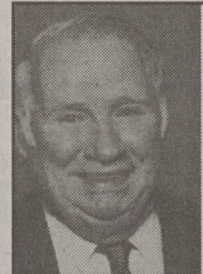
I remember many shoe shopping trips with her. She would kneel before me and poke around the top of the shoe searching for my big toe. There had to be room between the end of the toe and the shoe. If not, the shoe was rejected. She also wanted heels on the short side. Wide, sturdy ones were preferred over the spikier variety.

As the offending shoes were purchased for a few dollars from Goodwill, I didn't feel guilty tossing them in the trash. I actually felt a sort of revenge on the footwear. Those rotten shoes could just live in the dump.

Turning from my personal problems to the international scene, I hear Charles and Camellia are getting married. Last week columnist Jim Heffner opined about how bad he thinks the future royal looks. Personally I'm glad to see someone a little more average looking than Diana in the British spotlight. My guess is that Camellia wears practical shoes.

Contact Andie Brymer at 704 739-7496 or abrymer@kingsmountainherald.com

Tax Hike Mike at it again in the name of children



**Jim Heffner
Columnist**

You can always tell when it's budget time in North Carolina. You'll see Mike Easley in front of the micro-phones telling us all where he's going to raise taxes. You'll never hear him say where he's going to cut wasteful spending.

Easley is one of those Democrats who thinks he can do anything, including confiscate money from taxpayers, as long as he invokes "The Children."

Everything, according to the governor, goes to education.

He wants to tax tobacco, liquor, candy, television, movies and even newspapers. In other words, anything he can think of.

I'm surprised he doesn't propose a tax on anger. He could make a lot of money that way, because when voters see this budget they are going to get angry.

Easley wants to use a lot of the money to fight dropouts. I'd like to see him drop out, of sight that is.

I was dumbfounded when the people of North Carolina voted for Mike Easley the first time. It is incomprehensible that he got reelected.

In the dim distance, I see an Easley clone getting into position to replace the governor. His name is Roy Cooper. He's the current attorney general, and he is running hard.

He will continue Easley's tax and spend policies if elected in four years, but you must remember, it's all in the name of education.

I haven't seen a breakdown of the budget requests for the state, but I have seen the federal budget requests, and there's enough pork in that thing to supply the world with sausage for the next thousand years.

There is, for example, a request for \$200,000 for the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland. Now there's a dandy little item cotton farmers in Mississippi will be glad to finance.

The Women's World Cup Tournament, which I assume has something to do with soccer, could get \$1.8 million. Think about that the next time you see a soccer game. I don't recall ever seeing a women's soccer game.

The Olive Fruitfly research program is going to get just \$90,000 this year. I guess there isn't much left to learn about the Olive Fruitfly.

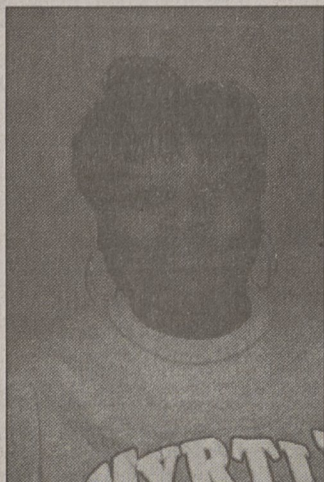
I know everyone in, say Kenosha, Wisconsin, will be glad to hear that their federal government plans to send some of their tax dollars, \$500,000 to be exact, to St. Petersburg, Fla. for a bike path. Just as the people in Palatka, Fla. will be happy to hear some of their tax money, \$900,000, is going to Alaska to help with the Kincaid Park Trail Connection, whatever that is.

See Heffner, 5A

SIDEWALK SURVEY

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER
THE HERALD

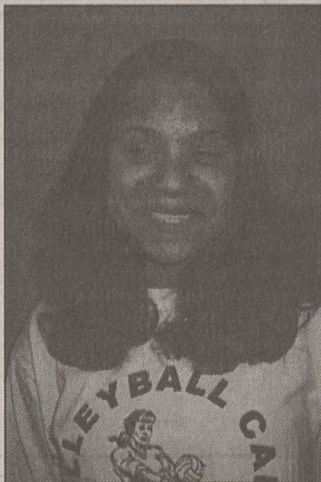
What is your favorite movie and why?



The Wizard of Oz. I like the munchkins. I love Dorothy and her friends singing. I love the whole movie.
**Billie Brown
Shelby**



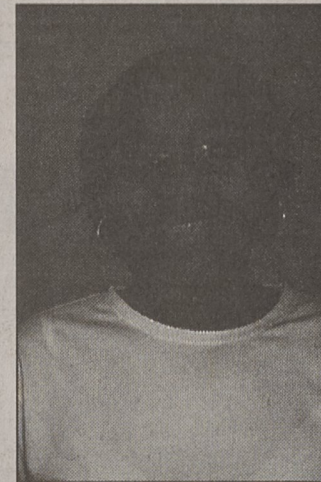
Ray
It showed his struggles in life.
**Tuqura Hart
Grover**



Jeremiah
He played a lot of instruments and I'm in band.
**Megan Brown
Kings Mountain**



Lackawanna Blues
I like it because it's real.
**Jasmine Lott
Grover**



Love Don't Cost A Thing
Because it's funny.
**Danielle Gordon
Kings Mountain**