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## LOCAL

### BATES

From 1A

undefeated team since 1926. That team tied for the Southwestern Conference championship with Shelby and participated in the first-ever 10-yard playoff in North Carolina.

Bates' 1964 team finished 10-0 in the regular season, winning the SWC, and then losing to Hickory 6-0 in the Western N.C. High Schools Activities Association playoffs.

As athletic director, Bates was a driving force in the construction of John Gamble Stadium, the stadium field house and most of the other athletic facilities at Kings Mountain high and middle schools. He and others often volunteered their time and talents to work on the facili-

ties in order to keep the cost down.

Bates played football and baseball at Gardner-Webb College and Wofford College, graduating from Wofford in 1954. In the summer of '57 he came to Kings Mountain to attend the wedding of his longtime friend, Bob Bush, to Sarah Kincaid. Kincaid's father, Arnold, was chairman of the Kings Mountain Board of Education and Mr. Kincaid and John Gamble told Bates not to take another job and they would assure him that he would be hired in Kings Mountain by August.

As an assistant coach to John Gamble, Bates helped lead the '59 Mountaineers to a share of the SWC title and the '60 team to a 9-1 record. As women's basketball coach, he produced the

school's top scorer, Judy Medlin, whose 58 points in a single game are still the most ever scored by a KM basketball player.

In '63 as assistant baseball coach to Fred Withers, Bates helped produce Kings Mountain's first conference championship team since 1941. He also assisted Withers with the 1959 American Legion team which played for the Area IV championship.

The opening of Gamble Stadium in 1967 was one of Bates' proudest moments. Coach Gamble had to retire as football coach after the '61 season because of multiple sclerosis, and Bates was instrumental in raising \$80,000 in public money to build the new stadium in Gamble's honor.

Bates and other volunteers

also worked on the KMHS and KMMS tennis courts, baseball fields and practice facilities, opening the door for all of the other sports that have been added at KMHS over the years. When Bates first came on the scene as AD, the school only fielded football, baseball, basketball, track and golf teams. During Bates' tenure as AD sports such as wrestling, tennis, cross country, volleyball and softball were added.

#### WANT TO GO?

Tickets to the Salute to Bill Bates dinner are \$25 each and may be purchased from Gary Stewart, Steve Baker, Pat Murphy, Sandy Mauney, Dale Hollifield, Jerry Adams, Bo Goforth and Dr. Larry Allen. The cost of the tickets is tax deductible.

### HOPE

From 4A

"I think we'll be alright," he said. "They like to run a double wing offense and run a lot of pull plays with their guards and tackles. They're not as athletic as we are but they look like a tough team that plays with a lot of heart."

"We're going to have to throw some athleticism at them. We have more speed than they do and once we get a couple of quarters under our belt I believe we'll be alright."

The Thunderbolts' biggest concern will be staying on their blocks long enough to give their skill people an opportunity to get into the

open. In last weeks' scrimmage with Highland Tech and Bessemer City at Bessemer, the defense played well but the blocking wasn't where it needs to be, Thomas said.

"We have to block better," he said. "We were overpowered."

But Thomas said he was pleased with the overall play of senior quarterback Josh Gilbert, who ran seven times for 80 yards and hit 4-of-5 passes for 62 yards against Highland. Dee Bell caught all four passes.

"Once we learn how to stay on a block we'll be alright," Thomas said.

Thomas said the defense looked better as the game progressed.

"On Highland's first possession we gave up a 60-yard run, then held them for two or three plays and they ended up scoring on the fourth or fifth play. On their second possession it took them 10 plays to score."

Hope's only touchdown came on a three-yard run by Gilbert.

Against Bessemer City, the Thunderbolts were out-manned. Hope netted only eight yards rushing and Gilbert hit 1-of-5 passes for five yards.

To his team's defense, Thomas said the Thunderbolts carried only 18 players to the two two-quarter scrimmages, and 10 of the players were on the field the entire 48 minutes.

"When you consider we had only 18 players and many of them were playing positions they had never played before, we did okay," he said. "It was not a bad effort."

Thomas said he was impressed with the defensive play of eighth grader Casey Adams, who had three tackles at the corner and "played his heart out."

#### DIRECTIONS

From Kings Mountain, take I-85 North to Sugar Creek Road (exit 41). Turn left. The church entrance is 1,500 feet ahead on the right. The church and playing facilities are located at 333 Jeremiah Blvd., Charlotte.

### SCHOOL

From 1A

Fifth grade teachers on hall one are decorating with a Step Into Fifth Grade theme using a shoe motif.

Today and much of next week she and colleagues will spend time in workshops and classes.

A large, free-standing sign sits in front of Kings

Mountain High School announcing the new tobacco-free policy. No tobacco products may be used anywhere on campus by anyone.

Assistant Principal Dianne Dooley said that many people are accustomed to not using tobacco in the buildings, stadium stands and gymnasium but don't yet realize the policy now includes everywhere on

campus including private cars.

KMHS instructor Sherry Young who teaches chorus with Gene Bumgardner is busy selecting music for concerts and planning a Sept. 9 BBQ fund raiser. The chorus is raising money for a trip to Florida in April.

Media Specialist Gay Henderson is working with Renaissance Gold Card holders to select lockers. A 4.0 or higher GPA has qualified 193 students as gold card holders meaning they get first choice at locker selection, free parking, Swoogers ice cream, early lunch and other rewards. The Renaissance program which encourages academic achievement has 624 students at three levels - gold, silver and bronze.

In the library, Henderson is working with teachers to select research materials. She's also equipping instructors, especially those new to campus, with computers and other technological equipment and getting Accelerated Reader materials ready.

Custodians have spent the summer cleaning classroom and hall floors, painting and other maintenance tasks.

"They've done an excellent job," Dooley said. "The school looks great."

School starts for students Aug. 25. Half of the kindergarten class will attend school on Thursday for an entire school day. The other half will attend on Friday for the whole day. On Monday the whole class will attend all day.

Students new to the area who have not registered should call or go by the school they will attend as soon as possible. Parents and new students may meet teachers and visit classrooms during open house and/or orientation sessions set at these schools at these times:

- Monday, Aug. 22:
  - Bethware: 1-3 p.m.
  - East: 1-3 p.m.
  - Grover: 12:30-3:30 p.m.
  - Kings Mountain Intermediate: Sessions at 1:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. (grade 5 only)
  - North: 1-3 p.m.
  - West: 1-3 p.m.
- Tuesday, Aug. 23:
  - Kings Mountain Intermediate: 10 a.m.-12 p.m. (Open House for grade 6 only)
  - Kings Mountain Middle: 1-3 p.m.
- Thursday, Aug. 24:
  - Kings Mountain High: Session begins at 6 p.m. (For new students only)

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**REGISTRATION FOR THE GATEWAY FESTIVAL APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE NOW**

Date: October 15, 2005  
Time: 10:00 am - 10:00 pm

The Festival will be located downtown on Battleground and Railroad Avenues. Map of the area will be sent closer to the festival date. Applicants are accepted on a first come-first serve basis, space limited.

Each crafter/vendor is responsible for their own setup and teardown. They must provide their own tent, table, and chairs. Space is 10' x 10' and will be assigned & clearly marked. The festival officially begins at 10 am, and participants may arrive as early as 7:30 am. The festival will go on, rain or shine. \$25.00 Registration is non-refundable.

Space assignments will be mailed on or before September 30, 2005. Every effort will be made to keep similar crafters separated.

For More Information Call  
Shirley Brutko @ 704-739-4755 or Ellis Noell @ 704-730-2103

### CONCERT

From 1A

The city debuted its new paved dance floor at the gazebo this summer. Each event has seen more people use it, Noell said.

The city hosted the Over the Mountain Triathlon in June and an Independence

Day bash and a Beach Blast in July.

The next event will be the Gateway Festival Oct. 15. Other upcoming events include the downtown Great Pumpkin Parade for kids on Oct. 31 and a Christmas tree lighting ceremony Nov. 22 at Mauney Memorial Library.

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