

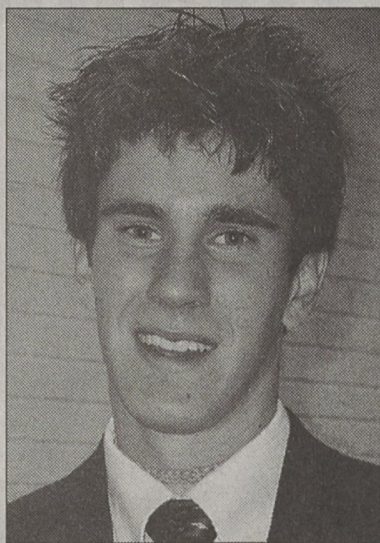
SIDEWALK SURVEY

BY EMILY WEAVER
THE HERALD

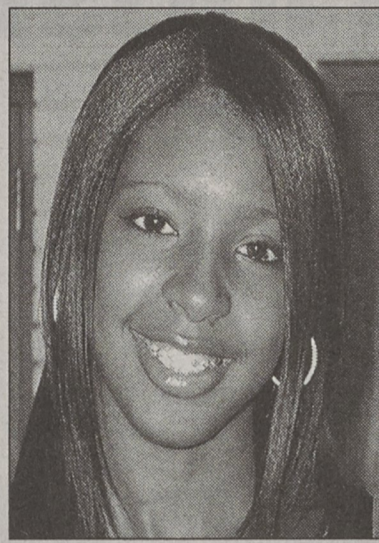
Where do you plan to go to college and what do you plan to major in?



Jessica Yarbro, Senior at KMHS
"I plan to go to UNC-Chapel Hill to get an undergraduate degree in Biology and Chemistry."



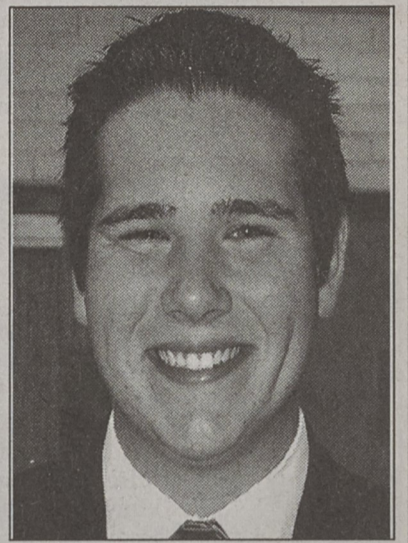
Josh Lewis, Senior at Burns HS
"I plan to study medicine at UNC-Chapel Hill and then get a doctorate of Anesthesia."



Marie Pegram, Senior at Shelby HS
"I'm not sure where I want to attend college, maybe UNC-Chapel Hill. I want to study Nursing or Pre-Med."



Jennifer Lineberger, Senior at KMHS
"I plan to either go to Campbell University or UNC-Chapel Hill and I plan to study pharmacy."



Tyler Davis, Senior at Burns HS
"I plan to go to Gardner Webb and I'm not sure what I'll major in, so I guess undecided."

YOUR OPINION

Reader for Hastings

To the editor:

I am supporting Kelly Hastings for county commissioner. Kelly understands our conservative culture and he has spent a lot of time in our farm and textile communities. Kelly will be a commissioner with a lot of common sense. I encourage all voters to support Kelly. I can't think of a better person to represent the lower end of our county and our whole county. Kelly knows that he must focus on lowering taxes, reducing crime and fostering a sound and basic education, in order to enhance our economic well-being. He also knows that we must really help our emergency services, first responder and law enforcement personnel with economic incentives. He also knows that we need to focus on lowering class sizes and paying our teachers and other employees fairly.

John Bowen
Patterson Springs

Democrat for Hastings

To the editor:

As a lifelong Democrat, I am writing to encourage All Democrats, Republicans and unaffiliated voters to support Kelly Hastings for Cleveland County Commissioner. Kelly understands that to enhance economic development he must fight for lower taxes, reduced crime and a sound and basic education. He also knows that we must continue to ensure that we have the necessary infrastructure, in our county, to support our commercial and residential needs. He will be a strong advocate for new water sources and roads. Kelly's roots run deep in Cleveland County. Kelly grew up in New House, Dover Mill and South Shelby and West Shelby communities. He spent lots of time on his grandparents' farms in the Delight/Casar and New House/Lattimore communities. He also worked in the textile industry and he understands our people and culture. My family has been very involved in volunteer fire fighting and Kelly will not forget our volunteers and first responders. Please remember to vote for Kelly.

Guynell Shuford
Lawndale

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 KMHLetters@kingsmountainherald.com. Letters sent by fax and e-mail must also include name, mailing address and phone number for verification purposes. Letters may be edited. Letters to the editor and columnists who appear on the editorial page do not necessarily represent the views of the Kings Mountain Herald.

OUR OPINION

I'm just plain tired of them

I am really tired of Sen. John McCain, Sen. Lindsey Graham, Colin Powell, Bill O'Reilly, Sean Penn, Joe Scarborough and lots of others I could mention. Every time anything happens in the world, the liberal weak knees who make up the national news media, drag out McCain and get his "expert" advice. Nobody is so smart he knows everything about everything. McCain is supposed to be a Republican, but he acts and talks like a Democrat, and not just any kind of Democrat, I mean a liberal one. McCain claims to be a George Bush supporter, but does everything in his power to thwart the president. Graham seems to be studying to take over as a fake Republican when McCain leaves town. The South Carolinian, who claims to be conservative, is anything but. He, along with McCain, is a member of the "gang of 14" who think they run the U.S. Senate. Graham is just another liberal in conservative clothing. He is exasperating to those of us who

thought he might carry Strom Thurmond's torch. How conservative states can continue to elect liberal senators is beyond me. First North Carolina had John Edwards, and now we have Elizabeth Dole while South Carolina had Fritz Hollings and now has Graham. Colin Powell couldn't carry Gen. Patton's combat boots, nor Norman Schwartzkauf's for that matter. We used to have real generals in this country. People such as Patton, Douglas McCarthur, Dwight Eisenhower and Omar Bradley. Now we have liberal pantywaists such as Colin Powell and Wesley Clark. Is it any wonder the military is in the shape it's in? I don't know why George Bush ever signed Powell on as Secretary of State. He was never even a Bush supporter. Now he's busy running his mouth about his country. He's just a Jimmy



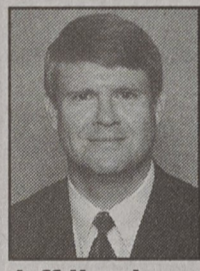
Jim Heffner
Guest Column

Carter with epaulets. Bill O'Reilly, what a jerk! Liberals consider him a conservative and conservatives consider him a liberal. I consider him a buffoon who thinks he knows everything, but is really a master of superficial knowledge. A shepherd high in the hills of Tibet is probably smarter than O'Reilly. At least he knows about sheep. O'Reilly just knows about wool, the kind you pull over someone's eyes. Then there's Sean Penn. He is such an easy target; suffice it to say the man is a failure as a human being and let it go at that. Joe Scarborough was swept into office as a Congressman from Pensacola, Fla in 1994. That's when the Republicans regained the house with their Contract for America, which all of them soon forgot. Scarborough masqueraded as a conservative for years. After he left the House, he got his own talk show on MSNBC.

For a year or so he blasted all the Hollywood liberals, but then something happened. Maybe the likes of Jeanine Garafolo charmed him, I don't know. I just know his show is becoming a celebrity interview show, and his idea of a news story is that Tom Cruise lost his contract with Paramount. Scarborough is also beginning to list to port, his conservative principles dropping off one by one. It's a shame. I'm tired of a lot of other people, too, but I can't bring myself to write much about them. I have a weak stomach. Here are a few of the names though: Bill Maher, Spike Lee, Jacques Chirac, that guy from Iran with the unpronounceable name, Barbara Walters and all those Texas Hold'em poker players. Jim Heffner is a reporter for the Bannernews and a longtime columnist for The Herald. Contact him at Jim@Thebannernews.com

God's presence is our richest blessing

Today I took my son's wheelchair to get it repaired. While waiting for the repairs to be done, I drove to a nearby coffee shop and sipped coffee while I watched the people go by. In busy settings like that, I often find myself realizing that there are many people in the world today who go about their business without any apparent awareness of the presence of God. Yet, to me the presence of God is life's richest blessing, and it's a shame that so many folks get so busy that they miss it. This is what happened to a woman



Jeff Hensley
Meditation

named Ann. She and her husband were typical baby boomers. They were well off financially, they had no time for church, and they each became busy in their respective lives. Their romance faded early, but neither of them wanted to give up their lifestyle. Besides, both of them adored their children, and their youngest son, T. J., was a special favorite of his mother. Even though the children were never sent to Sunday school and God was never mentioned in their home, one day T. J., out of the blue, said, "Mama, I love you more than anything in the world, except God. And I love him a little bit more!" Ann was surprised by what her son said, but she nevertheless told him it was okay. "But why," she wondered to herself, "would he speak of God?"

Two days later, on a bitterly cold day, while horseback riding, T. J. crossed a snow-covered creek, fell through the ice and died. Ann remembers her feel-

ings that day, and she remembers saying to God, "I hate you! How could you take my boy?" But in spite of her feelings, she See Meditation, 8A

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Rated PG - 7:30, 9:35
JACKASS: NUMBER TWO
Rated R - 7:30, 9:35
FLYBOYS
Rated PG-13 - 7:00, 10:00
GRIDIRON GANG
Rated PG-13 - 7:15, 10:00
EVERYONE'S HERO
Rated G - 7:30, 9:35
THE COVENANT
Rated PG-13 - 7:00, 9:40
ACCEPTED
Rated PG-13 - 7:45, 10:00
TALLADEGA NIGHTS: THE BALLAD OF RICKY BOBBY
Rated PG-13 - 7:05, 9:30

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ASK RICK!
Rick Walker owner of Rick's Automotive ASE Certified Master Technician

My brakes pedal feels funny and my steering wheel shakes when I apply my brakes. I had them checked during a recent oil change and was told the linings were ok. What do I do? Tina.

Well Tina, it sounds like you have a case of warped rotors. The funny feeling in your pedal and steering wheel is known as brake pulsation. This pulsation is caused by excess run out in your rotors. This run out or warpage of the rotors is caused by over heating. Some of the most common reasons for this warpage are rotors worn below minimum thickness or excessive brake temperatures due to heavy stop and go driving, mountain driving or pulling a trailer. To correct this problem you should first have it checked by a qualified automotive technician. After a careful inspection he will determine if your rotors are thick enough to resurface or if you need to replace them. This problem should be repaired ASAP as it puts undue stress on your braking and steering components and extends your stopping distance in an emergency stop. Until next week Maintain Your Vehicle for Safety, Dependability and Value.

Rick Walker ASEMT

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