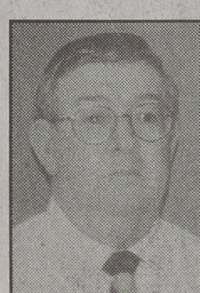


OUR VIEW

Librarian Josephine Weir could smell chewing gum a mile away

I was going through some old 1960s papers the other day and saw a picture of Josephine Weir, who was then librarian at Kings Mountain's Central High School.



Gary Stewart
Editor

It brought back a lot of memories.

I'm sure all of us know some people who made such a lasting impression, that when we hear their name we immediately think of their most memo-

orable habit or principle.

Mrs. Weir will be remembered for a lot of things. Her church and community knew her as a very giving and forgiving person. She was one of the most Christ-like people I've ever known.

But when I think of Mrs. Weir and I would say all other students who knew her at KMHS - the first thing that comes to mind

is chewing gum.

Mrs. Weir couldn't stand the stuff, as many boys and girls at Central learned during the fifties and sixties. There aren't many kids that went into the big library up there on the third floor that weren't told to throw their chewing gum in the waste basket.

After being caught the first time, I bet a lot of kids (like me) went into the library and tried to hide their chewing gum under their tongue or in a spot where they had lost a tooth, but it didn't work. You could be at the bookshelf in the very back of the room and all of a sudden hear Mrs. Weir coming around the corner and telling you to "put that chewing gum in the waste basket."

I always wondered how in the world she knew you had gum in your mouth when you weren't even chewing it. Did her glasses give her x-ray vision?

It was probably about 20 years after I graduated when I found out.

I was working in the paste-up

room at The Herald one day, looked through a door and window and saw Mrs. Weir coming down the hall. I immediately threw my chewing gum into the nearby trash can. Mrs. Weir came through another room between the hall and where I was standing and came right up to me and said, "Gary, you've been chewing gum." I replied "yes, ma'am, but I threw it in the trash can when I saw you coming down the hall." Her reply was, "I can smell that stinking stuff a mile away."

So, there you have it. It's not that she had x-ray vision; she just had a good sniffer.

I guess to her chewing gum was just like cigarette smoke or alcohol on someone's breath is to me. You may not believe it, but I can pull up behind a car at a stop light and have all the windows up and still smell their cigarette smoke.

I guess if you detest the smell of something so bad you don't have to catch them in the act.

The winners are losers

I wonder if those recording industry people really think people around the country are going to jump on the Dixie Chicks' bandwagon again just because they gave them five Grammy Awards?



Jim Heffner
Guest Column

It ain't gonna happen.

When the little loud-mouthed fat girl member of the group made her comments about George Bush people didn't take kindly to it.

Even people who despised Bush were appalled that show business celebrities would go outside the country and denigrate their president.

The Chicks won five Grammys for their latest album which has not cracked the top 20. Their smart aleck song "Not ready to Make Nice" has not set the music business on fire either.

They've cranked up their propaganda machines and all the liberal media are trumpeting the Chicks' success. I could have written their reports for them. They are that predictable.

"Vindication" screamed stories in the New York Times and other liberal rags. How they wish that was so.

You must remember that the people who hand out the grammys are show business people. By their very nature, they hate Bush, Republicans and conservatives, not to mention Christians.

There are about 11,000 people involved in the recording business, and a small percentage of them vote on the Grammys. I'll bet the majority of them would not agree with the award winners this year.

Here's how important a Grammy is. Jimmy Carter, former peanut farmer, president and plagiarist was given a Grammy for reading from his new book, which is shot through with anti-semitic remarks.

I put Grammys right up there with Nobel prizes (Carter has one of those, too) and academy awards.

If you are anti-America, you have a good shot at a Nobel prize or an academy award, or both.

Michael Moore produced a documentary which was little more than a series of lies and exaggerations, and he won an

academy award for it. Now it appears Al Gore will win for his documentary on global warming. There's a good chance Gore will win a Nobel prize as well.

But, back to the Dixie Chicks. They do have a core of fans who buy their music and attend their concerts, and there are enough of them to keep them rolling in dough (or eating it in Natalie's case) for years to come. But they will never be mega stars, as they once could have been. The Chicks have only themselves to blame.

After her initial attack on Bush, Maines went on TV and apologized, but she just couldn't bring it off. Nobody believed her. If she had just gone along and kept her mouth shut, it would have all blown over. She just couldn't do it.

"Not Ready to Make Nice" is just a continuation of her refusal to recognize her mistakes. Quick, how many of you can hum the tune?

Those other two Chicks are just as bad, but they do look pretty good. In my younger days, given the chance, I probably would have gone out with the little fat Chick just to get to the other two.

LOOKING BACK



Ted Gamble, left, and Will Adams are pictured in front of Gamble's Shell Station in Kings Mountain on March 29, 1963. Gamble operated the business at the corner of Battleground Avenue and Mountain Street for a number of years. The corner is the present site of the Kings Mountain Branch of the Cleveland Chamber. Burton Cabs can be partly seen at the rear of the building. It also appears that Chevrolet owners liked to have their cars serviced by Gamble and Adams.

Schools were getting ready for consolidation in February 1961

From the February 23, 1961 edition of the Herald:

Kelly Dixon and David L. Saunders have entered the contest for mayor of Kings Mountain. They will oppose Mayor Glee A. Bridges, who is seeking re-election to a fifth term.

Jim Lee Yarbrow Jr., 34-year-old Bethlehem section poultryman, was named Cleveland County's Young Farmer of the Year Tuesday night at the annual Farmers Night Banquet at the Woman's Club.

J. Ollie Harris, Cleveland County Corner, has been elected first vice-president of the newly organized North Carolina Coroner's Association.

B.N. Barnes, superintendent of schools, and Fred W. Plonk, chairman of the Kings Mountain District Board of Education, will confer in Raleigh Friday with the assistant attorney general in charge of school legislation, concerning charter changes required to enfranchise citizens in the expanded district. By election last May, citizens in the county district served by Grover, Bethware, Compact and Park Grace schools, voted themselves into the Kings Mountain administrative unit.

Frieda Marguerite McGinnis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hubert McGinnis, has been initiated into Lambda Alpha sorority at Lenoir-Rhyne College.

In addition to electing a mayor and five city commissioners, the Kings Mountain citizens this year are likely to get an opportu-

nity for a third time to approve or reject a modified city manager plan of government.

Kings Mountain's George Wilson will make a return engagement as manager in the Western Carolina League this summer. The veteran outfielder this week was named manager of the Statesville entry in the Class D circuit.

Kings Mountain's basketball teams dropped a doubleheader to Shelby Friday, the girls losing 78-64 and the boys 58-45. Marlene Weir scored 32 points and Pat Gladden 28 for the girls. Punch Parker scored 18 for the boys.

Bethware's girls advanced to the semifinal of the County

Tournament with a 44-35 win over North Brook. Linda Herndon scored 22 points and Pat Bolin 20 to lead the Lady Buccaneers. The Bethware boys defeated Union 48-46 with Jerry Morris scoring 17 points

Keith Griggs has joined the Central high school faculty as teacher of civics and girls physical education.

Paul Lancaster will speak on "Importance of Education in a Growing America" at Monday night's Park Grace P-TA meeting at 7 p.m.

Robert B. Early has been named to the dean's list for the first semester at Belmont Abbey College.

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NORBIT
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NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM
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BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA
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