

School News

Carrousel Princess crowned Homecoming Queen

Sarah Jane Mauney, daughter of Eddie and Roxanne Mauney, was crowned Kings Mountain High's 2010-11 homecoming queen during halftime of Friday's football game against Ashbrook at John Gamble Stadium.

Mauney was voted the honor by the KMHS student body over four other finalists - Ashley Monique Gilmore, Alicia Kimberly Watkins, Emily Connor Yarbro and Alexis Sade Young.

She has also been chosen as Kings Mountain's 2010-11 Carrousel Princess, was nominated by S.A.V.E. of which she serves as President. She is a member of the National Honor Society, SADD, Beta Club, Spanish Club and Science Club and has been a Renaissance Club Gold Card member since her freshman year. She is an all-conference soccer player and carries a 4.33 GPA.

She hopes to become an orthopedic physicians assistant.

Sarah was escorted by her father, Eddie Mauney.

Gilmore is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry George Gilmore III and was

nominated by the Yearbook. She is the yearbook's business manager, SPO president, a member of the Renaissance Club for four years, and is an Ambassador. She enjoys babysitting, baking, reading and spending time with family and friends. She attended the Broyhill Leadership Conference and the SATELLITE camp at NC State University. She also volunteers at her church's Vacation Bible School and was a Debutante this year.

Watkins is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Watkins and was nominated by the varsity cheerleaders. She is also co-captain of the color guard, member of S.A.V.E., SADD, SPO, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the KMHS Band Association. She enjoys shopping, spending time with friends and family, and church activities. She has participated in the National American Miss pageant ball, and served as the Kings Mountain representative to the 2009 AKA Debutante Ball.

Yarbro is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Yarbro

and was nominated by the French Club. Emily is a member of the KMHS varsity volleyball team and is a member of the French Club, National Honor Society, Beta Club, Science Club and SADD. She has been a Renaissance Club Gold Card member since her freshman year and was a Junior Marshall for last year's graduation ceremony. She enjoys working with children and participating in church activities.

Young is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Wingo. She was nominated by the Spanish Club. She is also a member of HECS Club, Beta Club and Renaissance Club. She enjoys shopping, spending time with family and friends, working with children and helping others.

Other nominees were :

Elizabeth Bailey Anderson, daughter of Richard and Janice Anderson; Kasey Rae Batchler, daughter of Tommy and Lisa Batchler; Connor Drew Blalock, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Todd Blalock; Samantha Noel Brice, daughter of Jessie and Harold Brice; Jes-



GARY STEWART/HERALD
KMHS Homecoming Queen Sarah Mauney with her escort to the court, her father Eddie Mauney.

sica Danielle Burton, daughter of Carl and Annette Burton; Casey Gladden DeVane, daughter of David and Kim DeVane; Johnna Etters, daughter of John and Lesia Etters; Ashley Nicole Frazier, daughter of Mark and Lori Frazier; Erica Morgan Hicks, daughter of Eric and Julie Hicks; Savannah Marie

Horne, daughter of Paulette Putnam and Kenny Horne; Chelsea Gwen King, daughter of Sandy and Donna King; Amber Joy Lawson, daughter of David and Angela Lawson; Kimberly Luangrath, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kham Luangrath; Tabatha Keonia LeShea Manning, daughter of Sherri

and Shaun Grier; Brandie Leigh Penner, daughter of Gene and Joann Penner; Amanda Brooke Stacey, daughter of Dallas and Jennifer Stacey; and Tiffany Dawn Waddell, daughter of Chris Waddell and Ann Johnson.

Disney star shines on East Elementary students



photos by EMILY WEAVER
Vanyah Roberts looks at her very own special signed autograph of Geno Segers she won during Segers' visit to East Elementary last Friday.

By EMILY WEAVER
Editor

Geno Segers starred as "Mufasa" in "The Lion King", playing in front of audiences in Australia and China, performing to crowds in ten cities across the United States. He appeared in the recent film, "Night at the Museum 2: Battle of the Smithsonian", and now stars on Disney's "Pair of Kings" television show. But he appeared to the students at East Elementary Friday morning not as a lion or even necessarily as a Disney star, but as a role model.

Most of the students weren't sure what to expect as they filed into the school's gym for the 10:30 a.m. event.

"We didn't tell them who was coming. We just said we're having a special guest," said Kim Reel, a counselor at East.

The program started with a minute clip of Segers' current show, Disney's "Pair of Kings". And out he walked, towering over the seated students with a deep voice booming "Hello".

He told the students who he was and ran through a resume of career paths and moments in the spotlight that led him to where he stands today.

Segers was born in Win-

ston Salem, son of Lonnie Segers and Sandra Oliver. In school, he became a wrestler, football player and track athlete. He won a city championship in football and wrestling while attending Caver High School. At East Forsyth High, he became the first two-time state wrestling champ.

After being named to the All State Football Team, he then accepted a full scholarship to Western Carolina University where he had tremendous success as a football player, according to his online biography.

He made the first team Sport Network All Ameri-

can, he said, but just missed the NFL "by a few pounds and less than two-tenths of a second."

Segers then moved to Charlotte, where he played for the Barrons Minor League Football team. He won a national championship and left to pursue a career in International Rugby. He played for the USA team and then for New Zealand's "Richmond Rovers", before he went back to wrestling and became New Zealand's national champion in his weight division. He tried his hand at other sports: cliff diving, Sumo wrestling and

full contact wrestling; and then, at other professions: teaching high school algebra in North Carolina and working as a small trader in New Zealand.

But his career path took a pivotal turn, according to genosegers.com, when Segers "took a dare and went to a Walt Disney audition which landed him the part as a bass in ('The Lion King') chorus."

After two years as a bass in the chorus, he earned the role of "Mufasa" and toured performing the show in Australia, China and back home in the states. It's been an interesting journey for Segers, but the message he really shared with the students was about opportunities along the way.

"In life, there are good opportunities and there are bad opportunities," he said. "We're going to talk about the good opportunities today."

Around every corner there is an opportunity, he added. There are three things, Segers said, we often do when we run across it.

"You're walking down the road, you turn the corner, see that opportunity and walk past it," he said. "That's one thing."

With a playful voice, he explained, what a person who has walked past opportunity sounds like. They whine: "there's nothing here for me to do" or "I hate this town."

Another person walks around that same corner, sees the opportunity, picks it up and drops it, he said. That's the second thing.

Using different tones of a sullen voice, he said, you can

hear them say: "she never liked me" or "he's the one that got me in trouble".

But then there's the third thing. A person walks around the corner, sees the opportunity, picks it up and runs with it.

"Do you know what that person is saying?" he asked the students. "They aren't saying anything. They're too busy running (with that opportunity)."

"There have been a lot of opportunities in my life," Segers said. "Some I dropped. Some I walked

past. But the opportunities that I picked up and ran with have led me here to talk to you."

It's a common message in this shining star's "Hold It On The Road Foundation", through which he reaches out to students across the country. He asked the students at East what he's asked so many others: When you turn that corner and see that good opportunity sitting there what are you going to do? Walk past it? Pick it up and drop it? Or pick it up and run with it?

BRIEFS

KMMS seeks votes to net \$100K grant

Kings Mountain Middle School is in the running for a \$100,000 grant from Bing.com, but in order to get it they need the public's help.

Votes will need to be cast on line by Oct. 24 to help the school win the prize that will be used to purchase 23 smart boards for the classrooms.

Click on the website - <http://ourschoolneeds.discoveringbing.com/> and give KMMS a rating of five stars to cast your vote.

Community support will be needed to take the competition to the next round, says the school's Technology Facilitator Angela McKee.

She said that the new smart boards are needed at KMMS. Only one mounted smart board is currently in operation at the school and only a few days are left for the voting process.

Students were asked to participate in the process by writing essays of what they would like to use the money for in their school. Most of the kids, McKee said, wanted smart boards - a technologically advanced dry erase board that allows learning to be auditory, visual and hands-on.

AIG teacher Joan Shipley, science teacher Missy Short and McKee pulled from the students' essays to create their own 500-word essay required in the grant application. They used photos from the school to tell their story and a 1-3 minute video produced by the students.

The kids worked in teams to come up with different clips for the film, McKee said.

"Our kids were so excited about it," she added.

The grant application was submitted a couple of weeks ago.

Votes are recorded by email addresses so the public is encouraged to log on to the website and set up an account to vote.

Check the school's website for more information at <http://www.clevelandcountyschools.org/schools/kmms/>

Head Start accepting applications

Cleveland County Head Start is accepting applications for the 2010-2011 school year for the following schools: Bethware Elementary, East Elementary, Graham Elementary, James Love Elementary, Casar Elementary, Fallston Elementary, Grover Elementary, North Elementary and Washington Elementary schools.

This program is for eligible children 4 years of age or who will be by August 31 of this year. They will be given priority, and 3-year-old eligible children will fill any remaining openings.

The program is designed for families with low to moderate income, regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, national origin, special needs or disabling condition.

Bus transportation is available for children who live within the assigned school district.



Geno Segers, Disney star, talks to students at East Elementary Friday.