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KM's Byers goes 1-1 in Olympic wrestling

Kings Mountain's Dremiel Byers won his first match before losing 1-0, 1-0 to reigning world champion Riza Kayaap of Turkey Monday in the quarterfinals of the Greco-Roman heavyweight wrestling division in the London Olympics.

Byers received a bye in the qualification rounds and then defeated Muminjon Abdullaev of Uzbekistan 1-0, 2-0.

See **BYERS, 7A**

Sellers off to respected NC School of Arts

EMILY WEAVER
Editor

For the first time in many years, a Kings Mountain young woman has landed a full scholarship to the University of North Carolina School of the Arts.

Next Wednesday, Aug. 15, 17-year-old Morgan Sellers will move into a dormitory on the UNCSCA campus in Winston-Salem, where she will study theater. Classes start Aug. 20.

She is the only Kings Mountain student since 1993 when Heather Melton and since 1991 when Laura Beth Moss, who went on to act on Broadway and in a soap opera, to be accepted to attend the prestigious school.

Hundreds of applicants from throughout the nation were narrowed down to 26, before being cut down to a final 20. Morgan checked her voicemail (knowing the school would call the winning scholars) every day, hoping for a call. Three weeks after her last encounter with recruiters, the phone rang.

"She worked a whole year by herself building her resume and working to get accepted. She was real focused on getting into this school," said her mother, City Manager Marilyn Sellers. "It's a real honor for her to get this. It's bittersweet. We don't want to lose her, but we're excited and proud."

"She loves talking about it, just doesn't like thinking about it," joked Morgan, knowing her mother will miss her as she goes off to study at a college a year before her peers.

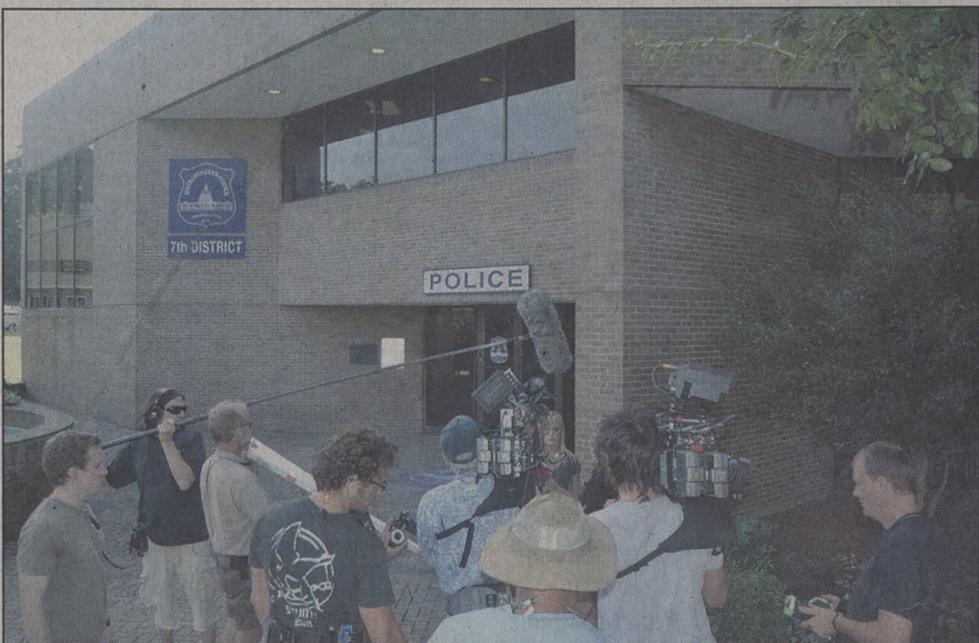
See **SELLERS, 7A**



MORGAN SELLERS will attend the University of North Carolina School of the Arts to finish her general education and receive special training in the arts.



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photos by **ELLIS NOELL**

TV crews shoot a scene in front of City Hall for "Homeland," a one-hour drama/thriller series on Cable's Showtime network. City Hall will be shown in the 7th episode of 12 in 2012 as a metropolitan police station "7th District" in Washington, DC.

TV series filmed at city hall

ELIZABETH STEWART
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The Courtyard of Kings Mountain City Hall was the busiest place in town Monday morning from about 5 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. as a busy TV crew from Showtime Networks & Leakwood Lane Productions shot the seventh episode of "Homeland", a popular award-winning one hour drama/thriller TV series that opens its second season Sunday, Sept. 30 at 10 p.m. on the Showtime network.

Crowds of curious onlookers hoped to get close enough to stars Claire Danes and Damian Lewis to get their autographs but had to watch filming from a distance. Kings Mountain Police officers kept traffic flowing away from

Gold Street but some residents ventured to the grassy area around city hall to watch the action.

A police shield emblem with the words "7th District" marked the front of city hall which will represent a police station in Washington, D.C. in the upcoming episode.

Mayor Rick Murphrey said the location site was chosen by Pacific Entertainment Group of Charlotte's production staff a few days ago after they looked at a number of buildings in this and other areas.

"They were looking for a building to be featured as a metropolitan police station in Washington, D.C. and chose city hall," said the mayor. "It was exciting and Kings Mountain will get some exposure from the filming here."

See **HOMELAND, 7A**

Council says 'no' to annexation

ELIZABETH STEWART
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By a vote of 4-3 Kings Mountain City Council last Tuesday shot down voluntary satellite annexation to B&D Enterprises in the Oak Grove Community and Grandpa's Store in the Bethlehem Community.

Grandpa's Store is located on a 3,363 acre parcel beside Bethlehem Fire Department.

Tom's Family Mart is comprised of three parcels on 1.166 acres at the intersection of Oak Grove and Stoney Point roads. It is the tract on the southwest corner that includes Tom's Family Mart, the tract on the northwest corner

that includes a frame construction detached single family house and a vacant commercial building on the southeast corner.

Ward V councilman Keith Miller's question to Police Chief Melvin Proctor about police response time to these areas sparked questions from nearly all seven councilmen at last Tuesday's public hearing by the council at its July meeting at city hall.

Proctor said police response time to an area three miles outside the city limits could be 13-16 minutes or a maximum of 35 minutes depending on the area where the officer gets the call. Proctor said he was aware that the property owners seeking annexation had a

relatively low crime rate and that Tom's Family Mart management had a reputation for being tough on crime.

Thomas Brooks said at the meeting that no criminal incidents had been reported in 35 years at Tom's Family Mart, a family business in operation in the Oak Grove Community since 1962.

"I recognize many positives of this annexation but what about 99% of our city population who would worry about police protection. What would happen if an incident at one of the convenience stores tied up police and kept officers away from the city?" asked Miller during a public hearing in which no

See **COUNCIL, 7A**

Stars glow in 'Foxfire'

Final 2 shows
Friday and
Saturday at Joy

EMILY WEAVER
Editor

The master design, carpentry and set work of 10 volunteers, who worked for the love of theatre, set the picturesque log-cabin-on-a-mountain-farm scene of Kings Mountain Little Theatre's current production of "Foxfire".

Six talented players and the rhythmic Bluegrass stylings of the four-man "Stoney Lonesome Band" bring the Appalachian story

See **FOXFIRE, 5A**



Photo by **BRYAN HALLMAN**

Left to right, Steve Austin (as Hector Nations), Robert Jenkins (Dillard Nations) and Eleanor Wixson (Annie Nations) act out a scene in "Foxfire", which continues for two final showings this weekend.



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