

KM Elite seeks support from city

Ed. note: Maurice Tate, President and founder of Kings Mountain Elite, a program which draws hundreds of young people in not only sports programs but educational and tutorial, writes an open letter to city council asking for the city to budget funds for this non-profit organization program in addition to the YMCA.

Good afternoon, I hope your day is going great. The purpose for this email is to provide my input about the City's recent plan to renew a 20-year agreement with the Y.

I recognize that the City has fiscal and social responsibilities to provide recreational services to our community. I'm not opposed to the City negotiating with the Y or any other program.

Throughout the State, local governments successfully work with nonprofit organizations to accomplish many public pur-

poses. Moreover, many North Carolina cities help fund non-profits' programs to revitalize neighborhoods, encourage the arts, provide after school and recreation programs, and support economic development.

I don't want our organization to be overlooked in the planning process because we are also a non-profit program that's doing commendable work in handling the city's and community's priorities with our youth. We are not trying to compete with the Y, but want to have a mutual relationship with the City regarding recreational program services for the youth.

Our demographics show that we have been serving the community's most economically, occupationally, and educationally disadvantaged families in the highest poverty areas in the town. The majority of our funding comes from small grants, fundraisers, and

donations. In the City's Long-Term Recreation Goals, our program should be considered.

Our main question consist of is it a possibility that K.M. Elite can be integrated with the City's plans in offering recreational services to the community? In the article from the Kings Mountain Herald, it was stated "if approved, the city and Y would embark on major, joint fundraisers to improve the existing building, expand existing programs and add additional equipment to provide increased recreational programming for Kings Mountain area citizens." Our program has been visible and responsible for providing community access also during these past years that translated to an increase in recreational activities and involvement for youth in the community.

I understand that the Y has been the central focus for the city's recreation services for the

past 15 years, since the contract was originated. However, our town has changed significantly since the inception of that contract. We are growing socially and economically as a community, especially with prospects such as the new Power Plant and possibly the Casino acquisition coming to our city, if approved.

In conclusion, our goal is to continue to make positive contributions in our community by having a hands-on-approach that will benefit our children in the present and future. Our program is well-staffed and able to handle this endeavor. With your monetary contribution it would not only increase the progress but allow us to assist in closing the gaps that relate to crime and drop outs in our area. We have been serving over two hundred children and families for the past five years and will continue to do so. If the City decides to



Maurice Tate with group of young people.

include our program along with the Y, it would enhance the inclusion and endorsement of diversity within our community. As the City continues to experience high growth, so will the needs of our children and families.

Our program is asking before you finalize long-term negotiations of one program that you be mindful of the other prominent programs, such as K.M. Elite that's making a huge

difference in our City. This will ensure that our City is taking pride in all of our children by carefully allocating the City's resources rightfully with fairness. We are very proud of our overall accomplishments and look forward to continuing to build and improve the conditions of our town in serving our families and youth.

MAURICE L. TATE
KM Elite founder, president

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DATE	TIME	TRACK	WINNING CAR #	TV
Feb. 14	8:00	Daytona Sprint Unltd	---	FOX
Feb. 19	7:00	Daytona Bud Duels	---	FOX Spt 1
Feb. 22	1:00	Daytona 500	---	FOX
Mar. 1	1:00	Atlanta QT 500	---	FOX
Mar. 8	3:30	Las Vegas Kobolt 400	---	FOX
Mar. 15	3:30	Phoenix C.W. 500	---	FOX
Mar. 22	3:30	Calf. Auto Club 400	---	FOX
Mar. 29	1:00	Martinsville STP 500	---	FOX
April 11	7:30	Texas Duck Com 500	---	FOX
April 19	1:00	Bristol Food City 500	---	FOX
April 25	7:00	Richmond Toyota 400	---	FOX Spt 1
May 3	1:00	Talladega 500	---	FOX
May 9	7:30	Kansas Speedway	---	FOX Spt 1
May 15	7:00	Charlotte Showdown	---	FOX Spt 1
May 16	7:00	Charlotte All-Star	---	FOX Spt 1
May 24	6:00	Charlotte Coca-Cola 600	---	FOX
May 31	1:00	Dover Speedway	---	FOX Spt 1
June 7	1:00	Pocono 400	---	FOX Spt 1
June 14	1:00	Michigan Q. Loans 400	---	FOX Spt 1
June 28	3:00	Sonoma Toyota 400	---	FOX Spt 1
July 5	7:45	Daytona Coke Zero 400	---	NBC
July 11	7:30	Kentucky Q. State 400	---	NBCSN
July 19	1:30	New Hampshire	---	NBCSN
July 26	3:30	Indianapolis C.R. 400	---	NBCSN
Aug. 2	1:30	Pocono Penn. 400	---	NBCSN
Aug. 9	2:00	Watkins Glen 355	---	NBCSN
Aug. 16	2:30	Michigan 400	---	NBCSN
Aug. 22	7:30	Bristol IRWIN Tools	---	NBCSN
Sept. 6	7:00	Darlington Bojangles 500	---	NBC
Sept. 12	7:30	Richmond F.A.P. 400	---	NBCSN
Sept. 20	3:00	Chicagoland 400	---	NBCSN
Sept. 27	2:00	New Hampshire 300	---	NBCSN
Oct. 4	2:30	Dover AAA 400	---	NBCSN
Oct. 10	7:00	Charlotte B.O.A. 500	---	NBC
Oct. 18	2:15	Kansas Casino 400	---	NBC
Oct. 25	2:30	Talladega Geico 500	---	NBCSN
Nov. 1	1:15	Martinsville Goody's 500	---	NBCSN
Nov. 8	2:00	Texas AAA 500	---	NBC
Nov. 15	2:30	Phoenix Q.L. 500	---	NBC
Nov. 22	3:00	Homestead-Miami 400	---	NBC

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