

Kings Mountain Herald

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EDITORIALS & OPINIONS

Resumption of draft...

By Presidential Proclamation, following full public debate and with the approval of the Congress, President Carter has directed a resumption of registration with the Selective Service System. During the period July 21-Aug. 1, all men born in 1960 and 1961 are required to register at their local Post Office.

The registration program will be spread out over two weeks—the first week for those born in 1960; the second week for those born in 1961. In addition, registration day will depend on one's birth month. People born in January, February or March will register on Monday; those born in April, May or June will register on Tuesday, and so on. Friday will be a makeup day. Starting in January, 1981, young men born in 1962 will register, and thereafter men will register when they turn 18.

Registration is a simple process. The registrant will go to any U.S. Post Office and fill out a registration form with his name, address, telephone number, social security number, and date of birth. These cards will be sent to Internal Revenue Service centers for keypunching; then, the information will be entered into Selective Service System computers. Approximately 90 days after registration, each registrant will be mailed an acknowledgement letter, which will include the information entered in the

system. If the data is inaccurate, the correct information should be entered on an enclosed change of information form and mailed back to Selective Service.

If registrants change their address, they are required to inform the Selective Service by using the change of information form provided with the acknowledgement letter or by filling out a change of address form available at local Post Offices.

American citizens residing abroad, or those visiting other countries this summer, will be required to register at their nearest U.S. Consulate or Embassy.

The maximum penalty for failure to register is \$10,000 fine and/or five years in prison.

President Carter is calling for registration at this time to improve the manpower readiness of the United States. When the All-Volunteer Force was inaugurated in 1973, it was never intended to stand alone in the event of a national emergency. At that time, it was assumed that registration would be continuous. However, registration was suspended in 1975, largely to save money.

It is important to note: this is only a call for registration; it is not a return to the draft. Only Congress can authorize a draft, and the President is not seeking that authority.

Mercury running out top...

If Kings Mountain had an official weatherman, my guess is that the mercury would be running out the top of his thermometer and that he would be busy checking the records to learn if 1980 had been the hottest summer ever enjoyed by Kings Mountain area citizens.

Even folk who spend a considerable portion of their time at Lake Montonia and Moss Lake during the summer and boast that the cooling lake environs mean a lower average temperature have admitted to suffering with the heat this season.

In spite of hot weather, the steering committee of the Kings Mountain Battle Committee is moving in high gear towards its ambitious Fall production of the late Bob Osborne's historical drama, "Then Conquer We Must" which was first presented at Kings Mountain National Park Amphitheatre in the autumn of 1951 and is adapted for this season's production by former Herald Editor Tom McIntyre.

The Osborne drama is not a pageant but reads more like a Cecil B. DeMille style production. There's a lot of action throughout the 16 scenes in two acts and romance too, with the central characters being Virginia Salter and the man she falls in love with, the daring British Colonel Patrick Ferguson and the deep love of country shared by both of them, although they are on opposite sides of the battle. Virginia's struggle with love of country and love of the British officer runs through this beautifully poignant story.



Lib Stewart

The upcoming production is expected to attract interest, not only from local folk, but from surrounding communities and their Little Theatre groups and try-out dates are expected to be announced in the next few days with auditions here, in Shelby, Gastonia, Rock Hill and surrounding towns. It is easy to guess that Kings Mountain National Military Park, which will again be the setting for the drama, will set a new record for visitors this autumn since much planning is going into a mammoth celebration of the 200th birthday of the Revolutionary War Battle of Kings Mountain.

Here it is already July and only a seeming minute ago the world was welcoming the New Year. Time does race along at an ever-faster rate, with only the young folk ever having to wait longingly on a new birthday so they can join the Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts, be eligible to drive the car, and/or qualify to vote. Older folk have always told me that the older one gets the quicker the years pass. I am beginning to believe them.



GARY STEWART

I'm sure

Cosell did it...

One of the big questions on the mind of most these days is "Who Shot J.R.?"

All faithful followers of the TV drama Dallas have been in a state of limbo since the last show of the season saw J.R. Ewing gunned down by an unseen sharpshooter as he stood in his office.

There was no hint as to whether or not J.R. was killed, but you can bet he wasn't. The show wouldn't be a hit without him.

J.R., played by Larry Hagman, is a man most Dallas viewers love to hate. I like him, not because of what he represents but because he plays the role so well. I wonder how many people would love to have the power J.R. has and be willing and able to step on everyone that gets in their way.

But, getting back to the shooting. Who shot J.R.? Jimmy the Greek, the world-famous sports oddsmaker, is making odds on it. The best bet, if I recall correctly from the report I heard several weeks ago, were Cliff Barnes, Sue Ellen, Kristen, Alan Bean, and the banker J.R. swindled in an oil deal.

Miss Elly, Jock, Bobby and Pam weren't suspected by the Greek. Bobby and Pam are too

goody-goody to do such a thing and Miss Elly and Jock love him in spite of what he is. Chances are, in the long run, the script writers will prove them just as crooked as J.R., anyway.

We heard a report a couple weeks back that some person or persons had broken into the CBS studios in California and stole the scripts for the coming season. They were delivered to the Los Angeles Times in the hope that the paper would tell the world. The Times, however, didn't want to spoil the suspense and returned the scripts to CBS.

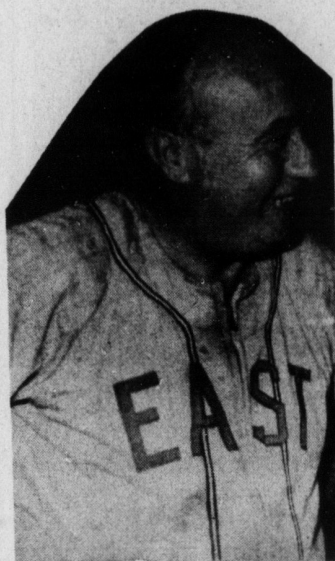
Now, some country singer has released a song "Who Shot J.R.?", in which just about everyone except the four mentioned two paragraphs above are suspected. Even Ronald Reagan and John Anderson are proclaimed as prime suspects by a voice sounding much like a white-teeth, ex-Governor of Georgia who now lives in a big White House in Washington.

But, the best suspect of all is Howard Cosell. After all, as the song says, he was the most hated man on TV until J.R. came along.



Ken Alexander

One Hot Night Jim Piersall Strolled In



George Wilson

By the time he donned a minor league managerial uniform in the early 1970s, Jimmy Piersall's temper tantrums, emotional outbursts or what-have-you had cooled considerably.

But he'd still have an occasional lapse into yesteryear and go into his Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde routine.

He had a special distaste for the men in the umpiring profession. Not all umpires, but the ones he had carefully screened and logged as not hustling. The uncaring, as Jim labeled them.

"Hell," he told me during an interview when he managed Orangeburg in the old Western Carolina League, "a ball player can loaf, so where does it read that an umpire can't? They don't hustle and they blow a big play."

So, one hot night in July in Gastonia, the former bad boy of Boston, whose spirited antics eventually triggered a book and a subsequent movie about himself, "Fear Strikes Out", apparently had all he could take after several close plays went against Orangeburg at Sims-Legion Park.

Even though less than 300 hearty souls were in the stands, Piersall put on a show that probably will never be equaled here.

In the long run, Piersall lost the argument and got an early shower, about par for any course when an umpire's decision—especially judgemental—has been questioned.

What brought out the flashback on one of the major league's most colorful and controversial players was his recent Comiskey Park charade against a sports writer and later some heated words with the son of the White Sox owner, Bill Veeck.

Reader Dialogue

We need to speak and be heard...

We believe our nation may be in the midst of its greatest tragedy. As mothers, we find ourselves needing to speak and to be heard. We urge citizens:

- To study candidates at local, state and national levels, and to vote.
- To join a political party and work within it.
- To write their congressmen and voice their ideas. We need government by people, not government by government.
- To assess Jimmy Carter's ability - not the fact that he is a nice man, but his actual capability in dealing with national problems. Don't forget what is happening in Afghanistan, or the loss of human rights in the U.S.S.R.

We advocate stronger discipline in the schools (although that must begin at home), stronger support of teachers and principals and the return of prayer in the schools. We urge better education about patriotism. It is inconceivable that some young people would rather leave the country than serve in our armed forces. The tomorrows for our children depend upon the actions we take today. The silent majority has been silent too long.

KATHY N. HERRAN
ROBYN N. NICHOLSON
SUSAN F. CROSSLEY
Charlotte

Poet's Corner

Let not our lives Thy truth conceal
Through us Thy brightest light reveal.
Make our worship as Thou planned.
Hold us this hour within Thy hand.

When we speak, let us be heard
Because we seek to use Thy word.
May we be brief, and not extend
This word, as Thou didst not intend.

Give us each that gift intense,
- To inspire and stir, not give offence.
Let us deep peace and meaning see,
When we worship silently.

Give us an understanding heart
To follow one another's start,
So that each of us may be
A stepping stone which leads to Thee.

Patty Stabler

as being unpredictable, kind at times, meaner than a rattlesnake on other occasions, but always one helluva good baseball talent.

Wilson, the Kings Mountain native and recognized as the king of swat in the old Southern Association for years before the Boston promotion, didn't lack for color himself and was also known for his practical jokes. "But," conceded Wilson; "compared to Piersall in the color and controversial department, mark me an also-ran. Whether he was hitting .300 or below his cap size, the media followed him for the unexpected."

The All-Star game in Dodger Stadium earlier in the week brought out other Piersall trivia.

During one of the mid-summer classics, with Piersall performing in centerfield, an over-exuberant fan came down out of the outfield stands, onto the playing field, arms waving. Piersall pursued him and used his size ten and a half low-cuts for a well-directed aim at the man's buttocks.

He's climbed fences, and flag poles, sold hot dogs and programs and directed bands on short notices and despite a short-fused temper, Piersall was good for baseball. He was knowledgeable, a pleasant conversationist who loved the game and apparently still does.

The White Sox is pondering his fate and probably will give it a long, hard look.

Jimmy Piersalls don't come along every day and, besides, the stuff on the former Red Sox star is a refreshing change of pace to the almost constant bickering between players and management.

The late George Wilson, who came along in the Red Sox outfield about the same time as Piersall, recalled him

Thanks for support...

To the Editor:

Many thanks to the Cleveland County residents for their support of the Red Cross Blood Program. The hard work and dedication of all the Red Cross volunteers and sponsoring organizations as well as the willingness of all blood donors to help meet patient needs have made Cleveland's Blood Program a success.

Cleveland County's 1979-80 goal was 5,595 units and 5,166 units were collected. That is a 92% achievement of goal. Congratulations! The new goal for 1980-81 is 5,779 units. I am very proud of the Cleveland County residents and I look forward to working with all of you on another successful year.

"Blood will continue to be available to patients only if people continue to donate."

Najla Nave
Field Consultant
Carolinas Region Blood Center
Charlotte, N.C. 28203

LOOKING BACK

(From the July 13, 1951 edition of The Kings Mountain Herald).

J.R. Canady of Snow Hill has assumed the duties of personal loan manager at First Union National Bank.

Robert Osborne has written an historical drama, "Then Conquer We Must," for presentation this autumn by the Kings Mountain Little Theatre.

Seaman Recruit Billie Sue Owens, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Owens, is now stationed at the U.S. Naval Training Center in Great Lakes, Ill.

Social and Personal
Circle Three of the Methodist Church met Monday at the home of Mrs. J.H. Arthur.

Danny and Dave Dilling of Kannapolis are visiting their grandparents in Kings Mountain. They are sons of Carolyn and John Dilling.