



Photo by Gary Stewart

**DOUBLE PRIZE** - Sgt. James Rowlette, area recruiting officer for the U.S. Army, chats with two of his most recent recruits, twins David and Donna Neesmith of Kings Mountain. David enters the Army this month and Donna will report for duty in January.

## Twins Give Double Prize

By GARY STEWART  
Editor

David Neesmith wasn't really interested in joining the Army when first approached by Sgt. James Rowlette of the Army Recruiting Station in Kings Mountain.

But the Route 1, Kings Mountain resident began to get interested when Rowlette told him of the foreign language opportunities available.

And, when he went on to tell of a Personnel Management program, he not only was able to recruit David, but also his twin sister, Donna.

The two 17-year-olds enlisted on June 26 and face a four-year hitch. David reports for eight weeks of basic training at Ft. Jackson, S.C., July 23 and Donna will report to Ft. Jackson for basic on January 12, 1982.

David studied several foreign languages at Hunter Huss High School in Gastonia, and Rowlette's suggestion that he pursue the Army's 98-G Russian Language Course sounded good.

He scored high on tests and the entrance exam, and following graduation from basic training, will report to Monterrey, Calif., for a year of study in the Russian Language and Radio Voice Communications.

David will receive a \$3,000 enlistment bonus and will have \$14,100 set aside for his college education for enlisting in the Russian Language program.

Those benefits are given, Rowlette said, "because it is hard to find someone with the mental

### Oak Grove Bible School Is Scheduled

Oak Grove Baptist Church, Route 3, Kings Mountain, will have Vacation Bible School July 20-24 from 6:30 until 8:30 each evening.

Classes will be held for nursery age through young adults.

Rev. Michael Goudelock, pastor, invites everyone to attend.

### GOSPEL SING

The regular third Saturday night gospel sing will be held at 7 p.m. Saturday at Eastside Baptist Church on Highway 29 between Grover and Blacksburg. Featured groups include "The Messengers" of Maggie Valley, "The Masters" of Chesnee, S.C., and "The Crusaders" of Gaffney and Kings Mountain. Rev. M.P. Hampton, pastor, invites everyone to attend.

capacity to learn the language, plus have a clean record. Because it is a security program, persons entering that field cannot have any kind of a police record."

Donna will take her Personnel Management Course at Ft. Benjamin Harrison in Ft. Bend, Ind., following her eight weeks of basic training.

She chose to enter the Army, she said, because "I think it will be an adventure, and I'm really serious about making the Army my career. They have good benefits and a lot of advantages for me."

Sgt. Rowlette echoed her feelings.

"I have 12 years in the Army, and it suits me because I love to travel. An individual knows the benefits before he enlists, but, of course, it's just like anything

else. It has its pluses and minuses. There's no way to really make a career decision until you've been in it. A lot of people come out after four years, and a lot of people come out and then decide to re-enlist after seeing what the job situation is. A lot of people use their training successfully on the outside. You just have to weigh the pluses and minuses."

One of the big advantages of today's Army, Rowlette feels, is that recruits have a choice of a field before entering. Every enlistee is given a written guarantee of his job training, guarantee of the number years of enlistment and guarantee of first assignment, if available.

Rowlette says a lot of young people "really don't realize what service can do for them, and won't come down (to the Recruiting Office). I'm sure I can help a lot of people who are interested in a specific field but are not sure how to get started."

Rowlette said many young people get the idea that their parents do not want them to enter the service, but in most cases, that is not true.

Because Donna and David are only 17, they had to have their father's consent.

"He (Gene Neesmith) said he knew it would be an advantage for them but he didn't want to push them into joining," Rowlette said. "He said he was looking forward to them getting in and being successful. He's real happy for them."

"A lot of people get the idea the parents don't want them to join," he added, "when, really, the parents just don't want to push them."



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