

Eastern Echoes

By Gail Roberson



Winter has happened, and colder temperatures and cruel winds are upon us. We toss another log on the fire and yearn for spring. But, we live in the more gentle portion of the country, where the four seasons, though boldly different, are not as drastic as in other parts. For years, folks who lived through the harsher winters of the great plains would gather to pass the time and stretch the truth... about how cold it was. Some might even tell you that their tales never reached a conclusion, for the words froze and fell to the floor as soon as they left their mouth. Anyone who wanted to hear the story could gather up the frozen letters and set them next to a roaring fire to thaw... but more than likely, the letters wouldn't thaw in the correct order, resulting in total confusion.

Roger Welsh compiled a book of tall tales about such times, and some of them about the weather particularly caught my eye. In North Dakota, for example, it would get so cold that a member of the household would go outside to chop the frozen smoke from the top of the chimney. But they didn't have anything over on the Nebraska farmer whose flames in the fireplace froze solid. He chopped the frozen flames up with an ax, and, in doing so, scattered chips of solid flame all over his cabin. When the thaw finally came in the spring, he discovered little fires had sprung up all over his home.

And, it would seem that their summers were as hot as their winters were cold. One farmer testified it was so dry that his cows gave powdered milk and his chickens laid nothing but hard-boiled eggs. Due to the intense heat, the corn crop popped right in the fields.

Evidently, the good times for those people were just as fantastic as the hard times. One corn farmer had such a healthy crop that he couldn't harvest it. He tried chopping the stem with an ax, but it grew so fast he couldn't hit it twice in the same place. And the pumpkins... well, they had to be secured inside wagons or else the rapidly growing vines would drag them around the fields until holes wore in the shells.

The weather-wise kids in Harold Helfer's elementary class in St. Louis, Missouri, have a few words to say about weather in general:

- "When lightning goes through them, clouds start making sounds. So would anybody."
- "Rain is saved up in cloud banks. Water vapor gets huddled and snuggled together in a cloud. When it is big enough to be called a drop, it does."
- "Some oxygen molecules make rain, while others help fires to burn. Sometimes it is brother against brother."
- "The water cycle is a cycle made out of water that you can pedal along on. I don't believe it has been invented yet."
- "A blizzard is when it snows sideways."
- "The main value of tornadoes is yet to be discovered."
- "Listening to meteorologists is one of the chief by-products of bad weather. Meteorologists look something like people."
- "When the sun goes in, I don't have to go out and enjoy it."
- "You can listen to thunder after lightning and tell how close you came to getting hit. If you don't hear it, you got hit, so never mind."

As for me, I like all kinds of weather. There is beauty in every season. Sunshine is delicious, rain is refreshing, wind brushes us and the snow is exhilarating. There is no such thing as bad weather... only different kinds of good weather. Besides, here in North Carolina, especially at this time of the year, if you don't particularly like the weather... just wait a minute.



Intensity

West Craven's girls' basketball coach Liz Cox has an intent look on her face as she reviews strategy with her team during a timeout. The Lady Eagles are the top-ranked Class 3-A girls' team in the eastern part of the state. The Lady Eagles have suffered only one loss this season. Cox will be the subject of a feature story in next week's edition of the Highlights.

Obituary

Kathleen H. Alligood
 WASHINGTON — Mrs. Kathleen Hodges Alligood, 69, of 710 E. Fourth St. died Saturday in Beaufort County Hospital. Services were held at 3 p.m. Tuesday at the 15th Street Church of God with the Revs. Elmer Bauman and Jay Jones officiating. Burial was in Family Memorial Gardens. A native of Beaufort County, Mrs. Alligood was the daughter of the late Elijah Plum and Lena Bell Jackson Hodges. She was married to Lonnie Gray Alligood, who died July 24, 1977. Mrs. Alligood was a home nurse for the elderly. She was a member of the 15th Street Church of

God and CBH Lodge No. 1. John Brown, Ricky Hatcher, Sherrill Gaskins, Christopher Sanders, Morgan Smith and Chad Williams will serve as pallbearers. Mrs. Alligood is survived by four daughters, Mrs. DeVaughn (Betty) Ross of Washington, Mrs. Beverly (Stella) Gaskins of Vanceboro, Mrs. Clark (Annie) Sanders of Eagle Springs and Robert (Barbara) Smith of Pinetown; three sisters, Mrs. Lucy H. Woolard, Mrs. Joyce H. Jackson and Mrs. Margaret H. Crisp, all of Washington; a brother, Earl Hodges of Albuquerque, N.M.; 12 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

BRANJAST SERVED DAILY IN ALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS: Manager's Specialty Entree, Choice Cereal, Fruit Juice & Milk.

A complete lunch includes one entree, a choice of two from the vegetable and fruit group, bread, dessert & beverage: lowfat milk, whole milk or milkshake

FEB '89 LUNCH MENU

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 Lasagna Manager's Choice Entree Tossed Garden Salad Fried Onions Chilled Peas French Bread Banana Pudding	2 Chicken Nuggets w/Honey & Barbecue Sauce Ham & Cheese Sandwich Vegetable Soup Hot Apple Sticks Spiced Cherries Manager's Choice Dessert	3 Barbecue Chicken Hot Dog w/Chili Baked Beans Collard Greens Chilled Applesauce Cheese Biscuit Chocolate Cake w/Icing	4 Peppercorn Pizza Turkey Salad Lettuce & Tomato or Garden Salad Waffle Fries Chilled Plums Bran Muffin Manager's Choice Dessert	
6 Fiesta Crunchy Fish Coleslaw Manager's Choice Vegetable Petite Banana Cornbread/Bun Oatmeal Cookie	7 Cheese Pizza Steamed Cabbage Manager's Choice Vegetable Mixed Fruit Hot Cornbread Peanut Butter Cookie	8 Chic Fillet Oriental Pork Fried Rice Lettuce & Tomato Stir Fry Vegetables Chilled Pineapple Egg Rolls Almond Bar Cookies	9 Sausage Pizza Salisbury Steak w/Spanish Peas & Carrots Rice Manager's Choice Vegetable Sliced Peaches Hot Roll Chocolate Chip Cookie	10 Sausage Pizza Colonial Fried Country Steak Potatoes Peas Kentucky Rolls Orange Wedges Lemonade LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY (Annul) Feb. 12
13 Cheese Pizza Steamed Cabbage Manager's Choice Vegetable Mixed Fruit Hot Cornbread Peanut Butter Cookie	14 Chicken Nuggets w/Honey & Barbecue Sauce Italian Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce & Parmesan Cheese Tossed Garden Salad Potatoes w/Skins French Bread Sweetheart Cake VALENTINES DAY	15 Deli Cold Cut Sandwich on Seeded Bun Potato Chips Ravioli Casserole Fried Squash Lettuce & Tomato & Dill Strip Brownie	16 Crispy Chicken Chili w/Machos Whole Kernel Corn Green Beans Chilled Purple Plums Strawberry Shortcake	17 Peppercorn Pizza Smoked Sausage w/Macaroni & Field Peas Cheese Garden Salad Spiced Apples Cheese Puffs Manager's Choice Dessert
20 Sausage Pizza Salisbury Steak w/Spanish Peas & Carrots Rice Manager's Choice Vegetable Sliced Peaches Hot Roll Chocolate Chip Cookie	21 Chicken Nuggets w/Honey & Barbecue Sauce Brunswick Stew Steamed Cabbage Sweet Potato Fluff Raisins Cheese Biscuit Cinnamon Bun	22 Virginia Baked Ham Sloppy Joe on Bun Mount Vernon Salad Manager's Choice Vegetable Fresh Fruit Bread Sticks Cherry Cobbler WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY (Annul)	23 Tacos w/Cheese Manager's Choice Chicken Entree Lettuce & Tomato Manager's Choice Vegetable Jello w/Topping	24 Fiesta Roast Turkey w/Cranberry Sauce Mashed Potatoes Green Leafy Vegetable Fruit Hot Roll Pie Cranch Bar
27 Cheese Pizza Tuna Salad Lettuce & Tomato Cup Hot Vegetable Sticks Peach Half Captain's Wafer Manager's Choice Cookie	28 Student Planned Menu			

Bodine 'Sprouts' Off About NASCAR

By MO KROCHMAL
 Sports Editor

FARMVILLE — You might not recognize NASCAR racer Geoff Bodine if you spot him without a helmet on and out of his No. 5 Levi Garrett Monte Carlo Winston Cup racer.

Going into the 1989 season, Bodine has picked up a little optional decoration — a beard.

Bodine, one of three drivers on Rick Hendrick's Winston Cup racing team, was in Farmville Saturday busily signing autographs in promoting the grand opening of a Chevrolet dealership.

The fuzzy growth may be evidence of Bodine's determination to turn things around for the 1989 season.

"I grew a beard in 1978 and won 55 races in the modifieds," Bodine, a resident of Julian and a native of Chemung, N.Y. said. "In 1980, I grew another one when I was running late models and had a good year.

But no, I'm not superstitious," he grinned.

Last year, Bodine won one race — the Miller High Life 500 at Pocono — and finished in the top 10 16 times.

He said he was taking his crew to Daytona Beach, Fla. Tuesday for a week of testing in preparation for the Feb. 19 season-opening Daytona 500.

Bodine goes into the season having been forced into a somewhat awkward position by NASCAR.

Bodine and his fellow Chevrolet racers are marking time until May 7 and the Winston 500 at Talladega, Ala.

In that race, they will get to roll out a new ride — the Chevrolet Lumina, a new downsized model that may make the Chevy racers more competitive with the slick, streamlined vehicles the other manufacturers have produced.

Until then, however, the Chevy drivers have to stay with the lunky Monte Carlos.

"Dale (Earnhardt, who also drives a Monte Carlo) and I looked pretty bad last year," Bodine said. "He didn't run good and I didn't run good. The Fords and Pontiacs and the Buicks and the Olds ran good.

"This car (Monte Carlo) is about seven or eight years old. It's a good car and runs well at the big tracks like Daytona and Talladega. We've kept making it go faster; but you can only make it go so fast and we've about gotten it as fast as we can."

Thus Bodine and the others are eagerly awaiting the arrival of the new downsized Lumina model.

"It's about the size of a T-bird or a Pontiac," he said. "They've raised the deck lid on it pretty high.

"On the short tracks, the other manufacturer's cars have been sticking to the tracks (which makes for superior handling). We need this new car."

Bodine explained that NASCAR would not allow the model to race until the car was made available to the general public.

"It's a shame," Bodine said. "We're going to have to run these for eight races and test the new car — if they had allowed us to run the new cars, it would have saved the teams a lot of work and money."

With the challenges of racing one type of vehicle and preparing for another, the Hendricks team will also be evaluating tires.

Radial tires may be the newest wrinkle to hit the Winston Cup tracks this season.

Bodine said he expects to see a continuation of last year's "Tire Wars" — a fierce competition between tire giant Goodyear and fiery newcomer Hoosier.

Goodyear has been testing a radial tire for NASCAR and will provide the tire at Daytona.

"Their goal is to have everybody riding Goodyears," Bodine said. "Hoosier is a bias play tire."

"We'll use whatever is best — if the radial is better or if the Hoosier is better..."

No matter the rubber or the model, Bodine said his goal will be the same it has been since he started racing on the Winston Cup circuit.

"We want to win the championship," he said. "It takes a lot of hard work. You have to show up and be ready to run."

He said he has learned and he said other drivers have learned.

"Bill Elliott showed last year by going after it the way you need to," he said. "You need a total team commitment."

And, what about luck?

"I was getting to that," Bodine said, rubbing his beard, his eyes twinkling.

Scouts From Page 1

was hot pot of fish stew, just the right tempration on a cold day.

Buck had a habit of appearing anywhere, anytime. But camporee chiefs must have the ability to be where they are needed and Buck performed that duty well. One minute he was explaining things to a scout and the next minute he would pop up on the other side of the camp talking over plans with instructors. Keeping up with Buck would merit a merit badge of its own.

The scouts from the 16 troops were found washing dishes, cutting firewood, preparing for merit badge courses and just romping in the woods. The adults were found washing dishes, cutting firewood, preparing to teach merit badge courses and just romping in the woods.

Boys will be boys (and so will men).

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West Craven Highlights

Craven County's Family Weekly Newspaper
 P.O. Box 487
 Vanceboro, N.C. 28586
 (Main St. Across From Post Office)
 Published Each Thursday
 Ashley B. Futrell, Jr.
 Publisher
 Mike Voss
 Editor
 Terri Jamieson
 Advertising Manager
 And Staff Writer
 Edith Hodges
 Office Manager

Office Hours
 Mon. 8:30 am - 10:30 am
 Thurs. & Fri. 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
 Telephone 244-0780 or 946-2144

IN-COUNTY RATES
 Single Copy 25¢
 1 Year *7.35
 2 Years *11.55
 3 Years *15.75

OUT-OF-COUNTY RATES
 1 Year *8.40
 2 Years *12.60
 3 Years *16.80

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 U.S.P.S. 412-110
 Second Class Postage Paid
 Vanceboro, N.C.
 Member: N.C. Press Association