



AS A TRICKLE of gasoline drips from the tank above their heads, Supply volunteer firefighters work Friday afternoon to clear access to a truckdriver pinned inside the cab of an overturned tractor-trailer rig.

Holden Beach Is Site Of Surface Weather Station

No, the Martians have not landed at Holden Beach. That strange-looking device just west of the water tank is a surface weather station.

It is one of 50 being put in place in North and South Carolina and Virginia. They are called the Portable Automated Mesonet (PAM) system. When activated, the instrumentation will record weather data at five-minute intervals and relay it via satellite to a GALE Command Center in Raleigh.

GALE (Genesis of Atlantic Lows Experiment) is a \$19 million program designed to investigate one of the East Coast's biggest weather makers.

GALE is a national effort to make better forecasts of Hatteras lows, weather systems that brew off the Carolina coast and dump ice and snow as far north as New England.

The hard-to-predict low pressure systems are hundreds of miles in diameter and whirl in a counterclockwise direction.

On Jan. 15, when the two-month winter storm watch begins, 50 surface weather observing stations and 10 atmospheric sounding systems will form a rectangular grid that reaches from Bluefield, W. Va. to

Wilmington, N.C., and from Norfolk, Va., to Abbeville, S.C.

The research will include aircraft, research ships, Doppler radar systems, off-shore buoys and satellites.

Jim Griffin of Holden Beach Realty and Bob Buck, town administrator, are site contacts for the PAM station located at Holden Beach. Buck acknowledged Monday that he is one of the site contacts, but said he knows very little about the project.

"The sensitive devices record atmospheric pressure, temperature, humidity, precipitation, wind speed and wind direction," according to Dr. Gerald F. Watson, a N. C. State University meteorologist.

The sensors are secured on an aluminum mast assembly and tripod and are kept alive by solar-powered batteries.

Watson said the PAM system makes strategic weather measurements available faster than ever before.

"Having this data immediately will aid in the location and monitoring of important details that help make up these weather systems," he added.

State Wants To Collect Fines

A suit has been filed by the state to collect \$8,600 in fines levied against a Long Beach man found guilty of mining without a permit.

The N.C. Department of Natural Resources and Community Development levied the fines against James Douglas (Doug) Hoffman and Doug Hoffman Excavating last summer, citing specific violations at a mining pit near Southport off N.C. 211 in 1984 and 1985.

First notified of apparent violations in February 1984, Hoffman did not post the \$2,500 surety bond required by the state for a mining permit until September 1985, at which time a permit was issued.

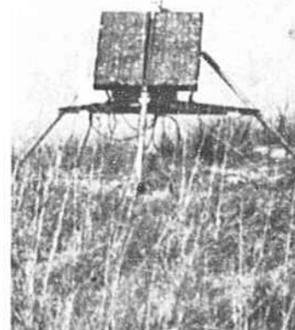
According to the complaint filed last week by Assistant Attorney

General Walter M. Smith, Hoffman waived his right to an administrative hearing regarding the fines when he failed to request a hearing within a 60-day waiting period. He was notified of the proposed penalties on Oct. 5.

The case was turned over to the Attorney General's office for collection by the director of NRCD's Division of Land Resources, Stephen G. Conrad.

Hoffman could have been fined \$5,000 per violation, with each day a violation continues considered a separate offense.

According to the complaint, he was fined \$2,600 for a violation that occurred Feb. 17, 1984, and \$2,000 each for violations noted March 20, 1984, Feb. 12 and Aug. 20, 1985.



THIS surface weather station at Holden Beach records weather data at five-minute intervals and relays it via satellite to Raleigh.

Three Injured In Two Accidents

Three persons were injured in two accidents involving overturned trucks last week, reports the N.C. Highway Patrol.

Nancy Carol Hamilton, 37, of Supply, had slowed to make a right-hand turn into the driveway of the Supply Post Office Friday at 2:40 p.m. when a tractor-trailer rig traveling south behind her failed to stop in time to avoid a rear-end collision.

Walter Scott Potter Jr., 22, of St. Stephen, S.C., was charged with failure to reduce speed by Trooper Larry Richardson.

Hamilton, who complained of injury, and Potter, who sustained moderate (Class B) injuries, were

Hamilton's 1977 Plymouth Fury. "It was airborne," said Anne Justice of Sneed's Ferry, northbound on U.S. 17 at the time of the accident. "I saw the truck flying into the air."

The 1978 tractor-trailer, owned by Robin Hood Container Express of Dunn, was hauling a load of paper, according to Brunswick County Emergency Management Coordinator Cecil Logan.

The cab of the upended truck was partially buried in the shoulder of the road, according to Brunswick County Emergency Management Coordinator Cecil Logan.

A bystander told The Beacon she saw the truck go into the air before it overturned after striking the rear of

road. Supply volunteer firefighters used shovels to clear dirt from the driver's side of the cab so that a Hurst tool could be used to remove the door.

While the truck was shifted upright again, traffic on U.S. 17 was rerouted temporarily on Sellers and Makatoka roads, a Supply fireman said.

Damages to the Hamilton auto were an estimated \$1,000 and to the tractor-trailer, an estimated \$20,000. The accident occurred about 4.5 miles north of Shallotte on U.S. 17.

Saturday, at about 3:15 p.m., the driver of a 1978 two-axle Ford truck owned by Pyrofax Gas Co. of Fayetteville ran off the right side of U.S. 74 about five miles west of Navassa.

George Edward Dutch, 61, of Wilmington, said he lost control of the truck, which then skidded down the roadway before overturning several times, according to a report filed by Trooper Larry Richardson.

Brunswick County Emergency Management Coordinator Cecil Logan said the small gas leak that resulted was quickly contained.

Dutch sustained Class B injuries and was transported to Cape Fear Memorial Hospital in Wilmington.

Damages to the truck were an estimated \$15,000.

Temperatures Will Be Cooler

The forecast calls for temperatures to be cooler than normal, says local meteorologist Jackson Canady.

That will mean averages in the low 30s at night reaching to the low 50s in the daytime, he said. It should be somewhat wetter than normal, with about three-fourths inch of rain.

For the period Dec. 17-22, a maximum high of 58 degrees was recorded on the 17th.

An average daily high of 51 degrees and an average nightly low of 27 degrees combined for a daily average temperature of 39 degrees, which Canady said is nine degrees below normal for this time of year. He recorded no precipitation.



1. to R.—Jenkins congratulates Robinson, Agency Manager Hoyt Hucks, Agent Ken Ferguson, Agent Shirley Smith and Agent Cindy Reed.

Harold C. Robinson, president of Brunswick County Farm Bureau, was announced as winner of a special award by W B Jenkins, president of the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation, at its annual meeting in Charlotte recently. Presented in recognition for outstanding production during a statewide contest, the award allows Farm Bureau agents an opportunity to win this honor for their county's president who serves on a voluntary basis.

Appeal Scheduled

(Continued From Page 1-A)

Free Press was advised by their attorney to stop the infringements. Infringements of copyrighted advertisements continued as late as March 8, 1985, the judge ruled.

From the outset of the case, publishers of the Free Press have maintained they have a right to copy ads from the Beacon since, in their opinion, the ads are owned by the advertiser who pays for them. They have also contended that the Beacon has no right to copyright its work and that the use of the copyright notice by the Beacon constitutes a restraint of trade. Larry L. Coats of Raleigh is attorney for the defendants.

The Beacon's suit is based on the Copyright Act of 1976, which went into effect Jan. 1, 1978. It was the first revision of the copyright laws since 1909. Under the new statute, ownership of advertising created by a newspaper can be protected by copyright, the Beacon has maintained through its attorney, W. Thad Adams III of Charlotte.

ASCS Elects Committee

The Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service met at the ASCS Office in Bolivia on Monday, Dec. 16, and elected as county committeeman Robert E. (Hollis) Smith of Grissetown.

The delegates also elected other officers as follows, reported Ada Varnam, ASCS acting director: Carl Holden, chairman; W. Elton King, vice chairman; Robert E. (Hollis) Smith, member; Alton Evans, first alternate; and Hulon Grissett, second alternate.

All of the above will take office on Jan. 1.

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