

The Foothills View

FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 1983

BOILING SPRINGS NC

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Goose Goes To College

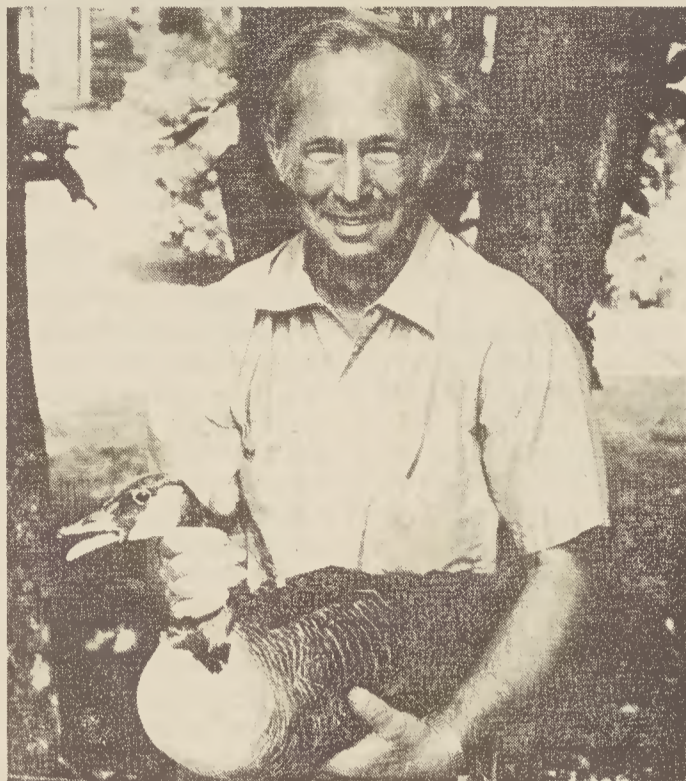
"It was a very athletic goose," said one college employee Wednesday after Gardner-Webb security officers found an unexpected drop-in visitor on the campus football fields - a Canadian goose.

Wild geese usually are rarely seen in Cleveland County, according to Richard Stowe, a state game protector called to the campus to take charge of the animal. The county is "on the edge of a migratory flyway," Stowe said, with no large bodies of water. The nearest suitable habitat for waterfowl is a federal refuge on the Catawba River near Gastonia.

The Canadian goose found this week at the college, although not a domesticated breed, carries a band on its leg, indicating Stowe said it has an owner. The band does not carry markings of state or federal wildlife agencies.

It is not illegal to have Canadian geese on private property, Stowe said, so long as the property owner, has a federal permit and does not interfere with the birds free movement.

The college goose, although it may have come for an educa-



G-W Employee Hearold Register And Friend

tion, alas, did not stay long.

The goose was transported by Stowe and college security employees Hearold Register and David Helton to a flock on private property north of Shelby.

Stowe said that anyone missing a Canadian goose from a

flock should call him at 538-3833. The game protector emphasized that the owner should be prepared to give the number on the leg band of goose before being allowed to claim the animal.

Driver Is Charged In Fatal Wreck

Boiling Springs police have charged the driver of a car which left the road during a rainstorm Saturday night and crashed into a local residence, killing a passenger.

Thomas David Green, 17, died shortly after the 8:50 p.m. single car wreck on Main Street. Another passenger, Charlotte Lynn Penson, 17, was released from the hospital this week.

The driver, Mickey David Randolph, 22, was charged Tuesday with death by vehicle, according to Boiling Springs police chief Dan Ledbetter.

According to police reports, Randolph lost control of his car while passing another car on South Main. The Randolph vehicle then veered off a tree in the front yard of Mrs. Etta Holland and crashed into the Holland house.

Mrs. Holland was uninjured. Randolph was treated and released from Cleveland Memorial Hospital.

In other police news, a break-in at the G.T. McSwain's store was reported Saturday to Boiling



"I Never Expected This"

Mrs. Etta Holland talks to Boiling Springs patrolman Dennis Thesis shortly after a car crashed into the porch of her South Main Street house Saturday night. "I was inside reading a book," Mrs. Holland said. "when I heard the noise. I went outside to see what it was. I never expected this."

Springs police. Lawnmowers and tillers valued at about \$4000 were reported stolen from an outbuilding in front of the store, police say. A padlock on the

front of the outbuilding was sawn through sometime Friday night according to police reports.

An investigation is continuing.

Celebration With The People "Capable For Everything"



Mrs. Kate Holland, above at right is presented a plaque honoring her late husband, Sidney Holland, at the Boiling Springs Rescue note-burning ceremony Saturday. Holland was an early supporter of the rescue

squad. Showing the plaque to Mrs. Holland are rescue squad members, from left: Charles Greene; Julius Hoy, captain of the squad and Delva Hope.

The organization capable, as one speaker said, of everything from saving lives to "getting cats out of trees and pulling ponies out of ditches" celebrated the end of its indebtedness this weekend.

About seventy-five people cheered and applauded as the note for the Boiling Springs Life saving and Rescue Unit building was burned Saturday afternoon signifying the final payment on the structure. Both the building and lifesaving equipment were paid for with fundraisers by the squad and with private donations, according to Julius Hoyle, captain of the squad.

Before the note-burning Hoyle had assisted in presenting a plaque to Mrs. Kate Holland,

widow of the late Sidney Holland, an early supporter of the rescue unit for whom the squad dedicated its building.

Boiling Springs Rescue answers emergency calls, forty percent of which are automobile accidents, and sixty percent of which are household accidents, according to Hoyle.

The 18-member squad was formed in January, 1971, and began building its headquarters in 1976. Construction was finished in 1977, and was valued at that time at \$75,000.

At Saturday's noteburning, Dr. Eugene Poston, former president of Gardner-Webb College, was the speaker. Refreshments were prepared by the Flint Hill chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Vaughn Tapped For Honors

Nancy Rebecca Vaughn of Boiling Springs is among the 77 students on the spring semester Dean's List at Peace College. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Vaughn of 120 Woodhill Dr. in Boiling Springs.

To be eligible for the Dean's List at Peace a student must maintain a grade-point average of 3.30 out of a possible 4.0, receive passing grades in all subjects and carry at least 12 hours of course work.

Peace is a two-year college for women offering associate degrees in liberal arts, business and music.

A New Carolina Vacationer —A Very Hungry Alligator

"There's an alligator in my yard—what should I do?" Biologists and enforcement officers with the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission routinely hear this question in eastern North Carolina—especially during the late spring and early summer. However, there is little cause for alarm—alligators and people can get along fine as long as people behave themselves.

"We receive quite a few calls from people who are concerned about alligators—especially around Lake Waccamaw," said John Kennedy of Whiteville, the Wildlife Commission's supervisor of enforcement for District 4, which includes most of southeastern North Carolina. "The best thing that people can do is leave the alligators alone. If alligators aren't bothered, they will soon move on."

Alligators are especially active in the late spring and early summer. Often, the animals will travel over land for up to a mile seeking a mate or searching for new home territories. During these excursions they may hole up in small ponds for a few days—sometimes near

people—before moving on. At Lake Waccamaw in the heat of summer the animals often leave the warmer waters of the canals and swamps to seek the cooler waters of the lake—occasionally crossing through backyards in the process.

"Man's activities certainly have an influence on the numbers of alligators that are being seen," said Kennedy. "A Lake Waccamaw, an alligator is now a common sight. No doubt, extensive land clearing in the Green Swamp is displacing some of these animals from their former habitat. Also, if people continue to build homes in swamps and other wetlands, they can expect to see alligators. As long as people leave the animals alone, there won't be any problems. When alligators cross through a yard to get to the lake, they are simply seeking the shortest route to cool water. Under natural conditions, a wild alligator is not aggressive—in fact, it is usually very shy and secretive. A fleeting glimpse is about all you ever get of a wild alligator."

Kennedy says that people

generally don't worry about alligators once they've learned a little bit about the animals. Genuine "problem" alligators are quite rare—and they are almost always created by man. The one way to create a "problem" alligator that may be dangerous is to feed the animals.

"In some respects, alligators are similar to bears—when you start feeding them, you get real problems. Wild alligators aren't dangerous, but they quickly lose their fear of man when they're being fed and soon learn to expect that handout. This is dangerous to people and to the animals.

Sooner or later, people become upset about these nuisance alligators and the animals end up being illegally shot although they are protected by the federal Endangered Species Act. For the sake of the animals, people should leave them alone."

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is responsible for handling nuisance alligators. They say that the problem can be prevented with a little common sense. Here are some tips on liv-

ing with alligators.

—Do not feed alligators. This only holds or attracts them to an area.

—Do not dump garbage, remains from fish or game, or other refuse into waters inhabited by alligators.

—Do not swim at dusk or after dark where alligators are found. Alligators are nocturnal feeders, and although attacks on humans are very rare, most have occurred after dark. There have been no alligator attacks on people in North Carolina.

—Do not molest, approach or provoke an alligator. These animals are very fast, and their head, jaws and tail present formidable weapons. The bite of an alligator is also extremely infectious because of bacteria found in their mouths, making the bite of even a small alligator extremely painful and potentially dangerous. It is also illegal to harass, harm, hunt, trap, kill or hold an alligator under the terms of the federal Endangered Species Act. A violator may be subject to a \$10,000 fine and/or imprisonment per incident.

King And Queen



Gladys and Glavis (Shake) Wacaster of Boiling Springs were named "King and Queen" of the Hawaiian Luau sponsored by the Senior Citizens Nutrition Society. The luau was held Tuesday at the Boiling Springs United Methodist Church.