

Mother Nature Huffs And Puffs Her Way Through Warren County



Marshals for the Warren County High School 1988 Commencement Exercises are shown above. They are, left to right, Opherral Eaton, Kim Fuller,

Leigh Anne Perkinson, Terry Light, Michael Sink and Angela Ballance, chief marshal. (Staff Photo by Howard Jones)

No Injuries Are Reported

By DIANE P. DAVIS
Staff Writer

A surge of heavy rain and gusty winds kept local power companies busy Monday night and early Tuesday morning as Warren County residents were in the dark for several hours.

Gary Robenolt, Warren County emergency management coordinator, said that the heaviest wind and rain came in the heart of Warrenton. "That is where most of the damage was reported."

Carolina Power and Light Company Local Manager James Parnell said that the storm was "worse than we had anticipated." According to Parnell, CP&L customers in the Littleton area were the hardest hit by the power outages caused by the storm. A tree fell down and damaged a large section of the major line there, causing over 1,400 customers to be without service. It was four hours before the first section of the line was restored. The balance of the Littleton customers without power had their service restored by 7:30 a.m. Tuesday.

Several customers in the central Warrenton area were without current due to a power line on the Baltimore Road that had been damaged. A large tree had fallen on the line, and the Department of Transportation had to be called to remove the tree before any work could be done by power company personnel.

A spokesman from the Department of Transportation's maintenance division reported that not only was the department called to the Baltimore Road area, but also to an area on U.S. 1 in Warren County. Several tree limbs were cleared from roads throughout the county between the hours of 11:30 p.m. and 2:30 a.m. Tuesday.

Warrenton residents who had been without power had their service reconnected by 1:30 a.m., said Parnell.

Some Norlina residents were without power for as long as two hours. A large pole on Connell Road had been blown down by the strong winds.

According to Parnell, there were approximately 3,000 CP&L customers in Warren County who had power outages during the storm.

According to David Proctor, district supervisor with Halifax Electric Membership Corporation, there were a total of 546 Halifax Electric customers without current during the night. The first call came from the Inez area at 11:15 p.m. Monday, and all the lines were reconnected by 3 a.m., said Proctor.

"There were very, very high winds, and it was a short and swift storm," said Proctor. He also said that most of the outages were from winds blowing trees onto the lines.

Gary Robenolt said of the storm, "There were no tornadoes responsible for taking trees down. Downburst winds or straight winds ranging anywhere from 75 to 85 miles per hour swept a very narrow path through the county." Robenolt believes that it was the initial gusts of wind that did most of the damage.

Although no injuries or significant personal property damage were reported by residents, trees were damaged and blown over on the Courthouse Square, on the grounds in front of the Warren Health Plan and behind the Warren County Jail.

Robenolt advised that Warren County residents who live in mobile homes or old houses should attempt to get to a "more stable structure" during a storm watch or warning period. He also (Continued on page 3B)



MISS WELDON



STALLINGS

Commencement Set At Warren Academy

The fifteenth annual high school commencement will be held Friday, May 27 at 8 p.m. in the Warren Academy Gymnasium. The public is invited to attend.

Lucille Lee Weldon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nat B. Weldon, has been named valedictorian of the class of 1988. She will attend Peace College in the fall.

Christopher Robert Stallings, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert P. Stallings, has been named salutatorian. He will attend Chowan College.

The other members of the senior class and the schools they plan to attend are Dean Lamar King, son of Mr. and Mrs. C.C. King, Jr., Chowan College; Kimberly Dawn O'Neal, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lucius O'Neal, Vance-Granville Community College; and Rhonda Ellen Pendergrass, daughter of

Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Pendergrass, Chowan College.

Noah B. Barefoot, Jr., pastor of the Warrenton Pentecostal Holiness Church and senior English teacher at Warren Academy; Bennie L. King, headmaster; Frank Sossamon, pastor of South Henderson Pentecostal Holiness Church; and Mrs. Monroe Gardner, pianist, will participate in the program.

Mascots for 1988 are Kelly Lee Gardner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Gardner; and Braxton Daley Ross, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Ross of Littleton. Kelly is a preschool student, and Daley is a kindergarten student at Warren Academy. Chief Marshal for the commencement is Allison Louise Crouch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin P. Rooker and Dr. William Crouch.

Top 2 Grads Named Here

Karen Lynn Harris has been named valedictorian and Helen Barnes Pierce named salutatorian of the class of 1988 by James T. Wilkerson, principal of Warren County High School.

Karen plans to attend the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and major in accounting. She plans to become a certified public accountant.

Presently, Karen is vice-president of the National Honor Society, assistant secretary of Youth Interaction Club, copy editor of the annual staff and a member of the Senior Council. Karen served as Chief Marshal at the 1987 commencement exercises and has received many academic awards. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James C. Harris, Jr. of Warrenton.

Helen plans to attend Appalachian State University in Boone.

While at Warren County High School, Helen has been an active member of the annual staff, serving as a photographer, a member of the National Honor Society and serves as scorekeeper for the baseball team. She is also very active in the Junior Rescue Squad. Helen is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Pierce of Vaughan.

Board To Meet

The Warren County Board of County Commissioners will convene in open session on Wednesday, May 25, at 6:30 p.m. for a work session on the preliminary budget for the county for the 1988-89 fiscal year.

The meeting will be held in the conference room of the Warren County Economic Development Commission, which is located in the Taylor Building on Main Street.

Term Cancelled

The May 31st criminal term of Warren County Criminal Superior Court has been cancelled.

The criminal term of Warren County Superior Court will convene again on August 8 in the Warren County Courthouse.

Judge Henry Barnett of Raleigh will preside.



Karen Lynn Harris, left, and Helen Barnes Pierce, have been named valedictorian and salutatorian of the class of 1988 at Warren County High School by Principal James T. Wilkerson. Karen is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James C. Harris, Jr. of Warrenton. She plans to attend the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in the fall. Helen is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Pierce of Vaughan. She plans to attend Appalachian State University. (Staff Photo by Howard Jones)

Warren Finishes Third In Regional Track Meet

By GAREY BALLANCE
Sports Writer

Four members of Warren County High's track team participated in the eastern 3-A regional meet held at Apex High School last weekend. Randy Jordan, Alfahir Crawford, Grady Sessoms and Daniel Williams combined to give Warren County an outstanding third place overall finish.

Jordan was the star of the day, dominating his customary trademark events—100-meter dash, 200-meter dash and the long jump. Randy's times of 10.2 in the 100 and 21.3 in the 200 were both records for the Apex track. In the long jump, he took first place with a jump of 23 feet 2 1/4 inches.

Now Randy has to defend his titles at the state meet on Friday. He won the same three events on the state level last year as a junior. Last year the competition was fierce, but this time around there doesn't seem to be anyone who can challenge him.

The other Eagle who qualified for the state meet is Alfahir Crawford. Crawford is a talented sophomore who runs the 300-meter hurdles and does the long jump. He qualified for the state in the long jump with a fourth place mark of 21 feet, 4 1/4 inches.

We wish these two all the best as they compete with the finest in the state.

Warren County High School's annual Athletic Banquet will be held on Thursday night at 7 p.m. in the school's cafeteria. All athletes may attend free and bring up to two guests at \$5 extra apiece.

Poppy Sale Set

American Legion Auxiliary volunteers will distribute the familiar red handcrafted poppies honoring America's war dead on May 27, designated as Poppy Day by Auxiliary Limer Unit No. 25 in Warrenton.

Planned to coincide with the Memorial Day holiday, the annual event pays tribute to those veterans who have died in the last 70 years. It also honors the millions of Americans who have willingly served their country in seven decades.

According to Mrs. Anna Fuller, chairman of this year's event, the poppy program has been a part of Auxiliary programming for more than 65 years. It has been estimated that approximately 25 million Americans wear the poppy to honor America's war dead and her veterans, contributing to nearly \$2 million for rehabilitation and welfare programs.



Members of the Warren Academy Kindergarten Graduating Class of 1988 participated in graduation ceremonies on Thursday, May 19 in the school gymnasium. Shown above are, front row, left to right, Shannon Hight, Matthew Gardner and Kelly Gardner.

On the back row, standing and sitting, left to right, are Daley Ross, Austin Blalock, Dan Mustian, Rebecca Rivers, Shane Harris, Lucy Williams and Doug Lewis. (Photo by Becky Rooker)