

Weather

Date	High	Low	Prec.
Dec. 7	43	10	
Dec. 8	41	13	
Dec. 9	46	21	.18
Dec. 10	55	38	
Dec. 11	40	24	
Dec. 12	46	28	
Dec. 13	58	32	.45

REFLECTIONS

By Gordon Greenwood

On Wednesday, Dec. 8, Lt. R. E. Ellyson telephoned his wife Gail from Tokyo while on leave from Korea where he has been for six months. In Korea he is in charge of arrangements for a Christmas party for 125 Korean orphans at an orphanage near Seoul. For this party, Dempsey Whitaker donated more than \$70 worth of new dresses. The GIs will provide trees, toys, and food for these children. Mrs. Ellyson is the former Gail Clark, granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Rondel of Black Mountain.

The Lions club basketball team has a new coach and manager. He is R. C. Capps, who made such a hit at the Lions meeting last fall when he told of his work during the summer in junior league softball program sponsored by the Lions. Watch for this Lions team to go places in a big way.

Two fan letters are in the spotlight this week, one from the Pacific coast and one from home territory. They follow:

Here's The Answer!
Dear Mr. Greenwood:

I read with special interest your article in the last News entitled "Why Do You Live in a Small Town?" The answer is, just get sick of it and you will know what living in a small town means.

The taxi driver who takes you to the hospital and helps you get your dogs in kennels isn't just a taxi driver, he is your friend and looks after everything.

The town's member you just meet on the street or in the store and like to say Hi! or pass a little talk with, comes way up to the hospital and does things for you your sister would, and they all send you cards and the church people all sign a funny card that makes you laugh and read all their names over two or three times because you know what each one is like and it tickles you to see all their names on that funny card.

And the school children you have been teaching, all send you a letter with pictures of space rockets on some of them, meant to cheer you. Somehow they do because a space rocket zooms so far off your worries, you gotta laugh.

Many come to see you and all in all if anyone thinks this isn't an answer to "Why Do You Live in a Small Town?" then they had better pack up and go live in a big city.

Yours for a good Christmas,
Sally Kitchen,
Memorial Mission Hospital,
Former Resident.
Dec. 3, 1954.

Dear Editor:
Enclosed you will find the money for two subscriptions for one year. Being from the fair city or town of Black Mountain we like to hear the gossip very much.

Thank you very much.
Yours
George P. Anderson,
Benton, Wash.

Don McKenzie, Buncombe County Athletic association representative, has an excellent idea. When he presented the trophy to the 1954 county champions at the Lions-Swannanoa Men's club banquet last Thursday evening he said they were going to start having the trophy engraved at the factory, instead of waiting till the season was over. They'd have been right for the past four years.

As speaker for the event, Tom Young, former all-American at Carolina and for the past several years coach at Cullowhee, had N. C. Shuford, his first principal at Smithfield, and many of his former students sitting on the edge of their seats. They never knew what was coming next. Fortunately for Ned Straehla, Buffalo Humphries, Tommy Hornaday, and Jug Walden he stuck to his subject and didn't get on the personal side.

He brought down the house with his assertion that in all of his travels Paul Young of Swannanoa was the first Young he had ever met who would claim kin with him. "But even Paul," he explained, "was quick to point out that the kinship didn't come from the father's side of the family."

He wisely advised the members of the Black Mountain-Swannanoa squad to put their education first and football second. Which gives me an opportunity for this plug for the smaller colleges. Many former high school stars have wasted their talents on scrub teams at the large schools every Saturday at some of the smaller institutions. Think it over. Who was the Black Mountain woman who felt sorry for the poor motorists who had been unable enough to park in the pedestrian lane in front of the post office? Later when she had sorted her mail and walked over to get in her car she was doubly sorry. It was her car.

Post Office Crew Braces For One Of Busiest Weeks

Postal employees are bracing themselves for what may be the busiest week-end in Yuletide history. Explaining the urgency of their problem, Postmaster W. B. Stone at Swannanoa and H. A. Kerlee, at Black Mountain today said:

"We have frequently asked that all Christmas mail be posted before Dec. 15. Now that time has passed, and we know from previous experience the volume of Christmas mail hasn't reached its peak."

What to do? The advice is: "Use 'air parcel post' for your gift packages going to other states. Air mail postage is the best idea for any remaining Christmas cards with out-of-town addresses."

"There's still time to complete all local deliveries by Christmas, if first-class postage is used. So don't delay, and risk disappointing your loved ones."

More than 5,800,000,000 pieces of mail were delivered by the U. S. Post Office between December 1-25 last year. Every Christmas card and gift that was mailed out-of-town passed through the hands of 17 different postal employees before reaching its destination.

The postmasters cited these figures to illustrate how complex the holiday season has become. But the volume of Christmas mail, is only part of the problem. Addresses are often carelessly written, stamps fall off, packages may be poorly wrapped, or carry too much weight. Most of this would never happen, if people would just read the "check lists" on Post Office bulletin boards.

Public knowledge of the postal operations involved would help create more careful mailing, the postmaster believes. Briefly stated, there are seven main processes: Pick-up, facing, cancellation, primary distribution, railway or flight servicing, secondary distribution and delivery.

Three of these functions—pick-up, railway or flight servicing and delivery—are just what their names imply. However, they all usually involve handling by more than one postal employee.

"Facing" consists of arranging all envelopes the same way, and sorting out all air mail, special delivery, tiny envelopes, slugs and nixies. A slug is a fat letter that must be cancelled by hand. A nixie is a letter that has been returned unclaimed.

Cancellation machines then stamp the postmark, and record the volume of daily mail. "Primary distribution then begins, and the mail is sorted into local, state, major cities and foreign countries categories.

"Secondary distribution" is conducted at the destination point. There the mail is sent to branch Post Offices and broken down by the routes of local carriers. The carrier, of course, is the last postal employee to handle your Christmas cards and gifts. He is the most familiar person in the entire postal system—the one described in that famous motto, "Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completing of their appointed rounds."

Christmas Party For Auxiliary, Legion Is Set

The American Legion and Auxiliary and their families will hold a joint Christmas party at the Legion hall Monday Dec. 20 at 7:30 p. m. There will be a Christmas tree and an exchange of gifts. Adults are asked to bring adult gifts and children a gift for a child.

All members and their families are cordially invited to attend. Refreshments will be served.

Baptists Will Receive Gifts

Operation Christmas Spirit and Building Fund Day will be observed on Sunday, Dec. 19, at the First Baptist church, the Rev. Wilbur A. Huneycutt, pastor, announced today. Each member will be given an opportunity to present his gift to the church on that day, the pastor said.

Edward DuPuy will make a picture of the group attending the 11:00 o'clock service at the church on Sunday morning.



Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Silver of Old Fort

Have Had At Least One Child In School Since Before The Turn of The Century

The next time you are tempted to complain about your struggle to educate your children, think of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Silver of Old Fort. They have maintained at least one child in school for 58 years, and sometimes as many as five!

Mr. Wellington Cmore Silver, who was 85 years old on Dec. 1 of this year, and his wife, Mrs. Josephine Calloway Silver, who will be 77 next March 16, will have married 59 years on Christmas Eve, and theirs has been a most remarkable life together.

At the time of their marriage in 1895, Mr. Silver was a widower with a small son, Edward Silver, and Mrs. Silver was helping to rear her brother, the late Charles Calloway of Old Fort. The Silvers subsequently had nine children of their own, two of whom died in infancy, and one, the late Mrs. Ossie Silver Crawford, who passed away in 1950 at the age of 53. The surviving children are Mrs. Ollie Schauer of Monticello, Ind.; Miss Ada Silver, Mrs. Brady Skidmore, Mrs. Bonnie Reynolds, Mrs. Jessica Gibbs, of Old Fort, and Jay C. Silver of Swannanoa.

The couple later took two other children into their home and brought them up as their own. They are John Rhonda Lewis who lives in Old Fort, and Miss Katie Morrow Silver who still resides with the Silvers.

The first of the children who went to school from the Silver home was Ed Silver, who entered the Curtis Creek school in 1896. Miss Katie Silver, a senior in the Old Fort High school this year, is presumably the last. During that period of 58 years, only one year, 1941, passed without a student leaving their house each morning. John Rhonda Lewis graduated in 1940 from Old Fort High school, and Katie started the next year in the first grade.

The Silvers had two boys who served in World War II. First Lieutenant John Lewis and Sgt. Jay C. Silver, and three grandsons, Technical-Sgt. Frank Schauer, Jr., Sgt. Billy Crawford, and Seaman J. C. Graham Crawford.

During the Korean War, three grandsons, the sons of the late Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Crawford, served their country and two of these, Graham and Cline, made the supreme sacrifice. The third and youngest of the brothers was

Miss Turner Weds Calvin Banner

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Turner of Swannanoa announce the marriage of their daughter, Miss Captola Turner, to Calvin Banner of Riceville road and the late Mr. Banner in Greenville, S. C., on Oct. 23. Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ledford of Black Mountain accompanied the couple to Greenville.

Mr. and Mrs. Banner are residing on the old Black Mountain-Asheville highway.

MR. & MRS. BANNER HONORED AT DINNER

Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Banner honored Mr. and Mrs. Mike Banner who were married recently, with a dinner and shower at their home on the Riceville road.

Owen High Boys Cuff Bobcats In Winning, 46-42

Coach Ned Straehla's Owen High five hit their stride Friday evening as they rallied in the second half to hand the Candler Bobcats a 46 to 42 trimming on the Enka court.

In the opening game the Candler girls downed the Owen entry, 39-38, in a game which was close all the way. Candler led 18 to 16 at the half.

After trailing at the half, the Owen boys put on a strong finish to blast the Candler five out of the running. The Bobcats were in front, 26-25, at the rest period and it took accurate shooting by Dale Ritchie, who poured through 25 points, to overcome the deficit.

Ann Leatherwood and Patty Tyson each scored 16 points as they paced the Owen girls. But offsetting this effort by these scoring twins was P. Massey who led both teams with 27.

The Owen teams continue to "Not Be At Home" as they travel to Biltmore Tuesday evening to bring to a close the pre-holiday season. Plans are for a big opening here with Hendersonville on the new court on Jan. 4. More about that later.

Girls' lineup:
Owen (38) Candler (39)
F—Martin (5) (2) Ragen—F
F—Tyson (16) (10) Boyd—F
G—Luswood (16) (27) Massey—F
G—Justin Warren—G
G—Brown Black—G
G—Thompson Morgan—G
Subs: Owen; Smith I, Knoefel.
Candler: J. Massey.

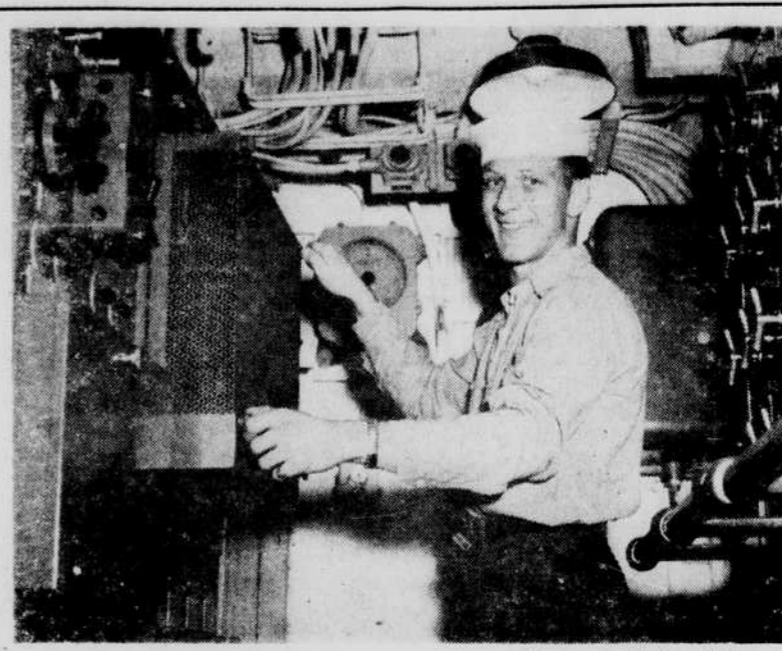
Boys' lineup:
Owen (46) Candler (42)
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Swann-Spivey Wedding Held

Mrs. Betty Swann, daughter of Mrs. Perry Melton and the late Perry Melton of Black Mountain, was married Dec. 12 to Hoyt L. Spivey in a double ring ceremony. The wedding was performed in the home of the Rev. Waymond Pritchard, a Baptist minister in Greenville, S. C.

Mrs. Dale Carmichael, sister of the bride, was matron of honor and Dale Carmichael, brother-in-law of the bride, was best man. Several members of the family and close friends attended the wedding.

After a wedding trip to Key West, Fla., the couple will reside in West Asheville.



Pictured here is Richard Morrow, Navy man, who sailed with the U. S. Navy icebreaker USS ATKA from Boston on Dec. 1 for a mission in ice-covered Antarctic waters. The ATKA is known in naval circles as the "Snow Flow of the North."

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Wade Morrow of Black Mountain, Richard is serving aboard the ship as an interior communication electrician, first class. His wife lives in Rose Hill, N. C.

The ATKA, with a team of scientists aboard, plans to spend about six months in the Antarctic on a photographic and mapping survey. The purpose of the venture is to gather information for a larger expedition next year.

This will be the second cold water cruise for the ATKA this year. During July and August, 1954, she cruised Arctic waters on routine operations. Upon leaving Boston, the ATKA will steam to Wellington, New Zealand, via the Panama Canal. From there the ship will revisit Little America in the Antarctic, which has been the base of operations for four previous cruises.

The 269-foot vessel was built in Los Angeles in 1944 and first became a part of the U. S. Coast Guard. After more than four years of service with the Russian Merchant Marine during World War II, she returned to the American government and was commissioned into the U. S. Navy.

BINFORD TOPICS

The Rev. J. N. Binford, interim pastor of the Kerlee Baptist church will use as his subjects Sunday, Dec. 19: Morning worship "Some Accurate and Inaccurate Opinions About the Coming Child." Evening worship, "The Burdens of Christ First Coming, and Liberty of The Second."

Christmas Play At Ridgecrest

"They That Sit in Darkness," a Christmas play by Dorothy Clarke Wilson, will be presented in Ridgecrest Baptist church at 7:30 Sunday evening, Dec. 19.

The play is a dramatic story, with scenes laid in Bethlehem at the time of the birth of Christ. As the drama unfolds to show Miriam, the outcast, become Miriam, the redeemed, one realizes this message portrays the very heart of Christmas.

The following people make up the cast of characters:

Miriam, the outcast, Miss Alice Turner; Ruth, daughter of the innkeeper, Mrs. John May; Mary, mother of Jesus, Mrs. E. H. Synpes; Joseph, the carpenter, E. H. Synpes; Joash, the innkeeper, Doyle Turner; Amon, a servant, Joe Moore; Esther and Rachel, girls of Bethlehem, Evelyn Peek and Ann Carr Perry; Rebecca, Sarah, and Ramah, women of Bethlehem, Mrs. Clyde Smith, Mrs. Charles Jolley, and Mrs. Ed Lakey; Nathan, Homar, Jonathan, and Abel, shepherds, Wilford Johnson, James McMath, James Allison, and Charles Dozier; The Three Kings, Rev. Charles Jolley, Paul Turner and A. C. Thomas; The Voice, Donald Turner.

Soloists Chosen For Band Concert

Soloists for the concert which the Black Mountain School band will give at the elementary school auditorium at 7:30 p. m., Dec. 17, will be Betty Douthit, clarinet, Barbara Page, flute, and June Boone, trumpet, Director Woodfin C. Rhodes announced today.

All friends and parents have been invited to attend the program which will consist of many well known Christmas carols and marches. Although the band has been playing for a relatively short time, the students have developed surprisingly fast, the director said, and the parents as well as friends of the school will be more than satisfied with the progress, he believes.



—Photos by W. H. Noah



Mr. and Mrs. Banner receiving gifts.

Christmas Carol Pageant Will Be Given Tuesday

About one-hundred elementary school children will take part in the "Christmas Carol Pageant" to be presented Tuesday, Dec. 21, at 7:30 p. m., at the Black Mountain Elementary school auditorium. Two other performances will be given—one on Monday, Dec. 20, at 1:15 p. m. for pupils in the elementary building, and one on Tuesday, Dec. 21, at 2:00 p. m. for pupils enrolled at Ridgecrest.

Characters for the pageant will be Mary, Susanne Wilson and Elaine Stafford; Joseph, Charles Thompson; shepherds, Joe Robinson, Randy Champion, Jimmie Crumpler, and David Scorza; kings, Tony Willis, Bob Cook, and Oscar Jones; readers, Frank Justice and Judy Byrd; monks, Donald Runion and Stanley Moore; angels, Vivian Stewart and Nancy DuPuy; little angels, Irene Ledbetter, Deborah Melton, Helen Soos, Dede Styles, Ann Stubbs, Barbara Boone, Linda Bradley, Kaye Suttles, and Carole Suttles; pages, Grover Farr, Leon Rayburn, and Jerry Davis; and villagers, Steve Haney, Larry Fisher, Lloyd Moore, Tommy Blizard, Ann Carr Perry, Judy Raines, Elaine Wolf, Linda Huneycutt, Ruth Hollifield, Ann Woodcock, Dianne Nesbitt, Ann Solomon, Nana Beha, Brenda Garland, Emese Soos, Toni Taylor, Llewellen Drake, Elaine Drake, and Eugene Smith.

Other members of the chorus who will take part are Marie Swann, Judy Maret, Betty Fortune, Sandra Cook, Connie Bryan, Regina Stafford, Beverly Bryan, Leon Gregory, Carolyn Clevenger, David Whitaker, Betty Jo Pressley, Mary Ham, Carolyn Dotson, Doris Gibson, Janice Higginbotham, Janelle Ledbetter, Judy Quinn, Gwen McAfee, Howard Stafford, Tony Hampton, Alice Pressley, Daphne Jolly, Harriet Waters, Linda Wicker, Wanda Vess, Elizabeth Allison, May Peck, Mary Frances Hendley, Patty Byrd, Margaret Melton, Iris Vess, Carla Stone, Margaret Shore, Rachel Rhodes, Roy McGinnis, Nancy Byrd, Fred Shook, Betty Pollard, Esther Fortune, Frank McCurry, David Crumpler, Harry Nanney, Wanda Davis, Geraldine Anders, Barbara Denny, Edna Davis, Peggy Jo Harris, J. R. Payne, Doris

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