

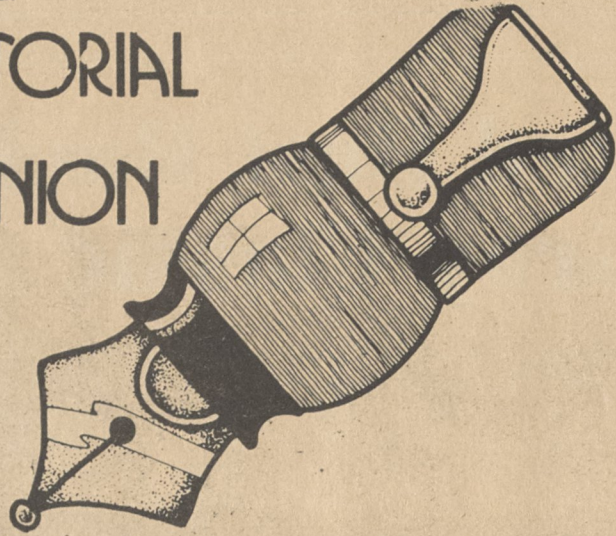
# Lizzie Was A Good Ole Gal

After driving a Buick for 10 years I surprised my whole family Christmas week when I said goodbye, a bit reluctantly, to "Lizzie" for a 1984 Chevrolet Celebrity. My old vehicle and I had traveled over 150,000 miles together and many miles were logged during 1976-77 when as state president of the American Legion Auxiliary I traveled from Manteo in the East to Murphy in the Western part of the state.

Among my more surprised friends was a Cherryville Santa Claus who promised me for the past two Christmases at The Eagle that "if you're good you'll get a new car for Christmas." This Santa walks the streets of the business district each Christmas season and distributes candy and cheer. When I pulled into my old parking spot at the back of The Eagle one day last week Santa didn't recognize me at first. Then he took credit for my present, reminded me that he hadn't told me which Christmas I could expect the car. "But I guess I'll give you some candy even if you did run off and leave us and go back to Kings Mountain", he said.

## EDITORIAL

## OPINION



### TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much. St. Luke 16:10.

## Outlook For 1984

Much has already been said concerning the outlook for business and the projected upswing in the economy for New Year 1984.

Learned writers, economists, bankers, brokers and presidents of giant corporations all have gazed into the crystal ball and voiced predictions for the coming 12 months.

None can read the future, but we hope they're right.

Certainly the recent Christmas shopping season was the best in many years and day after Christmas sales indicate that more people are spending money at this holiday season.

Part of the optimistic attitude, we suspect, is the feeling by many that "things have got to get better" in 1984 than in the recent 12 months.

The end of the year is a time for reflection as well as anticipation. Now that Christmas is gone, it's time to set forth on the New Year armed with resolve to do better in all departments for 1984, physically, mentally, morally and spiritually. It is a resolution all could well take and the Herald does, hoping and pledging to strive to do a better job in publishing each edition produced during the ensuing 12 months of 1984.

Happy New Year!

After a week, we're all getting used to my new car at the house, except our 12 cats and family dog. I warned the pets they'd get nothing but switches for Christmas if I found any paw prints on my new vehicle. So far, Larry and the cat family have behaved. Happy, my sister-in-law Grace's dog, fears a foreign object has invaded the property. Happy comes running across the street every time the new car arrives and on Christmas Day I found Happy standing on his hind legs with his front muddy paws on the right door of the car. Happy was checking it out, I guess.

My worst experience in my new car was last Wednesday when I started back from Gastonia and happened along at the time of a chain-reaction five car pileup on the ice-covered bridge on 74-East, the new KM exit on the new road. Traffic was halted for an hour and a half and I had plenty of time to memorize the songs for Wednesday night's Christmas musicale at the church and clean out my pocketbook. About 4:30 p.m. a highway patrolman told me to turn around on the bridge and head toward Bessemer City where I got back on I-85 South. I regretted that I didn't stay on I-85 south instead of taking the KM exit. My holidays would have been soured if my then two-day-old new car had been damaged during that icy pileup on the bridge.

As I cleaned out my pocketbook I found some notes I had scribbled on the back of an envelope from a recent Rotary meeting, and found Tom Trott's poem quite appropriate to the occasion: "The Kings Mountain By-Pass Winding In And Winding Out, It fills my mind with serious doubt, As to whether the lute who built the route was going to he-or coming back."

Happy New Year!



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** - Jim Potter, back row, left, and Burris Ramey, right, were surprised on their birthdays recently. They hold up garters which were mementos of the occasion. Front row at table, Hallie Blanton, Betty Potter and Peggy Ramey.



## Lib Stewart

Burris Ramey, 50, and Jim Potter, 46, probably won't forget their birthday celebrations last week. Their wives, Peggy Ramey and Betty Potter, went to a lot of trouble to plan an unusual celebration at Fred Kiser's Grill.

Since the menfolk usually gather for coffee before work at the popular restaurant downtown, Betty and Peggy thought that would be the perfect spot to surprise their husbands. "We thought they'd become suspicious, however, when we suggested we'd go to breakfast with them before our bridge game," said Betty.

And their suspicions mounted when Hallie (Mrs. Charles) Blanton, Melanie (Mrs. Mike) Ballard and the Potter's daughter, Edie, all happened to drop by the restaurant at 8:30 a.m. B.E. Smith, of Gastonia, came over to the Potter table and was invited to join the crowd.

The fun began, however, after the first cups of coffee were poured. A "belly dancer" arrived in white tuxedo, lace tights, and top hat and danced around the table, stopping to perch on Jim's knee and Burris' knee long enough for each of them to retrieve a garter as a memento of the occasion. To top off the entertainment members of the Rescue Squad were also having breakfast in the coffee shop and immediately came over with oxygen just in case it was needed.

"You don't turn 50 every day", said Mr. Ramey, and "this was a special occasion but we didn't know how special."

After the celebration, the men folk went to work and the rest of the party enjoyed their bridge game.

The Blanton family left for a holiday trip to Albuquerque, New Mexico.

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A holiday drop-in honored Jane and Jerry King, who were wed in November. Mary Evelyn and Jim Anthony hosted the party for 25 guests at their home on Hillside Drive.

Polly and Jones Pharr of Midland, sister and brother-in-law of Mrs. Anthony, assisted in serving refreshments.

Mrs. King is principal at West School. Mrs. Anthony is secretary at West School.

Christmas decorations were used throughout the house. Heavy horsd'ouvres were served from 5:30 until 8:30 p.m.

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Arlene (Mrs. J.D.) Barrett and her daughter, Cheryl (Mrs. David) Butler are spending several days in Corydon, Indiana with Arlene's brother, Jim Schneider and family.

## LOOKING BACK

(From the Jan. 2, 1963 edition of the Kings Mountain Herald). Grady K. Howard, Kings Mountain Hospital administrator, will be installed as president of the Kings Mountain Kiwanis Club at the Civic Club's regular Thursday night meeting at 6:45 p.m. at the Woman's Club.

Decision on the on-site location of the new high school to be erected on Phifer Road is expected to be made within the next few days.

Kings Mountain National Military Park headquarters logged 87,770 visitors during 1952, Supt. Ben Moomaw reported.

January is a special month for the family of Nancy and Norman F. McGill, Jr. Their son, Chip McGill, celebrates his first birthday Friday, Jan. 5th. Their son, Trip McGill, celebrates his third birthday on Jan. 30th.

Descendants of Mr. and Mrs. J.S. Mauney gathered on Dec. 27th for the annual Christmas reunion.



**THURSDAY: 12:00** - Kings Mountain Rotary Club at the Holiday Inn. **6:45 p.m.** - Kings Mountain Kiwanis Club at the Holiday Inn.

**FRIDAY: 6:15 p.m.** - Adult Choir of Bethlehem Baptist Church, Fellowship Supper.

**SATURDAY: 9:00-12:00 p.m.** - New Year's Eve Dance at the American Legion building for Legionnaires, wives and guests.

## Symphony Coming

A duo and quartet from the North Carolina Symphony will perform at East School and West School on Monday, Jan. 16th, at 1:45 p.m. The Symphony group will be at Bethware School on Tuesday, Jan. 17th, at North from 10 until 11 a.m. and at Bethware at 1 p.m.

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## Cable Blackout Of ACC Games Upsets Some Local Viewers

Many sports fans in Kings Mountain and surrounding areas were disappointed recently when they turned on their cable televisions to watch an ACC basketball game only to find that it had been blacked out.

The reason for the blackout is that Raycom Sports Network, which holds the rights to ACC basketball, sold a package of some 20 ACC games to ESPN, and ESPN, in turn, decided to sell the package to customers in the ACC area for \$64.95.

Jones Intercable, which provides the cable franchise to the city of Kings Mountain, felt like charging its customers for something they've already paid for was wrong, and is not offering the ACC package locally.

Many cable customers here have complained to Jones Intercable, but would accomplish more by complaining to ESPN at the ESPN Plaza, Bristol, Conn., 06010.

Robbie Bridges, Area Marketing Manager for Jones Intercable, says he feels his company would be "double charging" if it offered the package, which includes many feature games such as North Carolina at Maryland on January 12, Maryland at Wake Forest on February 8 and Carolina at Virginia on February 9.

Also, Bridges explains, it may be illegal for the local company to sell the package without first getting approval from the Kings Mountain Board of Commissioners. Any rate increase in cable TV service must be approved by the city.

"We feel like it is unfair to have our subscribers pay for something they're already paying for," says Bridges. "If this venture by ESPN fails, maybe this type thing will not go into other areas of sports."

Because Raycom sold the ACC rights to ESPN does not mean that local fans will not see any ACC basketball games. Raycom will continue to show games of the week and special week night games through the sponsorship of Pilot Insurance Company and Holly Farms on free television. The ACC tournament is also scheduled for free TV.

However, fans in other parts of the country will get to see ACC basketball on ESPN without paying \$64.95 for the special season ticket.

In short, ESPN realizes how big ACC basketball is in this part of the country and decided to cash in on it.

"It's possible that if whoever has the revenue big enough to buy the rights (to sporting events) could control it," says Bridges. "This could be the first step to what could be a long ordeal."

Jones Intercable, by not offering the package, is taking a stand in protest of such a possibility. Any ESPN subscribers who feel the same should let their feelings be known by writing ESPN.

Many Kings Mountain ACC fans intend to do just that. Charlie Smith and several others have been calling and writing ESPN, ACC Commissioner Bob James, and sponsors of ACC basketball games to voice their opinions.

"ESPN is saying that local cable companies have the option to pick the package up, but that's a bunch of bull," says Smith. "If they pick it up, they double charge you. When they sell us ESPN services we ought to get everything they offer. They advertise ACC basketball on their network and in the papers, and then when you get ready to watch the game, it's blacked out."

"The ACC is trying to get more national exposure, and that's not fair to the state," added Smith. "The basketball fans of North Carolina have been supporting ACC basketball for years, and now they're taking it away from us. Eventually, it'll get the ACC tournament."



## Stewart's Slants

By Gary Stewart

Smith has also been in touch with the State Attorney General's office and has received the proper forms to file an official complaint.

"If they're charging us one rate and letting the rest of the nation have the games at the basic rate, they might be violating a North Carolina law," says Smith. "Even if they're not, their advertising is still deceptive."

Smith said his message to the sponsors of ACC basketball has been that "we appreciate them carrying it on commercial TV for so many years but do not want them to go to cable TV. We hope they'll use their influence to get ACC basketball on free TV. Nothing can be done about it this year but hopefully it can help next year."

Smith said any persons wanting to voice their complaints over the season ticket package should write or call Bob James, ACC Commissioner, Greensboro N.C. (1-919-282-1108); ESPN Sports, Bruce Blair, Chicago, Ill. (312-938-4223); Holly Farms Poultry, Bill Rush, Director of Marketing, P.O. Box 88, Wilkesboro, N.C.; Pilot Life Insurance, Public Relations Director Arnie G. Culbrith, Greensboro, N.C. (1-919-299-4720); and Jefferson Productions, Executive Producer John Shreves, Charlotte, N.C.

Someone thought they'd get Paul Hord's "goat" by giving him a goat. But now they're not going to get Paul Hord's goat.

If that sounds confusing, read on. A couple of nights before Christmas, Hord and his family returned home from shopping to find a small billy goat tied to an old, bald tire in his front lawn.

A big, red ribbon was tied around the goat's neck with a note saying, "Merry Christmas, Paul Jr."

At the time, Hord didn't think it was such a nice gift. Ever since, he's been trying to find out who played this trick on him.

"If Dean Westmoreland had been in town, I would have blamed it on him," said Hord. But, Dean, who raises goats on his farm near Grover, was out of town and he was eliminated as a suspect.

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