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Bobcats win another area championship
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Bad time for a broken main
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Snowstorm brings county to a halt

by Al Summers

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It had been a few years, but Gilmer County and most of north Georgia experienced a Snow Jam beginning last Thursday, Jan. 7, and extending into Friday, Jan. 8.

Snow started falling around noon Thursday, and by late afternoon, some roads had become danger-

ous on which to travel. Students in Gilmer County schools were released beginning at 10:30 a.m., in order to allow buses to have time to run their routes before the roads became impassable and the sun went down.

By late afternoon, vehicles were sliding on roadways and into ditches.

According to Gilmer County Sheriff Stacy Nicholson, from noon until

midnight Thursday, the sheriff's department responded to 68 traffic accidents. Nicholson told the *Times-Courier*, "I think the 68 calls we responded to are only about a third of the total number of accidents that occurred. A number of people just slid off the road and abandoned their cars and never reported that they had had an accident."

The sheriff said he had never seen anything like it. "I think one of my deputies said it best when he said, 'Sheriff, it reminded me of a third world country where people just got out of their cars and walked off into the woods just disappearing.'"

Nicholson reported from Thursday until Sunday



Photo by George N. Bunch III

Driving was hazardous all over Gilmer County during the weekend. This unlucky motorist failed to navigate the icy road going down Letch Drive in Ellijay.

Gilmer County reports first case of rabies for 2010

Special to the *Times-Courier*
www.tcd.org

The Gilmer County Environmental Health Office announced Thursday, Jan. 7, that an area skunk has tested positive for rabies, making this the first rabies case in the county for 2010.

Andrea Wheeler of Gilmer County Environmental Health reported, "On the morning of January 3, a resident in the Lakeland Drive-Ridgeway Church

Road area off Highway 282 went to feed his five dogs. Upon entering the kennel, he found one dog severely injured and a skunk present. The other four dogs were outside the indoor kennel in the chain link fence, but we must consider them to have been 'exposed' to rabies."

Wheeler said the owner of the dogs shot the skunk and it was submitted to the

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News Briefs

Man killed in ATV accident

A Gilmer County man was tragically killed Saturday, January 9, when the all-terrain vehicle in which he was driving lost control on some ice and overturned, pinning him underneath.

Gilmer County Sheriff's Department records show that Edward Shutty, 63, of a Coosawattee River Resort address, died as a result of injuries sustained in the accident.

Gilmer County Sheriff Stacy Nicholson told the *Times-Courier* this was the only fatality directly related to last week's snowstorm.

Automobile accident results in one fatality

At two-vehicle accident at the intersection of Hwy. 52 East and First Avenue in East Ellijay resulted in the death of a Gilmer County 911 dispatcher.

According to East Ellijay Police Chief Greg Arp, Paula Laney, 48, of Ellijay, died as a result of injuries sustained in the crash.



Photo by Jack Perkins

One of the first victims of last Thursday's snowstorm was this tractor which overturned on Hwy. 282 just west of the Ellijay city limits.

Make A New Resolution:
Give Blood.
Participate in donating blood or platelets between January 1 and March 31, 2010 and enter our drawing to win a \$1,000 Gift Card!

January 1

Ellijay Community Blood Drive
Thursday, Jan. 14 • 12-6pm
Ellijay Lions Club
1729 South Main Street • Ellijay, GA

American Red Cross

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2009 in review

by Al Summers

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September 2009

•Commissioners want to have an open hearing on the recently mailed survey concerning operation of the county-owned Whitepath Golf Course.

•The Ellijay-Gilmer County Water and Sewerage Authority received \$3.4 million in grant money to rehabilitate water lines in the Coosawattee River Resort area.

•Members of the Ellijay Lions Club celebrate 75 years of service to the community.

•A prolonged cold spring and persistent rains are blamed for a bad honey harvest in Gilmer County.

•Heavy rains and flash

flooding hit the county Tuesday, Sept. 15. Water flooded many yards and some homes.

•Eight lovely beauties prepare to seek the title of Apple Queen. They are: Melody Peppers, Jessica Combs, Haley Parks, Victoria Roland, Nicole Camp, Taylor Brooks, Katie Hasty and Macey Henson.

•Members of the Ellijay City Council consider a "business friendly" amendment which would emphasize their desire to change the zoning designation on a parcel of land on Sailors Drive from commercial to light industrial. The business, Pritchett Technologies, has a long-term contract with Lockheed-Marietta which is expected to create a number of new jobs

for the area.

•A senior health fair was held at Gilmer High School Saturday, Sept. 19, with over 350 attendees.

•Daisy Wright was crowned homecoming queen and Justin Walker was crowned homecoming king at GHS homecoming festivities Friday night, Sept. 25, at Huff-Mosley Memorial Stadium.

•Macey Henson is named Miss Apple Queen 2009 Saturday, Sept. 26, at the Ellijay Elementary School auditorium. First runner-up was Victoria Roland, second runner-up was Taylor Brooks and third runner-up was Haley Parks, who also won the Miss Congeniality designation. Roland also won the Miss Photogenic and Prettiest

Hair awards. The People's Choice Award went to Nicole Camp and Katie Hasty was voted contestant with the Prettiest Smile.

October 2009

•Shane's Rib Shack was robbed at gunpoint Sunday evening, Oct. 4. Two suspects were apprehended and arrested.

•The Georgia Apple Festival and the Apple Arts Festival roll into town for the second and third weekends in October.

•Ellijay Lions prepare for their annual White Christmas collection period.

•Carters Dam doubles its outflow after recent heavy rains.

•Members of the Gilmer

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