

# The Gaston Gazette

Address: 1893 Remount Road  
P.O. Box 1538 (28053)  
Gastonia, N.C. 28054  
Phone: (704) 864-3291  
Outside Gaston area:  
(800) 273-3315  
On the web: www.gastongazette.com  
E-mail: gastongazette@link.freedom.com  
Fax: Advertising (704) 867-6988  
Newsroom (704) 867-5751

Publisher.....Duane K. McCallister  
Editor.....John Pea  
Managing Editor.....Jon Jimison  
Editorial Page Editor.....Barry Bridges  
Advertising Director.....Titus Workman  
Advertising Manager.....Heather Holt  
Circulation Director.....Larry Gray  
Home Delivery Manager.....Linda Kellum  
Single Copy Sales.....Jason Cox  
Service Manager.....Sandra Panther  
Promotions Director.....Sherry Collins  
Business Manager.....Chris Workman  
Controller.....Andy Penley  
Operations Director.....Mike Ivancic  
Pressroom Manager.....Eric Greenwell  
Data Systems Manager.....Ray Martin  
New Media Director.....Mike Sewell

## WHO TO CALL

### Miss your paper?

We hope not. But should delivery fail, please call our service desk, (704) 869-1800. Replacement service is available until 11:30 a.m. daily.

To call direct, dial (704) 869- before the extensions below.

Administration	1702
Advertising questions	1735
Billing questions	1713
Community news	1840
Delivery problems	1800
New media/Internet	1801
Newspapers in Education	1870
Newsroom general	1812
News story tips	1823
Place a classified ad	1741
Printing quality comments	1783
Promotions	1870
Sports story tips	1844
Want to be a carrier?	1800

### Postal regulations

Postal regulations require mail subscriptions to be paid in advance. Carriers are independent contractors and The Gazette is not responsible for advance payments made to them. Home delivery customers are encouraged to mail advance payments to The Gazette.

Postmaster: Periodicals postage paid at Gastonia, N.C. Send address changes to The Gazette, P.O. Box 1538, Gastonia, N.C. 28053.

### Subscriptions

Daily	
1 Month	\$9.75
3 Month	\$28.50
6 Month	\$57.00
1 Year	\$114.00
Weekend/Holiday	
1 Month	\$6.25
3 Month	\$18.00
6 Month	\$36.00
1 Year	\$72.00

Weekend/holiday delivery includes Saturdays, Sundays and seven holidays. New Year's Day, Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving plus the following day, and Christmas.

\* One-month rate is for carrier collect. A 25-cent discount per month applies when paid through the office for three or more months.

Mail subscriptions: For information and rates, call (704) 869-1800.

### Submitted material

All items submitted to The Gaston Gazette for publication become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or part, in print, electronic formats and archives. Submitted material is subject to editing and other changes for publication.

### Copyright

The entire contents of The Gazette including its logotype are fully protected by copyright and may not be reproduced in any form or for any purpose without the expressed permission of The Gazette.

Our 123rd year - No. 335  
10 sections - 114 pages

# Character allows us to win even when we lose

Daniel Reed is a champion in more ways than one. When I first met him, he was a little bundle of blond hair on wheels, skateboards and inline skates, mostly.

He was a typical boy full of energy and life to burn. In middle school at Gaston Christian, he caught the running fever. As his hormones pumped through his growing limbs, he discovered he could run — and run he did.

Initially, he did laps around the neighborhood. Now he goes for miles and miles, long legs going like pistons while his blond hair waves in the breeze.

So how is it that he could finish second and simultaneously race to victory?

Let me explain. When Daniel Reed toed the line to defend his Gaston Coun-



RAY HARDEE  
Columnist

ty championship in cross-country for the Ashbrook Green Wave, he had some tremendous advantages. He was on his home course. It had been raining, so he knew where all the slippery spots were. Moreover, it would be one of the final times he would be able to overtake Randy Bennett of East Gaston. Bennett, through tireless work and effort, improved so much he was the man to beat this year. His championship seemed assured if he could just navigate the course.

I just finished my own afternoon run when I remembered

## CAROLINA VOICES

the county championship was about to occur practically in my own back yard. I was perched on the fence lining the Ashbrook cross-country course to watch Dan the Man go for the gold, blue, or whatever superlative medal or color was necessary to identify him as the champion. But Daniel was about to write his own story of true athletic honor.

I heard the gun go off and the crowd cheer. I knew in about 10 minutes the runners would be passing my overlook. Randy emerged out of the woods in first place, with an almost effortless stride and the look of a champion on his face. About five seconds and 30 yards later, Daniel emerged. I shouted encouragement. He mentioned

## Rosie's girlfriend gives birth to girl

NEW YORK — Rosie O'Donnell's girlfriend has given birth to a baby girl.

Kelli Carpenter, the comedian and former talk show host's longtime partner, gave birth to Vivienne Rose O'Donnell Friday at an undisclosed New York hospital, O'Donnell spokeswoman Cindi Berger said Saturday.

"Mothers and baby are just great," Berger said.

The baby weighed 6 pounds, 6 ounces and is 19 inches long, Berger said.

Carpenter and O'Donnell named the baby Vivienne after the main character in the book "Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood," and Rose after O'Donnell's mother, Roseanne, Berger said.

O'Donnell has adopted three children — Parker, 7, Chelsea, 5, and Blake, 3. This is 35-year-old Carpenter's first child. Berger would not say whether O'Donnell was formally adopting Vivienne Rose.

## Michael Caine still fears poverty

LOS ANGELES — Michael Caine says even after 48 years in the entertainment business, with more than 130 films and television shows, poverty remains his greatest fear.

In a recent talk to members of the Screen Actors Guild, Caine said a childhood horror of returning to his poor roots drove him to make some less-than-inspired career choices. Among them, he said, were roles in "Jaws: The Revenge" and "On Deadly Ground."

"I never thought I was going to get another (movie), so I always took 'em," said Caine, 69.

"If you come from a very poor family, everybody around you is poor. It's the old cliché, he's a young boy, he's got to buy his mother a house. I bought everybody a bloody house."

Caine's latest movie, "The Quiet American," is based on the 1955 Graham Greene novel about a CIA operative in Vietnam. It debuts this month.

## De Niro showing new movie to troops



Robert De Niro

NEW YORK — Robert De Niro will show his new comedy, "Analyze That," to 1,500 troops at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Fla., two days before the movie opens in theaters.

Before Wednesday's screening, De Niro will join Gen. Tommy Franks, head of the U.S. Central Command, in meeting with troops involved in the war on terror in Afghanistan and elsewhere.

"Analyze That" is the first in a series of screenings for military personnel planned through the Tribeca Film Institute, which De Niro co-founded with his business partner, Jane Rosenthal.

De Niro reprises his role as mob boss Paul Vitti from the 1999 hit "Analyze This." Billy Crystal also is back as Paul's neurotic therapist, Ben Sobel.

## PEOPLE WATCH

The movie opens Friday in theaters nationwide.

## Strom merchandise fills the Internet

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Collectors are getting nostalgic as Strom Thurmond, the oldest and longest-serving U.S. senator, prepares to retire in January.

A bazaar of Thurmond-mania is on sale on the Internet — from calendars to matchbooks to postcards — all bearing Thurmond's likeness or signature. The senator's Washington office is reporting a steep increase in requests for autographed photos.

The market for all things Thurmond may rise further as he celebrates his 100th birthday Dec. 5 and ends his 48-year career as a senator, but experts warn against thinking the latest bric-a-brac has anything more than sentimental value.

Rare and valuable Thurmond items were rare and valuable years ago, said Brian Krapf, the Savannah lawyer who heads the Dixie Chapter of American Political Items Collectors.

"I was asked the same thing when Richard Nixon died," he said. "Demand doesn't increase."

## Courtney Cox keeps name in honor of dad

NEW YORK — When Courtney Cox Arquette went back to being just Courtney Cox, people wondered whether something was wrong with her marriage to actor David Arquette.

But the "Friends" co-star

something about the slippery turf and his shoe selection but moved on with cheerful determination, looking to overtake the would-be champion.

Randy did win the race, and Daniel finished second. But you need to hear the rest.

It seems Randy got a bit off-track in the middle of the race. Being on a somewhat unfamiliar course, he had taken his fleet strides down a wrong path. Here's where it really gets interesting.

Daniel noticed Randy's detour. He could have chosen to pounce on the mistake and take the lead. Instead, he chose to guide his opponent back on-course and make sure he knew where to go. The moment of decision that could have ensured his championship became the reason he finished second.

Randy made it first down the chute and across the finish line. Daniel, however, won a medal of honor for the day.

Someone once said, "It takes a village to raise a child." Not really. It took two good parents named Brad and Debbie and a faithful pastor in Jeff Long to provide the moral lessons. It was Daniel's choice to follow them and be honorable. That identifies him as a champion in his own right.

He didn't repeat as county cross-country champion. But he did show us character and honor and a gold-medal heart.

Ray Hardee of Gastonia is senior pastor of Forest Pointe Community Church and a former dean at Gardner-Webb University. E-mail him at: thepointe@carolina.rr.com.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

By The Associated Press

Today is Sunday, Dec. 1, the 335th day of 2002. There are 30 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight in History:** On Dec. 1, 1955, Rosa Parks, a black seamstress, refused to give up her seat to a white man on a Montgomery, Ala., city bus. Mrs. Parks was arrested, sparking a yearlong boycott of the buses by black riders.

### On this date:

In 1824, the presidential election was turned over to the House of Representatives when a deadlock developed between John Quincy Adams, Andrew Jackson, William H. Crawford and Henry Clay. (Adams won.)

## COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS



Special Delivery!

Dec. 1  
24 shopping days to Christmas

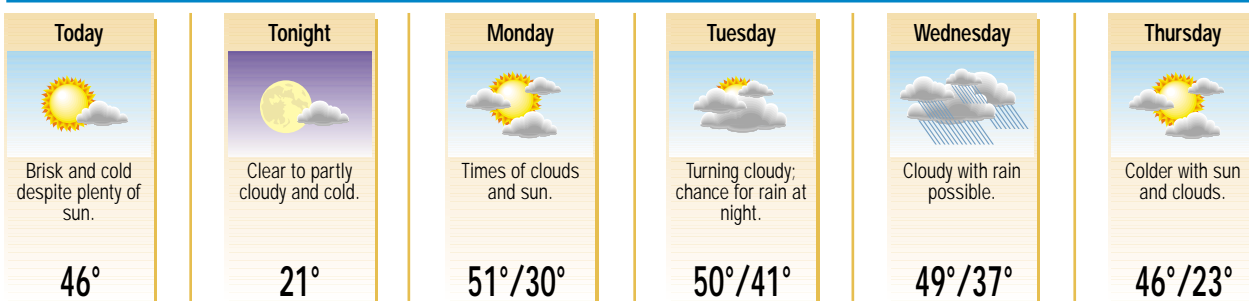
## S.C. LOTTERY

Saturday's Pick 3:  
5 - 9 - 4  
Powerball:  
1 - 4 - 19 - 21 - 29  
PB: 8; PP: 2

## WEATHER

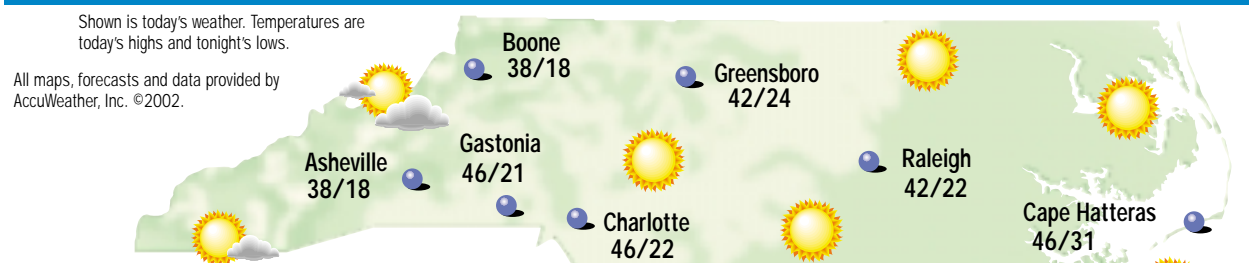
### YOUR LOCAL FIVE-DAY FORECAST FOR GASTONIA

Latest AccuWeather information at www.gastongazette.com



### REGIONAL FORECAST

AccuWeather.com



### CAROLINAS

Location	Hi	Lo	Prcp	Location	Hi	Lo	Prcp
Asheville	57	35		Greensboro	60	42	0.00
Cape Hatteras	61	59	0.00	Hickory	60	40	0.00
Charlotte	64	46	0.00	Jacksonville	63	47	0.00
Charlottesville	65	48	0.00	New Bern/Simmon	63	47	0.00
Gastonia	64	33	0.00	Raleigh	62	43	0.00
				Wilmington	63	48	0.00

### MOUNTAIN FORECAST

Today .....34 Mostly sunny  
Tonight .....16 Clear  
Monday .....42/24 Partly sunny

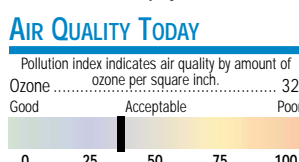
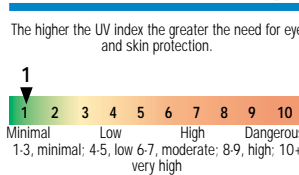
### ALMANAC

Statistics for Gastonia through 5 p.m. yesterday

**TEMPERATURE**  
High temperature ..... 64°  
Low temperature ..... 33°  
Normal high ..... 57°  
Normal low ..... 35°  
Humidity (at 5pm yesterday) ..... 19%  
Record high ..... 75° in 2001  
Record low ..... 16° in 1964

**PRECIPITATION**  
24 hrs ending 5 pm yesterday ..... 0.00"  
Month to date ..... 4.12"  
Normal month to date ..... 3.16"  
Year to date ..... 31.13"

### TODAY'S UV INDEX



### MARINE FORECAST

Virginia Beach to Little Inlet, and 29 miles  
Today: Winds northwest at 10-20 knots.  
Monday: Winds west at 10-20 knots.

Albemarle and Pamlico Sound, and 29 miles  
Today: Winds northwest at 10-20 knots.  
Monday: Winds west at 10-20 knots.

### BEACH FORECAST

Today .....52 Mostly sunny  
Tonight .....34 Mostly clear  
Monday .....58/40 Partly sunny

### WEATHER HISTORY

The temperature soared to 65 degrees on Dec. 1, 1927, in State College, Pa. This was the highest December reading ever recorded there in the first half of the 20th century.

**YESTERDAY'S NATIONAL EXTREMES** 48 Contiguous States  
High: 75 Homestead, FL Low: 0 International Falls, MN

### TODAY'S NATIONAL FORECAST

-10s | -0s | 0s | 10s | 20s | 30s | 40s | 50s | 60s | 70s | 80s | 90s | 100s | 110s



Legend for weather symbols: Showers, T-storms, Rain, Flurries, Snow, Ice, Clouds, Cooler, Warmer, Fronts (Cold, Warm, Stationary).

### NATIONAL ROUNDUP

City	Today	Monday	Today	Monday									
	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo									
Albuquerque	60	28	pc	54	28	pc	Las Vegas	60	41	sh	62	41	pc
Amarillo	63	33	s	57	30	pc	Los Angeles	67	50	pc	67	50	pc
Anchorage	36	26	c	35	25	sn	Louisville	35	26	s	44	31	pc
Asheville	38	18	pc	52	26	pc	Memphis	46	33	s	54	41	pc
Atlanta	46	27	s	51	37	pc	Miami Beach	74	62	sh	78	68	pc
Atlantic City	39	22	pc	40	26	pc	Milwaukee	29	18	sf	23	14	sn
Austin	62	39	pc	68	53	pc	Minneapolis	24	8	sf	20	12	sn
Baltimore	38	24	sf	44	32	pc	Nashville	41	27	s	51	35	pc
Birmingham	48	28	s	55	41	pc	New York	37	28	sf	40	31	pc
Boise	46	28	pc	46	28	pc	Norfolk	44	26	s	49	35	pc
Boston	38	21	sf	36	22	pc	Oklahoma City	56	37	pc	60	37	pc
Charlotte, SC	52	25	s	56	34	s	Omaha	47	24	s	38	18	c
Chicago	46	22	s	50	30	pc	Orlando	62	40	s	68	50	s
Cincinnati	32	22	s	34	23	pc	Philadelphia	36	24	sf	40	28	pc
Cleveland	27	23	sf	28	17	sf	Phoenix	68	50	pc	67	46	pc
Dallas	57	41	pc	60	48	pc	Pittsburgh	25	19	sf	31	29	sf
Denver	52	33	c	48	25	pc	Portland, OR	48	38	pc	48	38	pc
Des Moines	39	24	s	32	15	sn	St. Louis	44	31	sf	47	29	pc
Detroit	26	17	sf	28	17	sf	Salt Lake City	49	36	c	44	29	c
El Paso	66	42	pc	63	37	pc	San Antonio	61	43	pc	64	55	c
Grand Rapids	26	16	sf	23	13	sf	San Francisco	60	45	pc	60	45	pc
Honolulu	83	68	s	83	67	pc	Seattle	46	38	c	46	38	pc
Indianapolis	32	23	pc	35	25	pc	Syracuse	26	16	sf	25	13	sf
Jacksonville	56	32	s	63	41	s	Tampa	65	44	pc	70	54	s
Janeau	43	27	pc	36	27	pc	Washington, DC	68	41	pc	68	39	pc
Kansas City	52	29	s	48	27	pc	Wichita	53	35	s	54	30	pc

### WORLD ROUNDUP

City	Today	Monday	Today	Monday									
	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo									
Beijing	50	34	pc	48	27	pc	Mexico City	73	45	sh	69	45	pc
Berlin	39	35	r	43	37	pc	Montreal	19	1	sf	17	5	sf
Dublin	49	45	r	47	40	c	Moscow	14	10	s	20	15	pc
Jerusalem	68	48	pc	68	48	pc	Rome	57	40	pc	54	42	pc
London	55	42	pc	48	38	sh	Tokyo	52	49	r	57	41	pc

### OFFICIAL CHANNEL 9 WEATHER

Sunny and cold today with highs in the lower 40s. Clear tonight; cold with lows near 20.

Increasing clouds on Monday with highs in the upper 40s.



Steve Udelson  
Weather Tip



WSOC-TV

### SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today .....7:15 a.m.  
Sunset tonight .....5:12 p.m.  
Sunrise tomorrow .....7:16 a.m.  
Sunset tomorrow .....5:12 p.m.  
Moonrise today .....5:10 a.m.  
Moonset today .....4:05 p.m.

### MOON PHASES



### TODAY'S LAKE LEVELS

Lake	Observe	Predict
Norman	97.1	0.0
Mt. Island	96.8	0.4
Wylie	97.5	0.1

# YOU SAVE NOW!

Beat The Cold

## 6 months

no interest / no payment on a new Carrier system installation.

## 10 year

parts and labor warranty with a new high efficiency system installation

## \$75.00

for a Pre-Season clean & check of your heating system.  
(Per system price - Normal price \$85.00)

# FREE

Carbon Monoxide Detector with the purchase of a new heating system.

# GASTONIA SHEET METAL WORKS, INC.