

Richmond Times Dispatch Article

Nov. 29, 1912

“... belated morning paper reporters homeward bound in the small hours of the morning were witnesses to winter’s official debut. The homing theatre crowds missed this coming by more than three hours. The city slept while the ice god spilled his emblem over roof and pavement and awoke to find a Turkey Day furry white with the infant snow of the season.

In the early forenoon hours, the sky remained overcast while the flakes continued to descend. It began to look like a December blizzard and 5,000 visitors from up and down State and North Carolina looked out of the hotel windows and groaned at the prospect of a great football game snowed out. Their fears were unfounded for the sun got back on the job at 9 o’clock and sent the snowflakes back to Labrador. The game came off on time. And the Down Homers were snowed under. Such was the stage setting of Richmond’s first white Thanksgiving.”

Nov. 25, 1938

“From the Shenandoah Valley, down to the Southside and from the mountains east to the Tidewater, the Old Dominion shivered in temperatures that sank into the twenties. Snow fell throughout the State, and in some points, had reached a depth of five inches. The cold’s first blast, coming after several days of almost spring-like weather, put a damper on not a few Thanksgiving plans, made highways hazardous with ice and slush, and otherwise handicapped holiday makers.”

“Not thankful for the wrath of the weather gods but determined not to be cheated out of the pleasures which the holiday offered, Richmond and Virginia braved the elements yesterday to observe Thanksgiving Day with the customary football games, family reunions, church services and hunting.”

“One person was killed and many others were injured in automobile accidents on Virginia highways yesterday as holiday motorists crowded the slippery roads.

“Sleet-covered streets and windshields were responsible for several accidents which resulted in injuries to a number of Richmonders. Motorists were driving slowly, however, and none of those injured here was hurt seriously. Many were treated at Memorial Hospital and allowed to leave.”

Nov. 23, 1989

Mark Johnson; Times-Dispatch staff writer:

“An evening snowstorm, which forecasters said would spare the Richmond area, was expected to dump from 2 to 8 inches in the northern and western parts of the state by this morning.”

Rick Sauder; News Leader staff writer:

“A blanket of slippery snow that fell on Virginia’s Thanksgiving groaning board caused at least two traffic deaths and numerous power outages and complicated many holiday dinner plans.

“The snow, which began accumulating in the Richmond area shortly after midnight, reached a depth of more than an inch by morning and knocked out electrical service to thousands of homes, a Virginia Power spokesman said.

“About 5,000 Richmond-area homes were without electricity at one point, and as many as 1,000 remained without electricity at midmorning, said Virginia Power’s Nelson R. Houser. Driving was hazardous throughout the state, police said. The worst conditions were reported in Northern and Western Virginia, where about 4 inches of snow fell in many localities. Buena Vista in Rockbridge County reported 4½ inches, the deepest measurement in the state.”

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