

WINSTON-SALEM JOURNAL

Former special counsel Jack Smith defends Trump investigations

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Friday, January 23, 2026

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Little snow but a lot of ice in forecast

Freezing rain, sleet predicted for Winston-Salem, Greensboro

JOHN DEEM
Staff Writer

Sleet and freezing rain are now expected to dominate a weekend winter storm system in the Triad. The heaviest precipitation in Winston-Salem, Greensboro

and other Triad communities is expected between 6 p.m. Saturday and midnight Sunday, according to the National Weather Service. "Significant accumulations of ice are possible," the weather service said late Thursday afternoon. Forecasts earlier Thursday called for up to 3 inches of snow in the Triad but changed later in the day. "We're not going to see any snow out of this," Nick Petro, a meteorologist in the weather

service's Raleigh office, said late Thursday afternoon. "It's either sleet for a while and then freezing rain and then maybe ending in rain ... or it just goes straight to freezing rain." The forecast calls for several hours of sleet before freezing rain begins around 10 p.m. Saturday, which would be a positive prospect, Petro added. "I'd almost rather have sleet than freezing rain," Petro said. "If

we got a little bit of snow or sleet underneath that coating of freezing rain, we at least have a fighting chance to scrape it away." A mix of freezing rain and sleet is expected to continue until about 6 p.m. Sunday, followed by just freezing rain until around midnight Monday. "Moderate to major impacts" are expected from the system including power outages, falling trees and hazardous roads, the

weather service warned. Winston-Salem, Greensboro and other communities have applied salt brine to roads. The storm will give way to clear skies and frigid conditions, with temperatures as low as 4 degrees in the Triad on Monday night. John Deem covers the Triad for the Winston-Salem Journal and Greensboro News & Record. Contact him at joun.deem@lee.net

COMMENTARY



Grant Shipley (from left), 9, Myers Jackson, 8, Hayes McFaddin, 9, and Sam Cole, 9, play in the snow on Thursday, Feb. 20, 2025, behind Sherwood Forest Elementary School in Winston-Salem.

ALLISON LEE ISLEY, JOURNAL

Winston-Salem teen, parents charged in shooting of neighbor

SUSIE C. SPEAR
Staff Reporter

A Winston-Salem teen has been arrested and charged with shooting a neighbor on Wednesday. Meanwhile, his parents also face charges for allowing him access to a gun, Winston-Salem Police said in a news release.



Nathaniel Best, 16, is charged with shooting into the 1651 West Northwest Boulevard apartment of Donald Davis McRae, 55, and striking McRae in the back at around 3:28 p.m. on Wednesday. McRae, who was treated at a local hospital, did not sustain life-threatening injuries, according to the release. Best's father, Richard Best Jr., 46, and stepmother, Raquel Angela Conner-Fields, 35, were each charged with one count of unlawful storage of firearms to protect minors. It is unclear whether or not the gun was registered to either adult.

How it unfolded

The Winston-Salem Police Department's Gun Crime Reduction Unit responded to the crime scene and determined Best and McRae, neighbors in adjacent apartments, had an argument that led to the shooting.

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Please see **SHOOTING**, Page A9

5 tips for a frozen weekend

Get a good snow shovel, fill the propane tanks and have fun

I didn't catch the guy's name, but it seemed plain that he was bemused by the urgency. A fickle forecast that morphed from some early models calling for more than a foot of snow and ice to basic sleet kicked off a frenzy of near-prepper-level activity all week.



SCOTT
SEXTON

And because I (mostly) do as instructed, I went on Wednesday morning to look for extra gas cans. Business was steady but not over-the-top busy. But when I returned in the late afternoon to fill the propane tanks that I forgot in the garage earlier — getting old stinks — the morning trickle of people in line by the refill tank had turned into a 10-deep torrent. "Anything to do with snow

or heating is a hot commodity right now," noted a sales associate. You don't say. The few remaining snow shovels were long gone. The supply of gas cans had dwindled. Two pallets filled with \$1,100 generators were getting picked over faster than a rack of \$100 TVs on Black Friday. A minute or two later, a guy in line next to me wearing a block M cap that signified the

University of Michigan, offered an observation. "Long way to Saturday," he said in a classic opener for small talk. "It could be interesting. A foot of snow is no joke." No. It most certainly is not. I learned that while living in the late '90s in a part of western Michigan where annual snowfall is measured in feet rather than millimeters.

N.C.'s price gouging law activated as winter storm approaches.

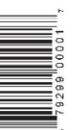
NEWS, A4

Weather

Cloudy with sprinkles
High 48 • Low 23
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