

Weird Snow Treks Feature Airports, Tractors

Students' return trips to UNC took amusing and unexpected turns.

BY STEPHANIE DUNLAP
STAFF WRITER

When some of us were little, we prayed to the snow gods to close school. But it wasn't until last week, when we were in college, that nature played a cheap trick and threw enough snow at the East Coast to make return journeys to UNC, to say the least, interesting.

Adam Mohr, a junior from Washington, D.C., was driving back with Greg Craft, a junior from Chantilly, Va., on Jan. 6, when the snow began to fall.

At first, they were not deterred. Mohr said he began to feel wary when he saw the car in front of his Nissan Sentra make two complete spins before striking an embankment.

"This is about half an hour before the car broke down," Mohr said.

After Mohr's car mysteriously died, Mohr and Craft walked to the nearest exit,

in Alberta, Va. Although there was a hotel, there were no vacancies.

Prospects were grim until they called the American Automobile Association and their "best buddy Hawthorne," a mechanic, came to tow the car. Mohr and Craft called in vain to find a hotel until Hawthorne offered them the office adjoining his garage.

Hawthorne introduced them to his beloved dog of 15 years. "Honestly, I thought this was something out of 'Deliverance,'" Mohr said.

Mohr and Craft were awakened at midnight. "I heard a god-awful squeal, like a dog, and then a woman screaming at the top of her lungs," he said.

The next morning, they discovered Hawthorne had accidentally run over his dog with the tow truck.

On Jan. 7, the two were invited to dinner at the Hawthornes' house. "They had lots of fish and a collection of Harley Davidson beer cans," Mohr said.

By the morning of Jan. 8, the roads were clear enough to drive to Chapel Hill.

Junior Anupam Sinha, from Lawrenceville, N.J., was another student who experienced car trouble and found

himself stranded in a strange town.

Sinha was also returning to Chapel Hill on Saturday when he was blinded by snow and ice in Virginia.

"I kind of swerved into a guardrail on the highway and about an hour later went off the shoulder into a ditch," Sinha said. After some good samaritan driving behind him helped him push his car out, Sinha headed for the next exit.

Sinha said he spent three nights and two days in a Comfort Inn in South Hill, Va., because his car was trapped in the hotel parking lot by 15 inches of snow.

He said he survived the layover on Denny's cuisine, television and talks with the locals.

Many students who relied on the skies to bring them back to Chapel Hill found their airline flights canceled.

Vipin Koshal, a senior from Athens, Ohio, had spent five days in San Francisco with his father when the storm hit the East Coast.

Koshal's flight was canceled, and he was told another flight could not be scheduled for 36 hours.

Koshal said the airline refused to pay for a hotel. "They said they can't control acts

of God," he said. "They said United Airlines is not responsible for the weather."

Koshal spent the next day and a half in the airport, where he was interviewed by a San Francisco television station and entertained himself in a bookstore.

Then there were also students who were snow-bound in their homes, like sophomore Alice Roberts from Pineola. Her Explorer was stuck in the driveway by two feet of snow.

Roberts said they tried chains, digging and pushing, but the snow was too thick. It was Jan. 10 before a tractor could plow up to the car and push the snow out.

Roberts said Pineola is a small town of Christmas tree farmers.

"Just about everybody owns a tractor," she said. "The community really pulled together to plow driveways and back roads."

Roberts said she and her friend occupied themselves with chess, backgammon, the guitar and experimental cooking. "We hit the slopes a lot," Roberts said. "I tried snowboarding for the first time."

"It would be different if we didn't have commitments to school we knew we were missing," she added. "Under a few different circumstances, it would be really nice."

Gingrich Rounds State To Boost N.C. Politicians

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
RALEIGH — U.S. House Speaker Newt Gingrich ratcheted up the rhetoric over the federal budget impasse on Thursday, suggesting that President Clinton's intransigence could pull the country into a recession.

Gingrich, R-Ga., said he was concerned that lack of progress in passing a balanced budget could result in a recession this summer.

"I think we need tax relief for working families to avoid a recession," he told reporters during a fund-raising trip through North Carolina for Republican congressmen seeking re-election.

"And if we get a Clinton recession, let him explain why he refused to lower taxes on working American families and pushed us into a recession," Gingrich said.

Clinton said earlier Thursday that he was willing to work with Republican leaders and insisted that a balanced budget "is clearly within our grasp." Gingrich called

Clinton "factually challenged" and told reporters that he did not consider the administration's latest offer a serious one.

Gingrich, appearing in Raleigh on behalf of U.S. Rep. Fred Heineman, the city's former police chief, vowed that Republicans would not compromise their ideas on welfare reform or tax relief to get a budget deal. "We're not going to cave in. We're not going to buy somephony Washington deal," he said. "We want a real agreement on real change."

Earlier Thursday, at a fund-raising breakfast in Winston-Salem for Rep. Richard Burr, R-N.C., Gingrich said welfare reform was at the top of the Republican agenda because it was "at the heart of what's wrong."

The speaker, who later campaigned in Goldsboro for U.S. Rep. Walter Jones Jr., also touched on tax issues Thursday, touting GOP proposals for tax relief aimed at families with children.

Gingrich's appearances in North Carolina did not go unnoticed by opponents of his policies, who staged protests in Winston-Salem and Raleigh. Police were called to the hotel where he appeared with Heineman after security guards refused to allow protesters carrying signs touting abortion rights and homosexual rights into the hotel. The protesters left peacefully.



House Speaker NEWT GINGRICH said he supported tax breaks for working families.

WASHINGTON

FROM PAGE 1

erment directly loans money to students at a fixed, low-interest rate. Indirect lending, the guaranteed loan program, is money lent by banks to students and subsidized by the federal government.

President Clinton initiated the direct lending program when he took office. One component of the Republican plan calls for a reduction in the direct lending program; it would be limited to the first 10 percent of universities that joined when the program began. ("Direct lending is) one of the best new ideas in higher education," Kennedy said. "Students love it and colleges love it, because the loan application process is simpler and loan funds get to students more quickly." Also, the government is streamlined by eliminating banks as the middle-man, Kennedy said.

Kennedy called Republican efforts to thwart direct lending a form of "corporate welfare." He said Republicans favor indirect lending because they are trying to protect the special interests of banks.

Kois endorsed the direct lending program because he said it might be able to help him pay for graduate school.

Keeping all options available would be beneficial to students who are much more financially needy than banks, Koiss said.

Student Body Vice President Amy Swan, who attended the hearing with Koiss, called the event a "great opportunity for UNC."

"(Kois') situation is one that many other UNC students are in, and by speaking to the national press and to politicians at this level" he showcased an important student

issue, she said.

Kennedy said reducing loan funding conflicted with American priorities. "One should have the opportunity to attain one's dreams of attending their college of choice," he said. The GOP budget proposal calls for Pell grants to be reduced by 40 percent, DPC documents state.

In addition to Koiss, education experts spoke on the panel.

Milton Goldberg, senior vice president for education at the National Alliance for Business, addressed the importance of higher education for the future business world. He argued that investment in education reaped greater productivity rewards than did investment in capital equipment.

Charles Tetro, president and CEO of the Training and Development Corporation, summed up the testimony by calling for dramatic increases in the amount of attention paid education.

"What is an economy for?" he asked.

He said that in Europe it was to create or sustain the quality of life for its citizens and that America was more focused on the creation of wealth.

"We espouse concern for children, but behave differently," he said. His sentiments were echoed by Kennedy, who said Congress had not emphasized education enough because children were not a powerful interest group.

After the testimony, the panelists took questions. To close, Skaggs asked Koiss what students thought was "going on" in Washington.

Kois said he felt there was a general lack of understanding that government could cease to function. "Why on earth can't the U.S. government get it together?"

HENDERSON

FROM PAGE 1

discussed problems and studied scripture.

"He's kind of like a father, brother, mentor, friend and a counselor wrapped up in one," he said. "He's probably influenced me more than any other person."

Chewing said it was difficult for him to put into words the impact Henderson had on him. Recently, Chewing recently applied to be an IVCF staff member.

"His influence on me and my respect for him as a person have led me to this career decision," he said. "It's really hard to think of what my life would have been like without Rich. He's been such a force in my life."

Chewing said Henderson's way of listening and talking has positive effects on people. "He really believes in people, and that kind of inspires confidence in them."

Fellow staff members also said Henderson was special to them.

Bari Posey of Cary not only works with Henderson but also met individually with him before graduating from UNC in May.

During the two years she met with Henderson, her grandmother died. Posey said she turned to him for help. "He cried with me," she said.

Henderson was brought to IVCF by regional director Jimmy Long.

"Rich has vision of not just staying the status quo," Long said. "Whether it's his vision to help and bring about racial reconciliation and understanding or vision for how to help Christian students be able to demonstrate Christ's love to students who aren't Christians, Rich wants to make a difference."

Henderson is also working internationally as director of IVCF in Central Asia, where he is considering moving.

"I think it's a reflection of God's heart," Henderson said. "His heart is for peoples of all the nations."

Henderson graduated from Stanford University in 1979 with bachelor of arts degrees in psychology and economics and planned to attend law school. He said he changed his mind because he was spiritually inspired to work with IVCF.

"A lot of people think I'm crazy for throwing away a degree at Stanford," he said. "But I wouldn't trade what I've done for anything else. I do this job because I love college students and the university environment."

"It's more of a lifestyle than a job to me. In fact, if it ever starts to feel like a job to me I'll quit."

KINNAIRD

FROM PAGE 1

around, Kinnaird said, thanks to the cultural center, which offers tutoring and art classes for children, and community policing. Also, the neighborhood may open a Head Start preschool program, she said.

"It took the cooperation of everyone to

turn the community around," Kinnaird said.

She added that working in Carr Court was the most rewarding thing she did as mayor, and she plans to continue her work there now that her term as mayor is over.

Anderson, who will speak Friday night, said Kinnaird was an example of what the community needs.

FOOD SERVICE

FROM PAGE 1

\$100 campus meal plan in spring 1995.

While Cunningham said he did not want to impose a mandatory meal plan on freshmen, he wanted to present students with a wide range of options.

The bill offered three options to fund changes, ranging from no fee increase to a mandatory freshman meal plan.

Option A would fund improvements through a general student fee increase of up to \$27.34.

Option B would fund improvements through the imposition of a mandatory \$900 freshman meal plan and a general student fee increase of up to \$5.02.

Option C would include no major improvements and no increase in student fees.

The proposed options are modeled after those at other colleges and universities.

Voting on the bill was postponed until the next Student Congress meeting to give representatives more time to study the proposal. If the bill is approved by Congress, students will be able to vote on a referen-

endum to approve or disapprove raising student fees to fund the project.

Cunningham said the bill he proposed was complicated and might need more explanation for the representatives to fully understand it.

"I would have been surprised if Congress had passed the bill (Wednesday night)," Cunningham said. "I'm glad it did not pass, because there are things that need to be worked on."

Rep. Vinston Rozier, Dist. 16, said he was unsure of his feelings on the bill. "Right now it's too premature," Rozier said. "I haven't formed an opinion yet, but I do have concerns."

Rozier said the cost of the changes concerned him.

"A major concern for me is how will this be paid for," he said. "It shouldn't be required for students to pay for it."

Dist. 15 Rep. David Moricca, a member of the Food Services Advisory Task Force, said he felt the bill was rushed.

"We're still in the process of getting information," Moricca said. "I think it will only hurt students to put it on the ballot now."

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