

# Search for Survivors Ends Phil's Shadow Shows More Winter

Associated Press

PORT HUENEME, Calif. — Authorities on Wednesday abandoned the search for survivors of a downed Alaska Airlines jetliner as investigators sought clues from taped talks between a Seattle maintenance crew and the pilots who struggled to keep control of the plane.

Dozens of boats will remain on the water to search for wreckage that may shed light on the cause of Monday's crash.

The plane was en route to San Francisco when it went down with 88 people on board.

"We have far exceeded our estimate of survivability," Coast Guard Adm. Thomas Collins said. "We have tried to give every chance for success in finding survivors. I think we have reached that point."

The Coast Guard delayed its announcement to allow time to inform families of the victims of their decision.

Friends and relatives of the victims had kept an anguished vigil earlier

Wednesday as Coast Guard Navy boats bobbed across the choppy and chilly Pacific.

The ships combed a debris field 10 miles offshore overnight, finding only tiny, twisted pieces of wreckage from the plane, which nose-dived into the ocean Monday afternoon.

Also today, National Transportation Safety Board member John Hammerschmidt confirmed the agency is looking into reports that the MD-83 jetliner had mechanical problems on its way down to Mexico, the leg of the flight prior to the crash.

The Seattle Times said Wednesday that the crew had reported problems with the plane's horizontal stabilizer on the earlier flight.

"We don't know if it's true. We are investigating that," Hammerschmidt said.

Authorities also hoped to glean clues to the accident's cause from tapes made as the crew and Seattle maintenance workers tried to troubleshoot what was going wrong, said Jim Hall, chairman of the NTSB.

"Obviously these pilots were struggling to maintain control of this aircraft for a significant period of time. It's going to be very important to this investigation to understand why they were unsuccessful in this effort," Hall said on NBC's "Today."

The tape was handed over Tuesday to federal investigators by Alaska Airlines, Hall said.

Ships used for salvage operations made their way Wednesday to the crash site from San Diego, said Vance Vasquez, a civilian spokesman at the Port Hueneme Naval center.

The ships include the Kellie Chouest, a Navy-contracted civilian vessel with remote-controlled subs, and a ship with advanced sonar capabilities, Vasquez said.

An ocean tug, the USNS Sioux, should arrive Friday, providing investigators with a diving platform and towing options.

Searchers have found the bodies of a man, two women and an infant among the human remains and personal items scattered across the fuel-soaked water.

Associated Press

PUNXSUTAWNEY, Pa. — With bitter cold and fresh snowfall as confirmation, part-time weatherman and full-time groundhog Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow this morning and predicted six more weeks of winter.

Spectators jumped and danced to keep warm in the 15-degree air as the groundhog's forecast was reported by his handlers.

The bitter cold may have deterred spectators who lacked Phil's lush fur. Organizers said they anticipated only 8,000 or 9,000 visitors, instead of the

15,000 who usually turn out.

"My toes are frostbitten, but it warms up if you start dancing," said Dan Pellam of Emporium, who was making his first visit to Phil's lair.

The Groundhog Day tradition is rooted in a German superstition that if an animal casts a shadow on Feb. 2 — the Christian holiday of Candlemas — bad weather is coming.

In the 111 years since German farmers began the festival in Punxsutawney, the morning of Feb. 2 has evolved into an elaborate show of hoodwinkery.

In years past, members of the Inner Circle, the club that stages the annual

midwinter festival, voted the night before whether or not Phil would see his shadow, rain or shine.

Skies had been cloudy throughout Tuesday and into today, with snow falling much of the time.

In this central Pennsylvania town of 6,700 people, Phil sees his shadow most years. Only 14 times has he predicted an early spring.

Phil's city cousin, New York's Staten Island Chuck, agreed with today's forecast. Chuck wandered out of his hut at the Staten Island Zoo and saw his shadow around 7:30 a.m., said zoo spokeswoman Lorraine Austin.

## GOTHAM

From Page 3

To curb possible problems, partygoers will be told at the door that Insomnia will be attended by gays and lesbians.

"If people are just there to see a freak show, they won't get in," Markscheid said.

Siebert said she was thrilled about the new opportunity Insomnia offered to the gay and lesbian community.

"I really have high hopes for it," she

said. "If everyone just keeps an open mind, I really don't perceive there to be a problem."

The City Editor can be reached at citydesk@unc.edu.

## OREGON

From Page 3

almost every quantifiable category, including faculty salaries and research grants.

The main cause of the stagnation, according to political leaders and the Oregonian series, was a lack of public support, and in turn, legislative support for the system.

Major tax cuts in the early 1990s forced significant tuition increases, lowering the quality and accessibility of a state university education, Graves said.

Also, Oregon's economy has long been centered around tapping natural resources, much like North Carolina's.

But while North Carolina began shifting its economic focus to technology, banking and research by the 1950s, Oregon's lumber industry remained the lifeblood of the state's economy until recently. This led to a disdain for higher education in the state, Graves said.

"They've always sort of spurned the university system," he said. "People looked at it as being impractical and theoretical — as kind of an ivory tower. That's why our legislature got away with cutting it for years and years."

Oregon Senate President Brady Adams, a Republican who represents a rural area, also recognized this phenomenon. "People were concerned about being accepted at what mill, not accepted at what college," he said. "To some extent, I'd say that was a cultural difference for a number of years."

But Adams said strict environmental regulations on the lumber industry and a growing emphasis on technology in the world economy led political leaders and Oregon residents to change their priorities. "It's changed just out of necessity," he said. "The future now is not the strength of your back, but the strength of your mind, and that's not going to happen unless you look to higher education as one of the tools to achieve it."

In that spirit, Oregon led the nation

in increased spending for higher education in 1999, allocating more than \$650 million to its schools — up 17 percent from the previous year.

But Rep. Chris Beck, a Democrat, said the move might be too little, too late. He blamed the Republican majority for cutting tax revenue in the early 1990s rather than reinvesting the surpluses into education.

"We're still way behind what we would've been if we hadn't made the cuts in the first place," Beck said.

But he acknowledged that the initiative was at least a step in the right direction, adding that Oregon should take a cue from UNC and concentrate academic programs such as engineering and architecture near the economic hub in Portland. "It's what has happened in the Triangle, Boston and the Silicon Valley. All those have major connections between academics and industry."

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## BARBECUE

From Page 3

saucy. "People say they really enjoy my original barbecue sauce," she said. "I've been trying to get that sauce bottled."

Smith's mother, famous for her own barbecue sauce, gave her the unusual nickname of "Von," which stems from her middle name, Yvonne. But "Von" quickly evolved to "Bon," which now graces the sign outside her restaurant.

Smith's mother Council, 70, who still works at Mama Dip's every day, has eight children (including "Bon"), 22 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. Council said her large family had always helped at Mama Dip's Kitchen.

"My family has been in the business

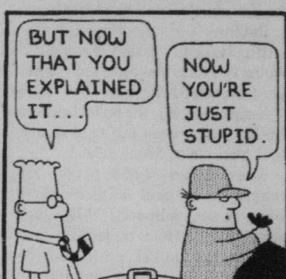
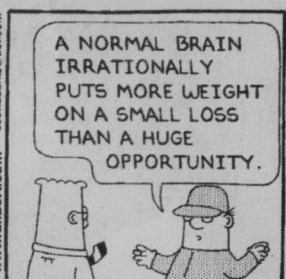
a long time," Council said. "Food is one of the most enjoyable things because it brings unity."

Council said she hoped her flair for cooking would be instilled in her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Apparently, it has. Smith said her mother's love of cooking allowed her to dream of one day having her own restaurant.

Peaches Watlington, a waitress at Bon's Bar-B-Q, said she appreciated the family tradition of excellent homestyle cooking that surrounded Bon's Bar-B-Q. "Smith's family is a hard-working clan," she said. "Everybody in that family can cook their butt off."

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## Dilbert®

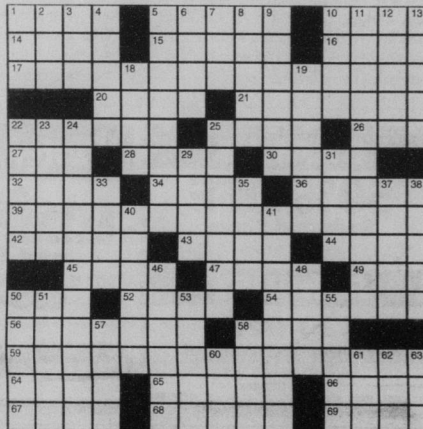


## THE Daily Crossword

By James E. Buell

- ACROSS**
- 1 Desiccated
  - 5 Losses weight
  - 10 Staunch
  - 14 Farm tower
  - 15 Eagle's nest
  - 16 Like a dipstick
  - 17 Remains silent
  - 20 Interruptions of continuity
  - 21 Fearless
  - 22 Lead source
  - 25 Lenient
  - 26 Pipe fork?
  - 27 Bullring cheer
  - 28 Sprinkle with powder
  - 30 Break down
  - 32 Wander about
  - 34 In of
  - 36 Bellyache
  - 39 Remains cool
  - 42 Archipelago member
  - 43 Run off at the mouth
  - 44 Copycat
  - 45 Warm up
  - 47 God of love
  - 49 Plumb of "The Brady Bunch"
  - 50 Wonderment
  - 52 Cut
  - 54 Sowed
  - 56 Goblet
  - 58 Takes a bead on
  - 59 Remains
- DOWN**
- 1 Volcanic fallout
  - 2 Howard Hawks film, "Bravo"
  - 3 Bedridden
  - 4 Chrysler make
  - 5 Largest city in South America
  - 6 Camera's eye
  - 7 Wrath
  - 8 Make a blunder
  - 9 Start up
  - 10 Led Zeppelin concert movie, "The \_\_\_ Remains the Same"
  - 11 Loath to speak
  - 12 Extract with a solvent
  - 13 No way!
  - 18 Smooth before painting
  - 19 Power failure
  - 22 Russian writer Maxim
  - 23 Athol Fugard play, "A Lesson from \_\_\_"
  - 24 Sensible
  - 25 Trend upward
  - 29 Evildoings

- 31 Shirley MacLaine movie, "\_\_\_ la Douce"
- 33 Fencer's foil
- 35 Manipulator
- 37 Irritate
- 38 Slipped up
- 40 Balance
- 41 Bilateral
- 46 City on Puget Sound
- 48 Trailer truck, briefly
- 50 Sneeze sound
- 51 Spin around and around
- 53 Peasant girl
- 55 School paper?
- 57 Fewer
- 58 Toward open waters
- 60 Just get by
- 61 Bandy or
- 62 Southern or Jillian
- 63 Positive reply



roses are red  
v-day is blue  
so the gang's going out  
'cause I don't need you.

---

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**WEDNESDAYS:**  
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