

# Winter weather incites impromptu protest

BY EMILY STEEL  
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

A group of students booted as Master Patrol Officer Kurt Insko kicked at a pile of snow blocking the door to South Building and threw aside a newspaper with the words "NONRESIDENT TUITION!" scribbled across the page.

The students were fresh out of a snowball fight in front of Mangum Residence Hall on Friday afternoon which progressed into an attack on a tour group and an ambush on students leaving Dey Hall.

The group of about 60 students was on its way to storm South Campus when they changed their target to South Building. "We decided to go to South Building because of the (proposed) tuition increase," said John Kunza, a sophomore from Marshall. "We wanted to make a noble cause out of our fun."

The horseplay ultimately turned the snowball fight into a protest against the recent discussions to increase nonresident tuition.

"We tried to freeze tuition hikes by putting a barricade in front of South Building," said Rudy Curatolo, a UNC alumnus who graduated in December.

The students scattered when an

administrator told them the Department of Public Safety had been called.

The only action Insko took when he arrived at the scene was to remove the snow barricade and discard the newspapers.

"When students are busting books all the time, they are going to have fun when it snows," he said.

The barricade forced Tony Waldrop, vice chancellor for research and economic development, to forge a new path into South Building. Waldrop said he wasn't upset to be a victim of the student's foolery. "It was just some fun that students were having with the first snow this year."

But Grounds Director Kirk Pelland said dealing with pranks adds to the tasks already part of a groundskeeper's job description.

"I wish kids would spend a little more time thinking about the groundskeepers," he said. "When you think it all the way through, it is just a little thoughtless."

The horseplay marked the University's first taste of winter weather. Today's temperatures are expected to reach the low 50s, but a snow storm is predicted for Thursday. UNC operated at Condition 1 of its adverse weather policy Friday, meaning the



DTH PHOTOS/BRIAN CASSELLA

Master Patrol Officer Kurt Insko (right) moves the pile of snow that students protested with away from the door of South Building on Friday.

University was open, classes were held and offices were open.

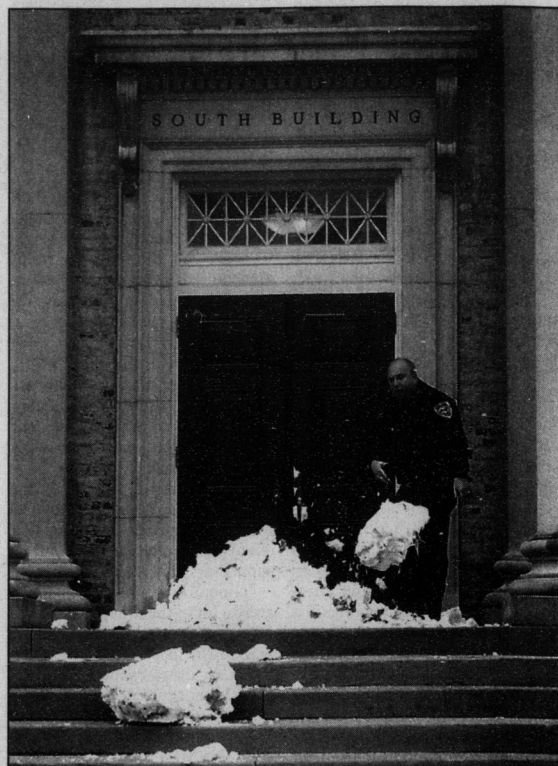
Groundskeepers spread sand and salt across campus early Friday morning, Pelland said. "Its like a war when it snows for us."

The Adverse Weather Alert was posted on the UNC Web site before 8 a.m. Friday to remind the University's employees of the policies, said Mike McFarland, director of University communications. Other than the impromptu

protest, officials didn't know of any other problems on campus Friday afternoon.

Some of the students who participated in the protest, like John Musci, a freshman from West Virginia, said that while the act wasn't effective, it was fun. "It was classic rebellion, go for the authority figure."

Contact the University Editor at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).



## Snowfall adversely affects car travel Applications for DTH now available

Airports report few snow-related snags

BY STEPHANIE JORDAN  
ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

As snow flurries fell on the University campus Friday morning, the number of traffic accidents grew across the state.

Between midnight and 10 a.m. Friday, there were 170 weather-related car crashes in the Triangle, said Renee Hoffman, director of public affairs for the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, of which the N.C. Highway Patrol is a part.

There were 109 wrecks the day before, indicating an increase of accidents during the time of snow-

fall. In Orange County, the N.C. Highway Patrol reported 80 weather-related wrecks Friday, said Alison Naylor, telecommunicator with the Orange County Troop Division. Four of those accidents occurred between 3 p.m. and midnight. The remaining 76 occurred during and after the snowfall.

Lt. R.J. Daigle with the Raleigh Police Department said they responded to between 40 and 50 accidents Friday morning. "The highway patrol was affected more than us," he said. "They respond to calls outside city limits and had to play catch up all day."

Daigle added that Raleigh experienced some minor accidents Friday night because of the weather, but that the wind helped to dry

"We had a few delays because we had to de-ice some of the airplanes. ... But overall operations went smoothly."

TED JOHNSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PIEDMONT TRIAD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

the roadways.

The N.C. Highway Patrol reported 639 calls for service between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Friday while the snow was coming down, said Patrol Telecommunicator Reid, who would not give her first name.

But the airports remained almost unscathed as the snow fell across the state. "It was not a bad storm for us," said Karen Dunton, spokeswoman for Raleigh-Durham International Airport. She said the airport experienced

approximately 30 delays and four cancellations Friday.

The Piedmont Triad International Airport in Greensboro also experienced little difficulty in getting its planes off the ground, said Ted Johnson, executive director of the airport. "We had a few delays because we had to de-ice some of the airplanes," he said. "But overall operations went smoothly."

Contact the State & National Editor at [stnidesk@unc.edu](mailto:stnidesk@unc.edu).

STAFF REPORT

The Daily Tar Heel is now accepting applications for its spring staff. Applications are available in the DTH office, located in Suite 104 of the Student Union.

All applications must be turned in at the DTH office by Wednesday at 5 p.m. Staff lists will be posted Thursday, and there will be a brief mandatory orientation Friday for those selected.

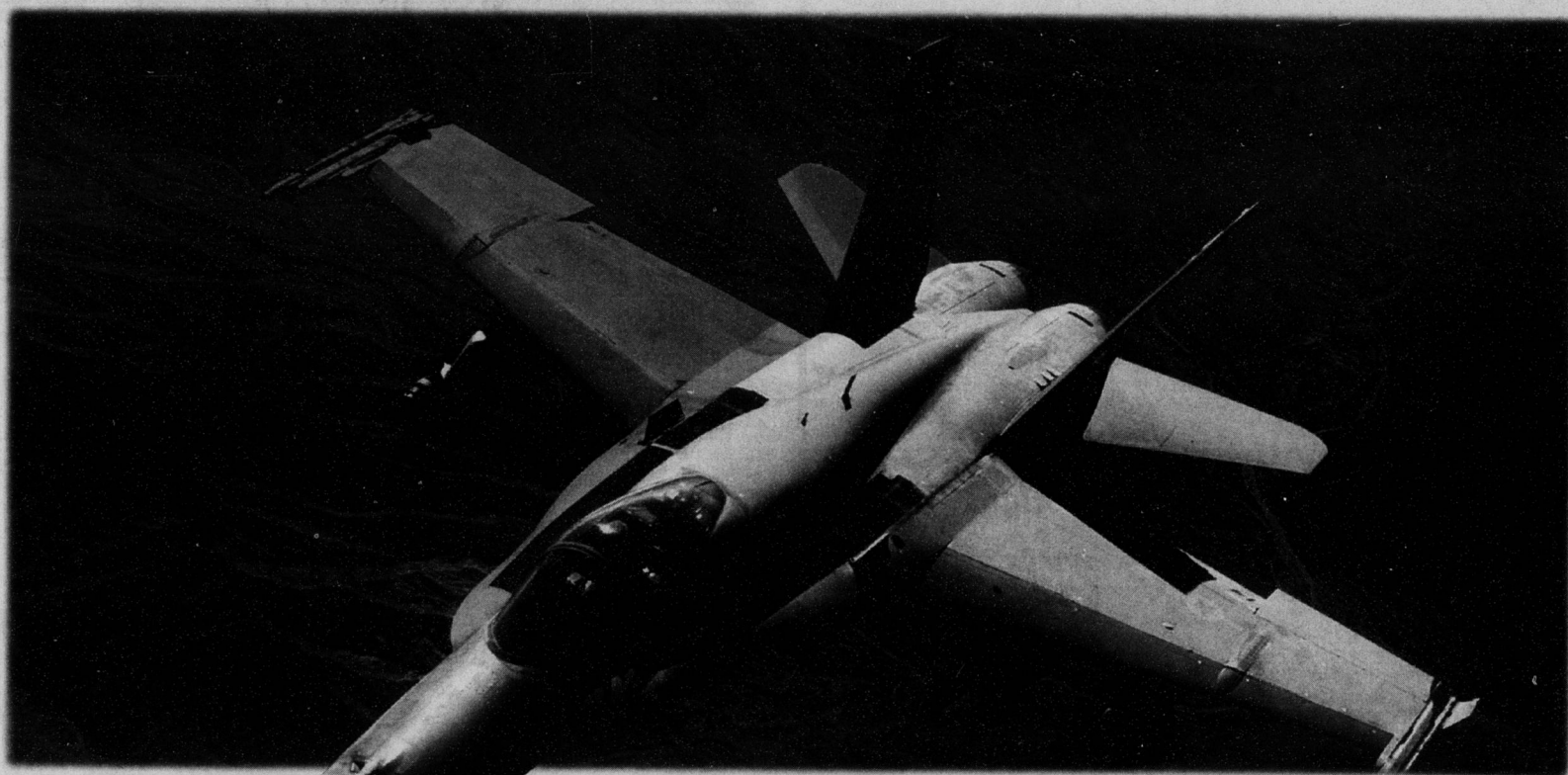
The DTH also will host two interest meetings. The first meeting is at 7:30 p.m. today and the second is at 7 p.m. Tuesday. Both meetings will be held in 11 Carroll Hall.

All students are encouraged to apply. No prior experience is nec-

essary. Positions are available in most areas, including investigative reporting. Applicants with experience creating informational graphics are especially needed.

People interested in applying for the copy desk must take a test prior to turning in their applications. The test will be given in the DTH office at 6 p.m. today and Tuesday.

To arrange an alternate time to take the test, e-mail Alex Obregon at [aobregon@email.unc.edu](mailto:aobregon@email.unc.edu). Additional questions may be directed to [samuels@email.unc.edu](mailto:samuels@email.unc.edu). For specific questions about investigative opportunities, contact [jbfrank@email.unc.edu](mailto:jbfrank@email.unc.edu).



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