

# The Daily Tar Heel

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Applications due

Resident assistant applications are due 5 p.m., tomorrow in Carr Building or to your area director.

## Slop talk

There will be freezing rain this morning followed by snow with some accumulation expected. High will be in the mid-30s.

Volume 89, Issue 113

Thursday, January 14 1982

Chapel Hill, North Carolina

News/Sports/Arts 962-0245  
Business/Advertising 962-1163

## 70 believed killed

# Plane crashes in D.C.

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A Florida-bound jetliner roared from a snowy takeoff and crashed into a Potomac River bridge Wednesday, smashing cars and plunging into the icy water. About 65 people were reported killed, but the casualty count was unconfirmed.

The Boeing 737 was an Air Florida flight, with a booking of 68 passengers and a crew of five, bound from Washington National Airport to Tampa and Fort Lauderdale, Fla. The actual number of people on board could not be verified.

Lt. Hiram Brewton, a District of Columbia police spokesman, said there were believed to be only five survivors from the plane. A spokesman for the Federal Aviation Administration, Ted Marr, said an unofficial estimate would be 65 dead.

Police Capt. Michael L. Canfield said at least six motorists were killed as the plane sheared the tops of cars and hit a truck.

At least 17 survivors were taken to Washington hospitals, some suffering crash injuries, some the effects of the

frigid river water.

About three hours after the crash, rescue workers loaded the bodies of victims onto a fire boat on the Virginia side of the river to be taken to Harbor Police headquarters in Washington.

Stewardess Kelly Dunan survived the crash. "The plane started to shake and the next thing I knew, I was in the water," she told the doctor who treated her for hypothermia, a severe loss of body heat.

Even as ambulances and rescue crews struggled through the snow — and the massive traffic jam it produced — to the bridge, three people were killed when a Washington subway car hurtled from its track near the Smithsonian Institution station.

As darkness and temperatures fell, divers worked by floodlight in the ice-crusted river, searching for the victims.

Within minutes after the crash, helicopters pulled several survivors from the river. Most of the others aboard the plane were presumed to have perished under the ice.

It was not known how many of the 17 hospitalized survivors were from the

plane or vehicles struck on the bridge, a multilane artery with three spans connecting the city with suburban Virginia.

The 4:04 p.m. crash, about a mile and a half from the White House, came as the 14th Street bridge was clogged with commuters heading home after government offices were closed early because of the snow.

The snow stopped shortly after the crash, but the foul weather impeded rescue efforts. The temperature hovered in the 20s and wind whipped the river.

The airport had been closed for runway clearing until shortly before the plane took off, in visibility of about a half mile, close to the minimum. Three inches of snow had fallen, and it was snowing heavily at the time of the crash.

After striking the bridge, the short-range, twin-engine jet plunged into the water between that span and two others carrying traffic toward the suburbs. The bridge is less than a mile from the airport.

Some of the victims could be seen at dusk, strapped into airliner seats beneath the surface of the Potomac.

Jerome Lancaster, an Air Force sergeant who was in the traffic jam on the

bridge at the time of the crash said, "It looked like he lost his direction. The plane's wheel hit a truck."

"I counted about six or seven who were alive, but they were messed up," he said. "We threw a rope out to one passenger."

"One of our people who saw the accident said he saw the plane nick the south side of the bridge, skip over it and go into the Potomac River on the north side of the bridge," said David Hess of the FAA.

Another witness, Terence Bell, said the nose of the plane broke away from the fuselage, plunged off the bridge and sank into the Potomac about 25 yards off the Virginia shore.

The tail section broke away, Bell said, and floated for about 20 minutes. He said he saw five or six people emerge and escape across the ice before the fuselage sank.

Coast Guard, Park Police and military helicopters hovered over the scene. People clung to pieces of the airplane in the water, grabbed for lifelines lowered

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DTH/Al Steele

Michael Jordan on the move against Dereck Whittenburg ... Jordan led Carolina with 20 points

## Blue Heaven

### Heels like it at the top

By CLIFTON BARNES  
Sports Editor

RALEIGH — No. 1-ranked North Carolina broke open a close game in the second half, outscoring No. 12 N.C. State 18-2 during a seven-minute barrage to win 61-41 here Wednesday night.

"During that stretch in the second half, we did very well on the break," UNC coach Dean Smith said. "We were very concerned about the game, but we rose to the occasion and played with immense poise."

Just before the stretch that opened up the game the Wolfpack pulled from 10 points down to a mere 33-32 deficit.

"They went to a man-to-man," Smith said. "We got the shots we wanted but they didn't fall. We missed some shots inside that allowed them to come back."

But then James Worthy, who had only eight points, started the breakaway with two free throws. Sam Perkins came right back with a three-point play on a jump hook and a foul on State's Cozell McQueen.

UNC allowed only one shot each time down the floor, and the Wolfpack repeatedly missed from outside. Matt Doherty scored his only basket of the game on a driving layup off a nice move to up the score to 40-32.

Michael Jordan, who had a game-high 20 points, showed his passing skills on a throw to Jimmy Black, who scored and was fouled. He hit the free throw and a rout became obvious with just under seven minutes to go.

The Tar Heels went to the four corners and State started fouling. UNC hit 19-of-24 free throws for the game.

"We were very happy with our free throw shooting," Smith said. "You have to hit your free throws anytime you're in the delay game. We must hit them."

And the Tar Heels did — eight of the free throws came in the stall game.

"We lost our cool, you can't do that," State coach Jim Valvano said. "We had a couple of guys who decided to stand around while Whit (Dereck Whittenburg) did his thing."

Whittenburg shot more than any other player on either team, hitting 7-of-15 shots and ending with a team high 18 points. He was the only Wolfpacker on double figures.

"We didn't get to 12-1 playing like that," Valvano said. "We had a poor shot selection." The Wolfpack hit 33.3 percent of its shots while the Tar Heels hit on 52.5 percent. For the second half, State went 7-of-27 for 25.9 percent.

See GAME on page 7

## Snow, sleet, ice grip Chapel Hill

By JOHN CONWAY  
DTH Staff Writer

Snow, sleet and freezing rain made conditions hazardous Wednesday in Chapel Hill as the first major winter storm of the season struck North Carolina. But weather-related accidents have been minimal, said Chapel Hill Police Department Administrative Assistant Ben Callahan.

"It hasn't caused as many problems as we had expected," Callahan said. Police reported five minor accidents yesterday, but no injuries.

People are staying off the street. This storm didn't catch them by surprise," Callahan said.

The precipitation, beginning as snow late Tuesday night, changed to sleet and freezing rain by noon Wednesday, creating a sheet of ice over roads and sidewalks. Weather conditions were not predicted to improve until Friday.

Chapel Hill Transit curtailed bus service Wednesday at 7 a.m. Both the S and U bus services were suspended, and the remaining bus lines experienced partial cutbacks. Night bus service was also suspended.

Two buses were involved in separate accidents early Wednesday, but no one was injured, Transportation Director Bob Godding said. One bus slid off the road and caused minor property damage, and the other bus slid off the highway.

"We will continue to provide service as long as it is safe to do so," Godding said. "It's a seat-of-the-pants operation. We just have to play it by ear."

Both Southern Bell Telephone Company and Duke Power Company reported service was normal, and no power lines were damaged by the ice.

But Ted Wilkenson, superintendent of engineering and construction operations for Duke Power, said he was preparing for the worst. "If the temperature starts dropping, we could potentially have some problems," Wilkenson said.

Local towing companies were kept busy all Wednesday. McFarling's Exxon and Glen Lennox Gulf stations each answered about 20 weather-related calls. An attendant for McFarling's Exxon said one car slid off 15-501 North and plunged into New Hope Creek near Darryl's restaurant. The driver was not injured.

Despite the inclement weather, the University remained open Wednesday.

UNC Chancellor Christopher C. Fordham II said the University's policy was to remain open despite adverse weather conditions.

"The University doesn't close with an incident of inclement weather. It is the responsibility of the professors and students about whether to go to class," he said. "I think it's part of the tradition of the University."

But Fordham said he was concerned with conditions that might threaten safety. Department supervisors retain the right to close or send their staff home early in times of emergency, he said.

Fordham said he contacted Chairman of the Faculty Dan Pollitt who said faculty members generally understood if students were unable to attend class because of weather conditions.

"If we really had a big snowstorm we could shut down, and I'm not ruling out that possibility," he said.

When asked whether the predicted second snowstorm might merit a decision to close the University, Fordham said, "Right now it's up to the good Lord and the weather."



Most area residents used chains or snow tires to get around ... but Richard Davis chose an alternate mode of transportation

## Winter storm dumps snow across southeast

From staff and wire reports

Winter came south with a vengeance Wednesday and dumped snow and icy sleet on not only the Carolinas but on states in the normally mild Deep South, causing schools and government offices to close and killing at least 11 people in weather-related deaths in North Carolina.

Georgia Gov. George Busbee declared a state of emergency in Atlanta which was immobilized by half a foot of snow and ordered out 230 National Guardsmen to aid stranded motorists and help clear out thousands of abandoned cars.

The storm had charged out of Texas and swung up the Eastern Seaboard, closing schools in Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia and the suburbs of New York City. Up to 10 inches of snow was forecast in some areas around New York City.

Florida farmers in the meantime were totaling up losses from Tuesday's record freeze that caused extensive damage to the state's billion dollar citrus crop. They said the price of orange juice was sure to go up.

Meanwhile, a new storm in the Southwest that produced a foot of snow in parts of New Mexico and Arizona was spreading more ice over Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi.

At least 750,000 people in Alabama were without electricity from Birmingham to the South as tree limbs cracked and lines snapped under a heavy glaze of ice. Widespread power outages also were

reported earlier in Mississippi, Louisiana and Georgia.

A spokesman for Alabama Power Co. said it probably would be several days before all service was restored.

"We were scared to be too alarming, but apparently our worst fears were even conservative," said meteorologist Max Blood at the National Weather Service office in the Birmingham suburb of Homewood.

The winter storm moved across North Carolina Wednesday, causing auto accidents, cancellations and spontaneous skiing trips.

The storm, which dumped up to 6 inches of snow in the western part of the state, followed three days of bitter cold.

Quentin Anderson of the Carolina Motor Club said Wednesday his organization received 298 emergency calls Monday when near-zero temperatures prevented automobiles from starting.

"We had the single busiest day in the 60-year history of the organization Monday," Anderson said.

He said the number of calls Wednesday had been about normal, but an increase was expected over the night and on Thursday morning.

Delta and Eastern airline officials in Raleigh both reported flights in the state delayed between one and three hours; Delta said it had cancelled some flights. Raleigh-Durham Airport remained open all day Wednesday.

See STORM on page 5

## Tim Smith announces candidacy

By KEN MINGIS  
DTH Staff Writer

Tim Smith, a senior political science and history major from High Point, announced Wednesday his candidacy for student body president.

"I'm running because I feel that Student Government is currently in a state of stagnation," Smith said. "I think we need more creative processes to lead Student Government back to helping students."

Smith said he felt Student Government needed to take a more coordinated approach to governing. "Student Government should not be just a day-to-day thing," he said. "There should be at least some sort of regular dialogue between the various branches of government."

He said there were several areas of Student Government services that he wanted to see improved, including the creation of a student affairs office in Student government, an expansion of the tutorial and Rape and Assault Prevention Escort Services and investigating ways of better ticket distribution in all sports.

A Student Affairs Fund Commission should be set up to study and make public student fee expenditures, he said.



Smith

Smith, who is blind, said he did not think his handicap would be an hindrance in performing the role of student body president. He said, if elected, he would have two special assistants to read bills to him and prepare documents for his signature.

"There's always going to be some people who say a blind person cannot do it," he said, "but I've found that if I can go to college and major in two areas, I can do anything other people can do."

Smith has worked under the past two Student Government administrations, serving as a member of the State Affairs Committee, and as an executive liaison.

In addition to his work in Student Government, Smith is also the founder of a campus political organization, "Carolina Concern", which he said was designed to help determine student opinions and needs.

## Vandenbergh declares for presidency

By KEN MINGIS  
DTH Staff Writer

Mike Vandenbergh, a junior zoology and history major from Raleigh, announced Tuesday his candidacy for student body government.

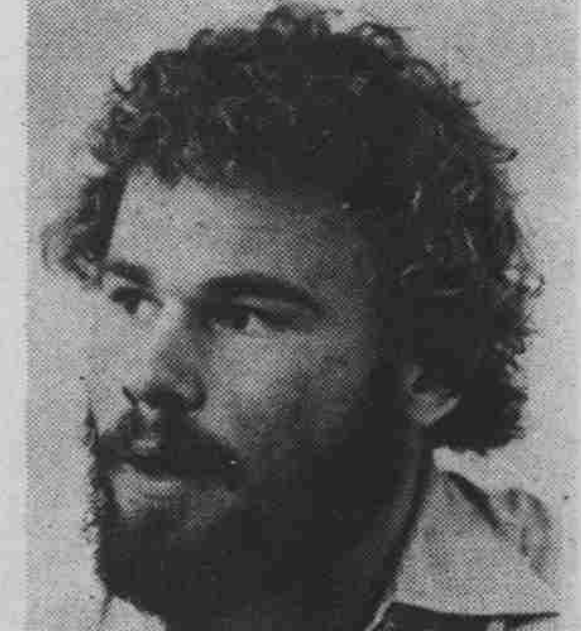
Vandenbergh said he wanted Student Government to become more active in its recruitment of minority and freshmen students. If he were elected he said he would appoint an executive assistant to be in charge of encouraging student interest.

"The executive assistant would address minority participation in Student Government," he said. "It's not that the minority students are excluded, it's just that none are recruited."

"I also feel that Student Government needs to turn more toward academics," he said. "The Student Academic Advising Service needs to be expanded and used to supplement faculty advising."

Vandenbergh said he would coordinate the campus cabinet in an effort to reduce program duplications and help save money.

"Many times around campus different organizations pay different prices for the



Vandenbergh

same services. With a better exchange of financial information, groups could get the most for their money."

He said he wanted to strengthen the executive liaison program to help increase the two-way communication between students and Student Government.

Vandenbergh said he felt his experience would be an asset in the campaign. He has served in the Executive Branch of Student Government as a member of the University Services Committee, and in the legislation branch as chairperson of the Campus Governing Council Finance Committee.

In addition, he has served two terms on the vice chancellor's Food Service Committee and worked with the Carolina Course Review. He is an academic advisor with the North Carolina Fellows Program, and a member of Chi Psi fraternity.