

Cloudy, windy  
mid 50s today  
Friday: upper 50s

# The Daily Tar Heel

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DTH/David Minton

## Slip slidin' away

Melissa Asbill, a senior advertising major from Asheboro, battles the sleet and freezing drizzle Wednesday afternoon as she crosses McCorkle Place.

## 3rd winter storm ices central N.C.

By TRACY LAWSON  
Staff Writer

The third winter storm in less than a month hit central North Carolina Wednesday, and icy roads caused more than 200 accidents and closed the public transit systems and public schools in Chapel Hill and Durham.

Both the Chapel Hill Public Works Department and the Chapel Hill Police Department said they were well prepared for the storm.

"Last night (Tuesday night) we loaded the sand trucks and helped the police department put chains on their vehicles," said Bruce Heflin, director of Chapel Hill Public Works. "We then watched the weather. So when the roads began to get bad at 7 o'clock this morning, we were ready."

The Chapel Hill Police Department had placed chains on their cars before 4 p.m. Tuesday.

"All our vehicles were equipped with chains," said police Capt. Ralph Pendergraph. "This is the best we can do to get around in this stuff. We had cars sitting ready all last night."

The roads began getting hazardous around 7 a.m. Wednesday and then began to clear during the day. The roads were expected to refreeze during the night.

"When (school) buses began running (Wednesday) morning, there was

no problem," said Henrietta Huffines, Chapel Hill-Carrboro City School administrative officer. "However, when the roads began getting icy around 7:30, the buses were already on the road and some children were at school."

"The decision was then made to keep the schools open and keep the children who had already arrived (at school). Late in the morning school officials drove the bus routes and consulted with the police to determine the best time to get the children home. The schools began closing at 12:45 p.m."

Orange County and Durham County schools also began closing at 12:30 p.m. The Durham City School System was closed for the day.

Many of the area public transit systems were also hampered by the weather.

The Chapel Hill transit system started operating on a normal schedule this morning but had to stop running about 8:15 a.m.

"This morning we decided to stop running the buses because of icy conditions," Chapel Hill Transit Administrative Director Scott McClellan said. "However, most of the routes had started operation at 1 o'clock this afternoon. Service was resumed on all routes except A

Route, the blue line and the detours on some of the routes."

The public transit system in Durham discontinued operation Wednesday afternoon and night.

Because of the hazardous conditions of the roads, many accidents were reported in the area.

"One of our buses went into a ditch on Estes Drive, and some drivers reported sliding," McClellan said. "This morning things were happening so quickly, and so many accidents were reported."

"However, most of the accidents involved other people, and our drivers were simply reporting them," McClellan said. "I believe that some of our buses were rear-ended, but no serious damage was done to any of our buses, and there were no injuries."

According to reports from the North Carolina Highway Patrol, 285 weather-related accidents had occurred in the 11 counties in the central part of the state by 5 p.m.

"In Raleigh, 96 accidents have been reported since midnight Tuesday," N.C. Highway Patrol Shift Manager Greg Whitehouse said. "However, no fatalities and no major injuries were reported."

In Chapel Hill, several weather-related accidents were reported. See STORM page 5

## Celebration to honor late professor Coates

By JEFF ECKARD  
Staff Writer

To show appreciation for the contributions Albert Coates made to the University community and to student government, Student Congress adopted a bill Wednesday supporting a memorial celebration in his honor.

Coates, who founded the Institute of Government at UNC in 1931 and served as its head for more than 30 years, died Jan. 28.

In addition to the Institute of Government, Coates and his wife Gladys had a great interest in student government. In 1986, they wrote "The Story of Student Government in the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill."

Gene Davis (Dist. 16), who introduced the bill, said the program in honor of Coates will be held March 29 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the

Student Union Auditorium and Lounge.

The celebration will cost \$6,000. Student government will provide \$3,000, and the planning committee will ask the administration for \$3,000.

A number of speakers, including Chancellor Paul Hardin, former chancellor William Aycock and Bill Cookrane, senior adviser for the U.S. Senate Rules Committee, will emphasize Coates' and his wife's belief in student government and its continuing importance, Davis said.

"Through their book, the Coateses present the history of student government at this University and encourage students to continue their struggle for mutual respect," Davis said. "Not only did they influence student government at UNC, but they also influenced student government across the nation."

Connie Zaytoun, a member of the

*"Not only did (Albert and Gladys Coates) influence student government at UNC, but they also influenced student government across the nation." — Gene Davis*

executive branch's Special Interest Committee, which proposed the celebration, said she thought at first the program would be a small gathering of people but that because of the interest expressed by people asked to speak about Coates it had snowballed into a major event.

"Despite Coates' leaving the Institute of Government 26 years ago, it is still continuing his vitality and theme and proceeding as Albert Coates would have wanted," she said.

Coates' influence was so wide-reaching that many of the scheduled speakers said they would drop other plans to take part in the program, Zaytoun said.

The Institute of Government is the largest and most diversified state-funded, university-based governmental and training and research institution in the country.

In other business, congress confirmed the appointment of junior Virginia Mewborne as the new undergraduate student attorney general. Mewborne, who previously served as assistant attorney general, said she looked forward to the challenges ahead.

"We need to increase awareness of the honor system and make it more preventive instead of reactive," she said.

Congress also unfroze the funds of three groups who requested student government funding but did not appear at Saturday's budget hearings. The Lab Theatre, the African Students' Association and Sangam all were allocated student funding.



Albert Coates

## Soviet economy slow to respond to recent reforms

By STACI COX  
Assistant Managing Editor

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev has changed the lives of Soviet citizens, but experts are debating the importance and future of his reforms.

"This process of economic reform is slow and painful," said Boris Malakhov, spokesman for the Soviet embassy in Washington.

Gorbachev's glasnost policy has tremendously increased open expression in the Soviet Union, but the economic reform policy of perestroika has been more difficult to implement, said Robert Rupen, UNC professor of political science.

"(Economic reform) isn't happening fast enough at all," Rupen said. "And that could get Gorbachev in trouble."

But Gorbachev's opponents have no specific plan of action for the nation, and the society as a whole has changed too much to go back to the old government for very long, said Donald Raleigh, UNC professor of history.

"There is certainly opposition for his reforms. It's very real; it's very formidable. But there is equal support," Raleigh said.

Part of the economic problem is resistance to reform within the bureaucracy, especially in the ministries where Gorbachev has instigated a 40 percent to 50 percent cut in personnel, Malakhov said.

"We have no joblessness," he said. "But to make business and government more effective, we

### A New USSR

must fulfill the same job with fewer people."

Temporary unemployment could last from five to six months as people change occupations, but there are tremendous shortages in the service sector, Malakhov said. Everyone will be able to find a job eventually.

More important than bureaucratic resistance is passive resistance among the people, Rupen said. Soviets have had job security all their lives and are not used to working hard to maintain employment.

"People are being told, 'work harder and you'll get your reward in five years,'" Rupen said.

While economic conditions in the Soviet Union have stalled, free expression is being eagerly embraced by citizens and the press.

"If you just look at the Soviet media, there are no longer any taboo subjects," Raleigh said.

When the U.S. media began reporting stories of the AIDS virus, the Soviet press denounced it as CIA disinformation, Raleigh said.

But one of the major stories in the Soviet Union today is about a hospital nursery where 27 babies have contracted AIDS, he said. The babies were infected with the AIDS virus when a hospital nurse reused an unsterilized needle to

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## BSM hosts forum, plans to appeal

By BILL YARDLEY  
Staff Writer

Black Student Movement (BSM) presidential candidate Kim McLean and write-in hopeful Jimmy Tanner held an impromptu candidates' forum during a BSM general body meeting Wednesday night.

The general body of the BSM also decided to appeal to the Student

Supreme Court a Student Congress decision not to let the group participate in the annual budget process.

The BSM will hold its annual elections today, after a one-day delay caused by confusion over Tanner's status as a candidate.

McLean is the only presidential candidate whose name will appear on today's ballot. Tanner can win only

by write-in vote, because he did not file for candidacy on time.

The organization decided to make an appeal to the Student Supreme Court because Student Congress denied the BSM the opportunity to apply for student fees funding last month when the group's budget request was said to have been submitted after the deadline.

"She (BSM Treasurer Chanda Douglas) said she was there five minutes before five," said BSM President Kenneth Perry, referring to the budget requests deadline at 5 p.m. on Feb. 10. "There are a whole lot of time discrepancies. The whole process seemed kind of fishy."

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## Court members question amendment

By JENNIFER WING  
Staff Writer

Some members of the Undergraduate Student Court said Tuesday that they have concerns about making date rape a campus code offense under the Instrument of Student Judicial Governance, although the amendment's creators said they feel the court can deal with the issue.

The amendment to add date rape offenses to the Instrument has been

passed by Student Congress and the Faculty Council and must now be approved by Chancellor Paul Hardin.

But some Undergraduate Court members have expressed concern about the amendment.

Ruth Dowling, chairwoman of the Undergraduate Court, said she is unsure if the court is capable of dealing with such a sensitive issue as date rape.

"My initial reaction was one of

concern," she said. "I definitely have concerns on whether or not we can deal with it."

Dowling said the court is preparing to train its members on date rape offenses with legal experts this summer.

But the amendment may provide a different avenue for victims if they feel uncomfortable taking the case to civil court, Dowling said. "If it's going to allow people a place to go to solve

this thing, then we want to work with this. But I'm not too sure if people will come to the court with it."

The members of the court are primarily concerned with having the responsibility of judging the guilt or innocence of the defendant, in addition to sanctioning the parties found guilty.

But Dowling said, "If we can't deal

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## Strike affects students' plans

By KARI BARLOW  
Staff Writer

The machinists strike at Eastern Airlines has spoiled the spring break travel plans of several UNC students.

About 9,300 Eastern machinists represented by the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers went on strike Saturday, paralyzing almost all of Eastern's flights.

Eastern was forced to cancel all flights Monday except shuttle flights between Boston, Washington and New York and three Latin-American flights out of Miami, said Virginia Sanchez, spokeswoman for Eastern.

Brian Hendrix, a junior English-political science major from High Point, was planning to fly to Nassau for spring break on Eastern. Hendrix

said he and his friends could book a flight with another airline if they were notified by Eastern soon enough.

"It's really frustrating," Hendrix said. "We are going. It's just a matter of how and when."

Suzi Saldi, a junior political science-Spanish major from Philadelphia, Pa., also had difficulties with her flight to the Dominican Republic.

"I kind of knew it would be canceled," Saldi said. "American is going to take my ticket, but it's going to cost \$50 more."

Many passengers are looking to other airlines to honor their Eastern tickets, said Jackie Pate, manager of public relations for Delta Airlines.

"We're making a decision on a day-by-day basis," Pate said. Delta is

exchanging full-fare first-class and full-fare coach tickets if the tickets are confirmed, Pate said.

"We've accommodated a lot of Eastern passengers. We have accommodated them with our existing flights," Pate said.

Most airlines have interline agreements, and students should be flexible and keep trying if they are faced with a problem, Pate said.

American Airlines is exchanging Eastern first-class and coach tickets and discount tickets endorsed by Eastern, said Mary O'Neill, spokeswoman for American Airlines.

"At this point we have a proposal to Eastern to accept discount tickets without endorsements," O'Neill said.

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Anything's within walking distance if you have the time.— Steven Wright