

5 skiers found alive after four nights in mountain back region

GUNNISON, Colo. (AP) — Five skiers who disappeared in treacherous mountain back country turned up alive Tuesday after surviving four nights of subzero weather.

Two of them walked into a trading post near here and called authorities. Hours later, the others were found alive, said rescuer Tom McCabe.

The three were in reasonably good condition, authorities said.

The location of the three ended an intensive, three-day search of the rugged back country between here and Aspen, 45 miles to the north.

Their ordeal began when the three set out Friday with four other skiers on a planned two-night trip. Two from the group made it to safety Saturday.

Earlier Tuesday, Ken Torp, 50, of Denver, former chief of staff for ex-Gov. Richard Lamm, and Elliott Brown, 43, of Golden, reached a trading post in Taylor Park and called officials from a pay phone.

Torp and Brown told Taylor Park residents they broke into privies and cabins, and melted snow for drinking water to stave off dehydration during their ordeal. They were tired, hungry and dehydrated when officials reached them. Taylor Park, 35 miles northeast

of here, is about 15 miles southeast of where the men disappeared Saturday and about 30 miles south of Aspen, where they began their ski excursion Friday.

Several hours after Torp and Brown turned up, the three others were spotted by a helicopter in heavily wooded mountain country 15 miles south of Aspen. They were Brigitte Schluger, 50, an art gallery owner, Rob Dubin, 38, and his wife Dee, 40, owners of a video production firm. All three are from Denver.

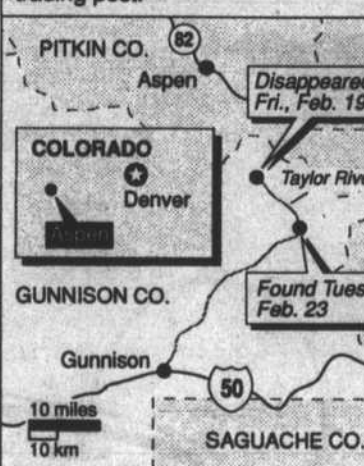
The Army Chinook helicopter that found the three took them to Aspen Valley Hospital, said Joe DiSalvo, a Pitkin County sheriff's deputy.

Torp and Brown told residents they had spent the night in an empty cabin at Dorchester, an abandoned mining town near here, then skied into Taylor Park. "It was kind of a surprise to see some unfamiliar faces around our area because we know no one could get in or get out," Jana Cranor, a Taylor Park resident, said of the men.

The road from Gunnison to Taylor Park had been closed by avalanches, "so we figured they were some of the lost skiers," she said.

Skiers found

2 of the 5 skiers followed the Taylor River to Taylor Park where they phoned authorities from a trading post.



Defense secretary still hospitalized from fatigue

Aspin said to be improved after having breathing difficulties

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defense Secretary Les Aspin remained hospitalized for additional tests on Tuesday, but was "significantly improved" from the acute fatigue and breathing difficulties that struck him Sunday and likely will be released in another day or so, a spokesman said.

Bob Hall, Aspin's doctors reported that a lingering case of bronchitis compounded the defense secretary's difficulties over the weekend, which began with an adverse reaction to a routine inoculation.

Hall, at a Pentagon briefing, said the doctors advised Aspin, 54, to remain in Georgetown University Hospital for a third night. At the White House, spokesman George Stephanopoulos said Aspin was doing some work in his room, in the hospital's intensive care unit.

Hall said Aspin was due to undergo further examination and evaluation during his additional time in the hospital. The spokesman declined to say what the exams or tests entailed, nor would he identify the physicians involved.

Aspin was hospitalized late Sunday after suffering shortness of breath.

The problems were linked to a pre-existing heart condition described as hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, a thickening of the heart muscle that can make it difficult for the organ to pump blood.

In a statement read to reporters, Hall said the breathing problems apparently were touched off by a typhoid inoculation that triggered a fever.

"These two problems compounded to aggravate the effects of his underlying heart condition and produce the acute symptoms of fatigue and shortness of breath he experienced Sunday night when he went to the hospital," Hall said.

In previous statements on Aspin's health, there had been no mention of fatigue or that the symptoms were "acute."

Hall said Aspin's physicians also "now believe that a lingering bout of bronchitis that he had for about a week prior to receiving the inoculations played a part in his overall condition."

Aspin is receiving antibiotics to counter the bronchitis, the spokesman said, adding that the doctors find him "significantly improved." The secretary "should be out in a day or so," Hall said.

Hall confirmed that Aspin had the inoculation in preparation for a trip to visit the U.S. troops in Somalia.

ASUN to consider pothole bill

Senator hopes proposal will alleviate problems with parking lot repairs

By Andrea Kaser
Staff Reporter

ASUN will consider a bill tonight that would call for its president to ask for volunteers to fill potholes "with any material of their choosing" if UNL Parking Services does not repair them within five days.

"They could fill it with marshmallows or dirt, it doesn't matter to me," said Doug Oxley, senator for the Graduate College and sponsor of the bill.

The bill is just a symbolic action, he said, to make a point.

"We're sick of having inadequate facilities that threaten our safety."

Oxley said he wrote the bill after driving over a pothole wider than his car and 6 inches deep, in an Area 20 parking lot on 14th Street.

He complained to the University of Ne-

braska-Lincoln Parking Services, and it took them nearly a month to repair the hole, he said.

Michael Cacak, interim parking administrator, said he wasn't aware of the bill or of Oxley's complaint.

"Without knowing all the particulars, it's hard to comment," he said.

Cacak said that a month was too long for a response, but added that icy conditions could have prevented immediate repair of the pothole.

He said he would check today for similar complaints.

Oxley admitted there probably would be legal ramifications for those who took it upon themselves to fill potholes because the action involves university property.

However, he said, that section of the bill probably would be amended.

If the bill is amended to exclude the call for volunteer pothole-filling, it would state only that ASUN commends Parking Services for its prior efforts, and it expresses its concern about the safety hazard of potholes.

Also tonight, members of Students Creating Opportunities in Pursuit of Equity, will meet with members of ASUN.

PARTY announces platform

By Matt Woody
Staff Reporter

For those who think student government must be a high-stress process that should be taken extremely seriously, Steve Dietz has one word: relax.

Dietz, the presidential candidate for the PARTY party, discussed his group's ideology at a press conference Tuesday in the Nebraska Union.

"We are a group of students seeking election — in this case, for the sole purpose of conveying the views and concerns of UNL's students to our faculty, administrators and state officials," he said.

While PARTY wants to go about business with a sense of humor, Dietz said, fun and games are not the only things on the agenda.

"Although we do plan to poke fun at this thing which has caused so many students to become disillusioned and lose faith in their representatives, this bid for office is far from a joke," he said.

PARTY's ticket includes Dietz, Leslie Strong for first vice-president and Matt Maser for second vice-president. Strong coordinated Rape Awareness Week last semester and Maser has

repeatedly proven himself as a member of ASUN's Committee for Fees Allocation, Dietz said.

The university's budget is something that must be dealt with, Dietz said. That is nothing new, he said, but a more effective evaluation process must be used.

PARTY also wants to create a President's Advisory Council to address multicultural issues.

Dietz said the council would eliminate bureaucracy, allowing students to go directly to the ASUN president, who, in turn could go directly to the NU Board of Regents.

PARTY wants to take a look at UNL's dry-campus policy, Dietz said, because the reality is that students drink alcohol.

He urged students to take a look at both party platforms and rebuke the mentality that one vote does not matter.

Regardless of who students vote for, Dietz said, the important thing is that they do vote so they can feel some connection to their representatives.

Three debates are scheduled between the candidates of the PARTY and VOICE parties. The first one is today at noon in the East Campus Union.

Union Board discusses utility budget

From Staff Reports

The UNL Union Board discussed its utility budget at its meeting Tuesday in the East Nebraska Union.

Board president Colin Theis said the board was attempting to respond to a possible rejection of its utilities budget by the Committee for Fees Allocation.

The Union Board is given roughly \$180,000 per year for utilities, mostly for heating and cooling the unions. In the past, budget requests were made based on figures for previous years.

However, CFA asked the Union Board to use a different formula for predicting the budgets. The formula, called "the degree-day formula," is based on the average temperature for a given day as compared to the actual temperature that day, Theis said.

"That request will lower the amount we get by \$5,000 this year," Theis said. "CFA cares about the degree-day program because it's less money they'll allocate to us."

"Problem is, last year was a cold year, so the cost is more than the degree-day figure."

Theis said he did not know whether or not CFA could rescind approval of the budget after approving it unanimously, but that it would probably try. He said the Union Board had not yet planned a response.

"I don't know what they'll do," he said. "But we won't make a move until they do."

In other business, the board discussed the smoking policy in unions at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Theis said the board was exploring different smoking policies at the unions, but would delay action until receiving word from Vice Chancellor John Goebel.

"I think our decision will depend on what Goebel decides, if he wants to see the unions smoke-free or restricted," he said. "If we had the option, we would have sections for smoking, more limited but sectioned off by glass walls."

Theis said he hoped to see the situation resolved in the near future.

"We have representatives meeting with him (Goebel) this week or next week," Theis said.

Also at the meeting, the board heard a proposal by Mark Petersen, a member of Ecology Now, to establish a car pool system in the Nebraska Union.

The system, if established, would post a map of Lincoln, divided into grid sections, in the Nebraska unions. Students who need rides or could give them could fill out cards and send them to the ASUN Student Information Office.

The board postponed the issue until its next meeting, scheduled for March 9 at the Culture Center.

other university functions, including last semester's Engineering Week festivities.

Spanier said when he goes around the state to give speeches or attend meetings, he'll open the event with a couple of quick tricks, whether it be with a playing card or a silk scarf.

"I like to begin events that way," he said. "Of course, sometimes I don't have a choice. A lot of people have heard that I'm a magician and then they ask me to do a trick or two."

Magic

Continued from Page 1

"I was once known as Granam the Clown," he said. "But I kind of got bored with that, so I decided to branch out."

Spanier said he taught himself magic tricks with the help of several books by magicians and by watching television.

He also got some help from his wife, Sandra, and her parents when

the Spaniers visited them in Des Moines.

"My wife's parents owned a magic shop in Des Moines," Spanier said. "Usually, while she was shopping at the mall, I would spend my time in the magic shop."

Influenced by the magic shop, the books and television magicians, Spanier took his act on the road. He has continued to do the magic programs at UNL.

Besides Tuesday's magic performances, he's done shows for several

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