

East Coast reels in wake of brutal storm

By The Associated Press

The last group of 24 Michigan campers was rescued by helicopter from the snowy Appalachian wilderness Tuesday, four days after they were stranded by a crushing storm that pulverized the East and killed more than 200 people from Cuba to Canada.

Travelers remained snowbound in rugged areas, and survivors struggled to put their lives back in order.

The death toll reached 219, and 48 people were missing at sea off Florida and Nova Scotia.

States not accustomed to heavy snow tried to reach people stranded by buried roads. Thousands still had no electrical service since the storm began Friday.

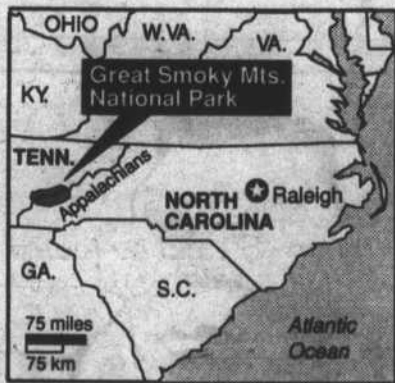
North Carolina's governor toured coastal fishing villages, where residents were trying to dry muddy floors and furnishings.

Mabel Shelton of Stumpy Point steadied herself with a walker as she picked through soaked possessions.

"I've cried and cried," she told Gov. Jim Hunt.

Schools remained closed Tuesday in parts of 11 states: Alabama, West Virginia, Georgia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Florida, Kentucky, Maryland, North Carolina, Virginia and Massachusetts.

Damage estimates in Florida alone were as high as \$1 billion. State and local governments in Pennsylvania have spent \$60 million just to open enough roads so emergency vehicles could pass; before the storm, the state had spent \$75 million total so far this year on snow removal.



And the National Weather Service warned Tuesday that much of the eastern part of the country is likely to face springtime flooding because of the storm.

"The volume of water that fell as snow may be unprecedented," Frank Richards, chief of the Weather Service's special studies branch, said at a news conference in Washington.

The Michigan campers were among a group of 117 who set out more than a week ago and had been scheduled to emerge from the woods Tuesday.

Most had been found Monday, leaving 21 students and three teachers missing.

They were located Tuesday afternoon in the Hazel Creek area near Fontana Lake in North Carolina, said Col. Larry Shelton of the Tennessee Air National Guard.

"They're all fine," said Ray Carson, spokesman for the exclusive

Cranbrook Kingswood Upper School in Bloomfield Hills, Mich. One teacher among those rescued Monday was hospitalized in serious condition.

A team co-leader, Meghan Wealis of Bloomfield Hills, said the group knew they were in trouble Friday. She said they didn't try to walk out as scheduled Tuesday because they knew they couldn't.

Jennifer Makenzie, 15, a sophomore, said she was scared by the conditions after the storm.

"When we saw the helicopters we started jumping up and down in the snow waving everything colored we could find. We were elated. If there's one word I can use to describe it, it's elated."

Tennessee officials said more than 150 hikers, campers and fishermen have been rescued by helicopter from snowbound wilderness areas in the eastern part of their state and at least 50 others were being sought.

And while road clearing was progressing, approximately 1,055 storm victims remain in 33 eastern Tennessee shelters, the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency said.

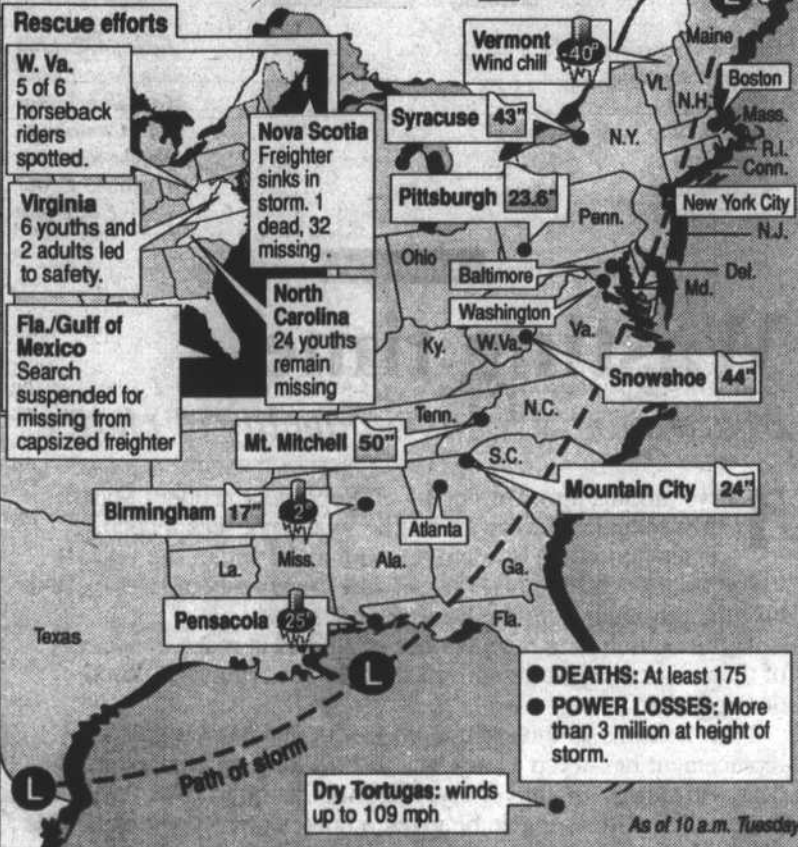
Helicopter crews rescued more stranded hikers Tuesday in northern Georgia.

Hundreds of Georgia residents were snowbound, but state officials had no idea how many because the worst-hit areas were so remote, said Ken Davis, a spokesman for the Georgia Emergency Management Agency.

Georgia rescue workers fear they may find more casualties when they finally get through 8-foot snowdrifts blocking back roads in the mountains.

Blizzard of '93

Some facts and figures on the storm that paralyzed the South and East Coast:



Source: AP Research, AccuWeather, Inc.

Job outlook called dismal

Large portfolios help job hunters, UNL official says

By Neil Feldman
Staff Reporter

With a lagging economy and increased competitiveness in the job market, the outlook for seniors hunting for jobs is bleak, said one UNL official.

Larry Routh, director of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Career Planning and Placement Center, said students with a particularly extensive portfolio had an edge over graduates who lack experience.

Routh said certain fields, most notably the medical profession, had less competitive markets. Other occupational areas, however, mandate more than a degree.

Career-related work, internships and volunteer work increase a senior's chance of success in the market, Routh said.

"The larger the portfolio," Routh said, "the better you look to an employer."

A stumbling economy, which has led to a raft of layoffs and job cutbacks, is the principal reason for the difficulties in the job search, Routh

said. He also pointed out that many overqualified people had been forced to apply for entry-level positions in an effort to support their families.

"It is not uncommon for a person with a graduate degree and five or more years experience to compete with a senior in an undergraduate program for the same job."

He said employers often viewed the applications with a bias toward the experienced individual.

Routh emphasized that grade point average and curriculum still weighed heavily when applying for jobs, but employers want to see more.

"The student who builds a respectable portfolio while in college is the student who will do well when job-hunting season comes around," he said.

Routh said he was also frustrated by the situation. He said it was difficult for him to see so many anxious students rejected by employers.

Routh said he did not anticipate any kind of sudden change in the job market in the near future.

He did, however, make it known that students who combine a respectable grade point averages with large, career-related portfolios would always be ahead of the students scoring high in the classroom but lacking proof to display their expertise in their fields.

Break

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Groups of four can stay in a hotel for \$129 per person or in a condominium for \$139 per person.

Condo lodging in Colorado is very limited, and Sunchase packages include lift tickets and lodging only.

Travel agencies have not received many requests for ski trip information this year.

"I think everyone is sick of the cold and they're ready to go somewhere warm," Crist said.

Lodging in Colorado may be found in Dillon for around \$75 a night at hotels like Super 8 and Days Inn. Some require a minimum of five nights' stay, while others require a deposit. Dillon is less than 20 miles from Keystone, Copper Mountain and Breckenridge ski areas.

Travel to the Colorado ski areas is cheapest if one drives his or her own car. Car rentals vary in price, and most require that the renter be 25

years old and have a major credit card. Those older than 21 may be able to rent a car through some agencies if a deposit of \$100 to \$200 is made, a spokesman from Regatta's Travel said.

A Greyhound bus ticket from Lincoln to Denver is \$116.50. Buses from Denver to the ski resort are available. AmTrak trains to Winter Park are virtually booked. Airfare is about \$640.

Fort Lauderdale has also been heralded as a spring break hot spot. Lodging is available, but most places require a five-night minimum. Most cost about \$150 per night.

Mary Miesbach of AAA TravelAir said fare from Lincoln to Fort Lauderdale was \$420 with no advance registration. However, tickets can cost up to \$1,100.

Travel agents warned that package tours could be deceiving. They recommended reading the fine print and asking if a deposit was required and was refundable.

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