

# Storm causes 75 deaths

**By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Lashed by a storm piling up deep snow whipped by violent winds, the East Coast shuddered Monday in the icy grip of a record-breaking cold wave extending from Florida to Maine.

The blizzard, and extreme cold in other areas, contributed to at least 75 deaths from highway accidents, fires and heart attacks in 16 states.

The severe storm swept up the coast over the weekend, leaving cold behind and virtually paralyzing travel in major cities of the populous Northeast, including the nation's capital.

Two states struck the hardest, Delaware and Virginia, declared a state of emergency. Two feet of snow fell in some parts of Virginia and National Guard units were ordered to help clear clogged highways in Delaware.

In northern and central Florida, the gigantic citrus crop was threatened by freezing temperatures.

Thousands of travelers were inconvenienced as airports in Washington, New York, Baltimore, Boston, Philadelphia and Montreal were "socked in" by conditions that made take-offs and landings almost impossible on ice-caked runways.

Washington struggled under 16 inches of snow — the worst accumulation in the city in 44 years. The storm dumped 12 new inches of snow with four inches still on the ground from a storm a week ago.

Federal government and city employees in the capital were told to stay away from work in the morning except for emergencies. However, Congress was scheduled to meet.

State legislative sessions were canceled in Albany, N.Y., and Annapolis, Md.

With driving conditions extremely hazardous, schools were closed in many of the states. At Ithaca, N.Y., about 2,000 Cornell University students were given an extra day to prepare for mid-term examinations.

Icy roads and drifting snow were the main hazards, with visibility cut to zero in many areas. Portions of key state highways were shut down and hundreds of motorists were stranded.

In one of the worst traffic accidents, 40 persons were injured Sunday night in a series of chain-reaction collisions on New York's Thruway between Rochester and Buffalo.

Frigid temperatures and gale-force winds, rather than the snow, created the most misery in many states.

Fifteen-to 20-foot waves were reported in Narragansett Bay in Rhode Island, flooding low-lying coastal areas. Winds up to 60 miles an hour buffeted some parts of the New Jersey shore.

In Pittsburgh, officials at one church had to pour gasoline on the ground and light it to melt ice and snow so a handful of earth could be chipped away for a ground-breaking ceremony.

The cold blast dipped into the Deep South, as temperatures skidded to a subzero level in parts of Georgia. In Atlanta, a reading of three below zero was recorded, a low for the date.

The community of Russellville in north Alabama reported an all-time low of 24 degrees below zero.

Florida officials described the cold wave as their worst in 30 years and expressed fears that the state's citrus crop might be damaged. Growers on the northern fringe of the citrus belt set out smudge pots. Other crops, such as potatoes and cabbage, were damaged by below-freezing readings in many parts of the state.

The states, and their conditions, hardest hit by the storm included:

**District of Columbia:** Traffic paralyzed in 16 inches of snow, the worst accumulation in 44 years. All public and parochial schools closed. Federal and city employees excused from work for at least part of today. Air, rail and road travel disrupted.

**Maryland:** Legislative session at Annapolis canceled. Snowfall ranging from 12 to 18 inches with drifts up to seven feet. Gale warnings on Chesapeake Bay. Friendship International Airport closed.

**Delaware:** A state of emergency declared. Paralyzing cold and drifting snow.

**Virginia:** A state of emergency declared. High winds and sub-freezing temperatures with nearly two feet of snow and drifts up to 10 feet in mountainous areas.

**West Virginia:** Schools closed today in at least 26 counties.

**Georgia:** Subzero temperatures in central and northern portions of state; dangerous driving conditions.

**New York:** Legislative session at Albany canceled Tuesday; hundreds of schools closed. Snow accumulations up to 15 inches upstate. Seven inches in New York City with air travel disrupted.

Elsewhere in the country, a severe cold spell kept its grip on the Midwest. In Chicago, the temperature climbed above zero for the first time in 69 hours Sunday afternoon but a reading of 15 degrees below zero in the early morning hours tied a record for the date.

In the Far West, a freak storm pelleted Southern California. One inch of rain, accompanied by hail, fell in the Los Angeles area and other southern portions of California were hit by lightning, thunder, and snow.



**PAPAL AUDIENCE**—Pope Paul VI welcomes Mrs. John F. Kennedy at the Vatican where she was received in a private audience Monday. They talked for 15 minutes in the Pontiff's private studio in the Apostolic Palace.

## Foul play indicated in death

**DES MOINES (AP)** — There were indications Monday that foul play was involved in the death of Donald Nervig, 52, Des Moines automotive shop owner.

Polk County Sheriff Wilbur Hildreth said Sunday that County Medical Examiner, Dr. Leo Luka told him that Nervig sustained a severe blow.

Hildreth said Dr. Luka has not released his final report because he wants to make more tests on tissues taken from the body.

Nervig disappeared Dec. 14. His body was found last week in a gully north of here.

Donald Leroy Kyger, 26, of Des Moines, was the last person known to have seen Nervig alive, police said.

Kyger told officers he met Nervig at a downtown Des Moines bar. He said they had several drinks, then drove to a point near the city limits where they got into an argument and Nervig got out of the car.

## Too cold to start tests

**STEVENS POINT, Wis. (AP)** — The National Safety Council ran into problems Monday in attempts to start its annual skidding and tire-traction tests on ice.

It was just too cold.

Test director Gus Whitehurst said temperatures, ranging from a high of zero to a low of 19 below Sunday, made it impossible to prepare the necessary nine acres of smooth, slick ice and threatened to delay the tests.

"The water freezes before it can spread out," he explained.

## All about Iowa

**DES MOINES** — Postmaster General Lawrence F. O'Brien will be the featured speaker at a Democratic Congressional Testimonial "Gala" here Feb. 25. The "Gala" is planned as a testimonial for Iowa's six Democratic congressmen — John Schmidhauser, John Culver, Bert Bandstra, Neal Smith, Stanley Greigg and John Hanson.

**DES MOINES** — Democratic precinct caucuses will be held in Iowa March 28, State Chairman Lex Hawkins has announced. County conventions will be held May 6. The conventions of the seven congressional districts will be held here June 10, and the state convention will be held the next day. The legislative conventions will be held after the state convention, with the date to be announced later.

**IOWA CITY** — The University of Iowa will grant degrees to an estimated 600 students at mid-winter commencement exercises Saturday morning. Dr. Howard Bowen, University president, will confer the degrees and also will deliver the traditional charge to the graduates.

**DUBUQUE** — Four Loras College debaters and a faculty moderator left here Sunday for the annual Harvard Invitational Debate Tourney at Harvard University. The five are: Michael McElliott, Manchester; James Dower, Bettendorf; Dennis McWilliams, Shullsburg, Wis.; James Malone, Wauwatosa, Wis.; and a speech instructor Adrian Prana.

**CEDAR RAPIDS** — Cedar Rapids Mayor Robert Johnson has thwarted rumors that he would seek the Republican nomination for governor or run for Congress. Johnson said in a letter to State GOP Chairman Robert Ray that he has decided "I have a full responsibility to the people of Cedar Rapids who elected me with the belief I would stay on the job here throughout this term of office."

**OSKALOOSA** — Relatives of Warren Everett Phillips, 39, of Oskaloosa have been informed that he was killed in combat in Viet Nam. Phillips was a Spec. 4 with the 101st Airborne Division. His mother, Mrs. George Zearfoss, lives in Oskaloosa; and his father, John Phillips, lives at Delta.

**DES MOINES** — Former State Safety Commissioner William F. Sueppel has been named by Gov. Harold Hughes to head a "Citizens for Hughes" organization for this year's election campaign. Sueppel, 36, resigned Jan. 1 after serving 2½ years as safety commissioner to enter private law practice at Iowa City.

## To treat Turkish president in U.S.

**ANKARA, Turkey (AP)** — Ailing President Cemal Gursel's departure for Washington has been delayed until Wednesday because of bad weather, government sources said Monday.

Gursel, 72, was to have left Monday by U.S. Air Force plane for medical treatment at Walter Reed Army Hospital.



**BLOW THEIR TOPS** — Cream rises from the tops of two cracked bottles, decorated to illustrate Wisconsin's spell of cold weather. Chuck Valone of the Racine Journal Times used ear muffs and a muffer to clothe the painted bottle on the left, apparently astonished at the antics of the thermometer-bottle next to it.

**ATTORNEY DIES**  
**DETROIT (AP)** — Charles H. Mahoney, 79, the first American Negro delegate to the United Nations and a one-time associate counsel to attorney Clarence Darrow, died in Detroit Saturday.

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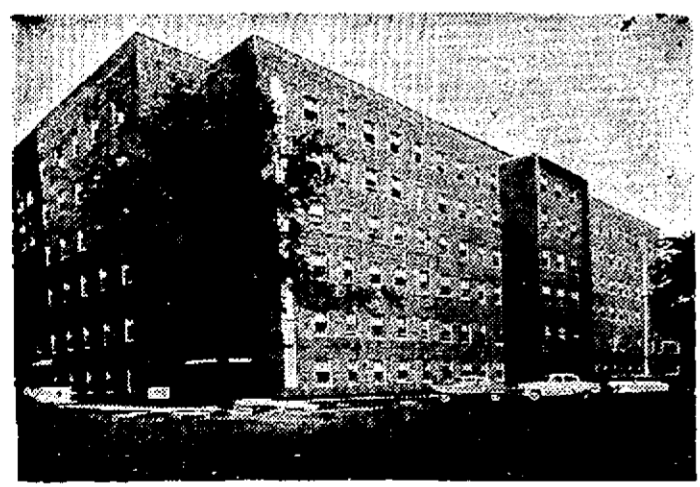
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