

6A Wed., April 7, 1982 Minneapolis Star and Tribune



Mary Szczyblewski of Toledo, Ohio, hauled his snowblower out of storage and filled it with gasoline Tuesday after 7 1/2 inches of snow fell.

Record snow, cold strike northern portion of country

An historic April blizzard paralyzed the Northeast on Tuesday with foot-deep snow and hurricane-force winds, while record cold settled on the Midwest.

The blizzard, which swept from Ohio through New England, brought travel to a virtual standstill in Boston and New York. Schools and factories closed, offices emptied, airports shut down, cars and trucks smacked into each other, people were urged to stay home.

Veteran New York newscaster Jim Dunne of WCBS had his latest. "On this date in 1969, Admiral Robert Peary reached the North Pole. Today, the North Pole came to us."

The National Weather Service said New York City had 10-inch snowfalls in April in 1915 and in 1975, but neither qualified as a blizzard.

By late afternoon, snow accumulations had reached almost 10 inches in Manhattan, with 12 inches in some suburbs. In Albany, N.Y., where the weather service had forecast 2 to 4 inches, more than 13 inches had fallen and it was still snowing.

Boston residents, remembering the blizzard of 1978 that shut down most of the state for more than a week, jammed into grocery stores to stock up on food. By midday, it was a city of empty office buildings, vacant parking lots and streets clogged by drifting snow.

One man involved in a pileup of 50 cars and trucks on Interstate Hwy. 89 near Marlboro, Mass., said, "It was like someone breaking a rack of pool balls. Cars were sliding all over the place."

In upstate New York, forest rangers searched for eleven missing teenagers who had gone hiking to the Catskill Mountains. 12 others, who had been missing emerged from the mountains.

In Boston, where depths were expected to reach 14 inches, Logan International Airport was shut down. T-1 and gates were closed at 7:30 a.m. at the Blue Hills Observatory in Mt. Mans. Gusts of 54 m.p.h. were measured in Boston.

The storm dropped a foot of snow on Cleveland, bringing the season total to a record 116 inches. It also toppled a lighthouse and forced authorities to evacuate families from several communities along the shore of Lake Erie.

"Old Man Winter is really shaking his stick at us all," said meteorologist Charlie Schlotz at Newark International Airport, which was closed. He

Swap

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The Puerto Rican proposal illustrates what might happen if the states were required to take full responsibility for the food stamp program, as Reagan proposed. The federal government now pays the full cost of food stamp benefits. It pays approximately half the cost of Medicaid and welfare benefits, with the states paying the rest.

Congress, alarmed at the growing cost of the food stamp program in Puerto Rico, established a block grant for nutrition assistance on the island. The federal government is providing a flat sum of \$25 million a year, which represents 75 percent of the anticipated cost of the food stamp program in Puerto Rico this year.

Josario Coliano Coliano, secretary of social services in Puerto Rico, said yesterday that he wanted to "cash out" the food stamp program starting July 1. Poor people then would receive checks rather than food stamp coupons, he said.

Fifty-six percent of Puerto Ricans — more than 1.2 million of the island's 3.3 million residents — receive food stamps. The low wage levels and the high rate of unemployment, now more than 20 percent, account for the large number of people in the program, Coliano said.

More than half of the families receiving food stamps in Puerto Rico have annual incomes of less than \$3,000; 92 percent of the families have incomes of less than \$5,000 a year.

Pills

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were for migraine headaches. It turned out the DEA number wasn't correct, that "Dr. Mee didn't have a patient named Green, and so I called the police."

Riley Gilchrist, a satellite officer, was waiting across the street about noon when "Richard Green" walked into the pharmacy. Police said "Green" was really Sweetland, according to identification letters found in his wallet.

Evel Fisher, the pharmacist, said that she was waiting for Gilchrist to come into the pharmacy, but that Sweetland became suspicious over the delay and started to leave. As he went outside, she said, he ran into Gilchrist and a scuffle broke out. Gilchrist said he pulled his gun and said: "Stop or I'll shoot."

Because of conflict of interest problems, Chief Hennepin County District Judge Harold Kalish Tuesday signed a special order at the request of the Hennepin County's Attorney Office to have a Ramsey County prosecutor try Sweetland's case if and when a date is set.

Mary Winter, Sweetland's wife, who is a referee in Hennepin County Family Court, said she is "horrified and dismayed at what drug and what that war has done to him to make him chemically dependent — ever since he was in that hospital in '70 and '71."

"He was on massive addictive chemicals while he learned how to walk again. He had drug problems while in law school. He always fought back. If he was on any drug last week, then I didn't know about it."

She said Sweetland was drafted during the Vietnam War. He graduated from officer training school and became a reconnaissance leader in the 101st Airborne Division. He came

Canada strikers vote to impede oil deliveries

Associated Press

Montreal, Quebec — A slow-truck convoy of 500 striking Quebec service station operators on the road Tuesday night to try to prevent seven Montreal oil refineries from making deliveries.

Before voting to attempt to block oil deliveries, the independent dealers' union rejected a recommendation to reopen their stations for 24 hours in hopes negotiations between their 2,600-member union and the provincial government would begin today.

The strike began in eastern Quebec last week and has spread throughout most of Canada's largest province. An estimated 5,000 of Quebec's 7,200 gas stations remained closed. Independent operators are protesting a 20 percent provincial government surtax on gasoline and what they say is unfair treatment from major oil suppliers.

Outside Montreal, protest organizers have met little resistance in asking dealers to cooperate in shutting down. But in Montreal, the major companies are fighting back and have kept some self-service outlets open under police guard.

Austin, Texas — Between 600,000 and 900,000 undocumented workers currently live in Texas, the Governor's Task Force on Immigration was told Tuesday.

Dr. Frank Bean of the University of Texas said he compared results of two methods of counting — a demographic study of Mexican-American residents subtracted from the 1980 census count and a sex ratio study of the 1980 Mexican census to see how many in various age groups seemed to be missing. A third of those could be expected to emigrate to Texas, Bean said.

He pointed out that a U.S. Census estimate gave Texas a range of 750,000 to 1.7 million — with a midpoint of about 900,000.

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