

Minneapolis

STAR and Tribune

1A Metro

Friday
December 31, 1982
4 Sections
25¢ Single copy

Volume 11 Number 206

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Snowbirds will be tagged

Minneapolis and St. Paul extended snow emergencies into the weekend Thursday and announced plans to toughen up on tagging and towing cars left on streets scheduled for plowing. The schedules are:

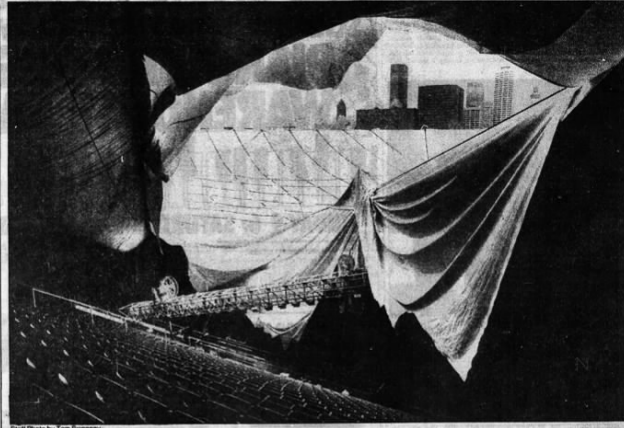
■ Minneapolis: The snow emergency begins at 10 p.m. Thursday on all snow emergency routes and will continue until 8 a.m. today. North-south streets will be plowed from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. today. East-west streets will be plowed from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. today. Vehicles can be moved to park and school parking lots until the snow emergency is over. The schedule is the same for the Southwest Special Plowing District.

■ St. Paul: The snow emergency begins at 10 p.m. Thursday on snow emergency routes and will continue until 8 a.m. today. North-south streets will be plowed from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. today. East-west streets will be plowed from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. today.

Meanwhile, city officials may announce today whether to impose parking restrictions similar to those of last winter.

(Details on the Metro News page.)

Once more, the dome is down



The Minnesota skyline was visible Thursday through the hole torn in the Metrodome roof. A light standard hung askew beneath the tear.

Vikings say Saturday is deadline for decision

By Randy Farns, Robert Wharrest and Jerald Rosenzweig
Staff Writers

Pete Ribar was standing on top of the Metrodome about 4 a.m. Thursday when he heard "tying and bolting" from a group of maintenance workers who had been moving snow off the fabric roof.

He said he looked over and saw a small, "hunched" man. Within a half hour, as Ribar and others struggled

It's beat the clock to fix the roof

to save the roof from further injury, the tear grew to 10 feet and the fiberglass roof collapsed. Afterwards, as the first panel flapped in the wind, the rip became 150 feet long.

Stadium officials were scrambling yesterday to make the repairs necessary to restitch the dome in time for Monday night's football game between the Minnesota Vikings and Dallas Cowboys.

Asked if the roof would be ripped to save the roof from further injury, the first grew to 10 feet and the fiberglass roof collapsed. Afterwards, as the first panel flapped in the wind, the rip became 150 feet long.

Don Posa, director of the Metropolitan Sports Facilities Commission, said last night that a replacement panel might be installed today and the game resumed tomorrow. The only obstacle that would prevent that, he said, is severe weather, which is not predicted.

When the dome's roof fell in November 1981, repair of the ripped panel and restitching took four days.

The first tear yesterday occurred at 2:50 a.m. Twenty temporary workers, hired to move away the last of the snow from the Monday night game, were on the east side of the roof. Some snow had ice into the bucket of a large crane.

A small "huncher" of hardened ice and snow slid down one of the hinges in the roof. As that weight was removed, the roof ran several feet, pressing against the bucket.

The snow had slumped against the side of the bucket. One worker caught underneath the bucket and partly buried in the buckets. Two other workers were thrown into the bucket by the force of the snow attack. No one was hurt.

A special crew should be able to install the panel in eight hours or less, Spiller said.

The dome could be inflated in two or three hours, so a Saturday delivery would mean that repairs could not be later than Sunday morning, and the air-supported dome could be inflated by Monday evening.

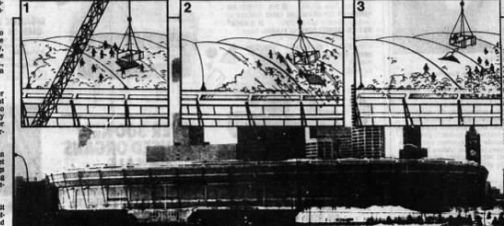
But Spiller admitted, "my timetable is not very good."

She would not estimate how long it would take Ribar to fabricate the panel. Work began yesterday noon after a call from the Metropolitan Sports Facilities Commission and will continue around the clock until the panel is finished.

The material is fiberglass that is woven in Massachusetts, U.S. by Chatham, Ribar's parent company. It is coated with Teflon by Chem-Tek in North Charleston, S.C. Then the fabric is shipped to Buffalo, where Ribar makes panels of proper size for the stadium's air-supported dome. It has roof.

When a panel is ordered, the edges

How the dome's fabric was torn



1. Workers on the east side of the dome placed snow and a bucket suspended from the crane. The bucket was only loaded over a protective sheet of plywood.

2. A small "huncher" of ice and snow slid down one of the hinges in the roof, loading the plywood away. As the snow's weight increased, the roof rapidly rose several feet, pressing against the bucket.

3. The bucket heeled from the pressure of the snow, and one of its corners tore a three-foot gap in the roof fabric. None of the workers were injured.

Roof builder says dome to be ready for game

By Tom Spiller
Staff Writer

The manufacturer of the fabric roof panels for the Metrodome is producing that a Monday night football game will be played in the dome despite Thursday morning's tear in the roof.

Briar Structures in Buffalo, N.Y., expects to deliver a 230-by-40-foot rectangular panel of coated fabric to Minneapolis sometime Saturday, according to Laura Spiller, Briar's public information officer.

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State finds clear need for Sherco 3 power plant

By Dana Rowland
Staff Writer

Construction of a \$1 billion power plant in Sherburne County was officially approved Thursday when a top state official determined that there is a clear need for the electricity it would produce.

Robert Reamer Jr., commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Energy, Planning and Development, filed that Northern States Power Co. (NSP) add two smaller utilities should be approved to begin building the coal-burning plant, called Sherco 3, next summer.

Reamer's decision is not the final approval for the plant, which is proposed by NSP, Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency and United Minnesota Municipal Power Agency. They also must obtain permits from other state agencies, including permits to discharge water into the air.

Reamer said the plant would be approved for the plant, Reamer decided that the utilities have proved — as required by Minnesota law — that its 800 megawatts of power will be needed by 1988. There's what he determined that Sherco 3 should be allowed to begin generating electricity.

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Almanac

Friday, December 31, 1982
26th day; Happy New Year
Sunrise 7:51; Sunset 4:41

Today's weather
Partly cloudy skies and a high in the 20s are forecast for the Twin Cities. Winds will be from the southwest at 10 to 20 miles per hour.

No change
Partly cloudy skies and a high in the 20s are forecast for the Twin Cities. Winds will be from the southwest at 10 to 20 miles per hour.

Shooting of Dakota Dome saves it from collapse

By Robert Wharrest
Staff Writer

They reunited in violence Monday night in Vermillion, S.D., to save the University of South Dakota's dome stadium. They did it.

The same design, look seven direct hits and wounded, eventually dislodged thousands of gallons of water, according to Dr. Joseph McPhedon, university president.

The dome problem in Vermillion is the equivalent source of South Dakota's dome stadium. They did it.

It was the same storm, driven by the same strong winds that caused water-tanks here to hold up and crack over a portion of the Dakota Dome's roof. The interior of the roof, like the Metrodome, is heated with warm

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