

THE ADDISON INDEPENDENT

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Area endures cold, wet slap from Old Man Winter *Snow mounts close to two feet as business, schools, traffic shut down*

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No one can say they weren't warned.

As early as a week before a single snowflake fell, the weather forecasts warned that those in the Chicago area should stock their shelves and hunker down for the worst snowstorm in several years -- and they weren't kidding. But for once, rather than all the hype on the news dwindling to nothing in terms of snowfall, this time the prospects were right on the money. Like clockwork, as predicted, at about 3 p.m. on Tuesday afternoon Feb. 1, snow began falling and blowing almost horizontally and kept up a steady pace until about 10 a.m. on Wednesday morning. The resulting nearly

two feet of snowfall kept the area paralyzed and the people indoors.

Grocery stores were a buzz of activity on Monday evening and early Tuesday with customers picking up supplies to tide them over for the next few days which would be spent indoors watching cars, sidewalks, streets, even trees and bushes disappear under a thick blanket of what Mother Nature dropped.

Notices came frequently through the offices of the newspaper at regular intervals from the Village offering warnings, the School District issuing closings and cancellations, and news of the heroic efforts of the Illinois National Guard which had mobilized 500 soldiers and airmen to help stranded motorists in response to Governor

Pat Quinn's emergency declaration on February 1.

Early estimates Tuesday evening indicated more than 50 motorists were assisted, but National Guard officials said those numbers are extremely low because not all of the assistance had been documented due to the nature of the mission.

On Tuesday, Feb. 1 at approximately 3:15 p.m., Addison Mayor Larry Hartwig signed a Declaration of Emergency in the Village of Addison. On street parking was banned to allow for snow plows to clear streets and warming shelters were set up. Addison School District 4, Marquardt District 15, Addison Trail High School and Glenbard District 87 all cancelled classes for Wednesday, Feb. 2. St. Philip School

also closed for regular and religious education classes.

The Northeast DuPage Special Recreation Association (NEDSRA) and the Addison Park District canceled all programs on Wednesday and all facilities except for Club Fitness were closed. The Addison Public Library has cancelled several programs and closed at 3 p.m. on Tuesday and remain

closed all day Wednesday. Even satellite traffic court was cancelled on Wednesday.

The Public Works Department was out in full force during the storm. Residents were asked not to shovel or blow snow into the street and keep all nearby fire hydrants clear in

★ See COLD page 3

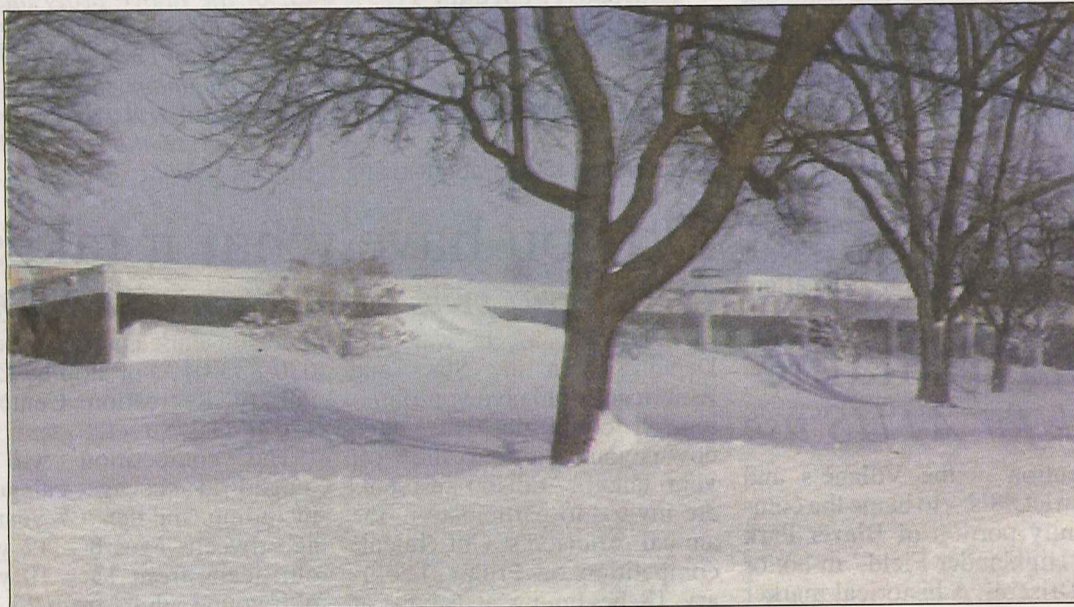


photo courtesy of Dist. 4 Schools

Hey, wasn't there a school here??

Army Trail School is buried almost to the roof by the snowfall that blanketed the entire Chicago area last week. Most schools were closed for the duration of the storm.



photos provided

Army Trail students enjoy early dismissal

Three boys made their way on top of a snow pile after Army Trail held an early dismissal due to the storm.