

Ice storm

Damage limited to trees, power

BY ADAM BEAM
THE GAMECOCK

Fallen tree limbs, canceled classes and power outages at The Roost and athletics department buildings seem to be the extent of damage USC suffered during an ice storm that left thousands in Columbia without power.

As of 4 p.m. on Tuesday, South Carolina Electric and Gas reported 100,000 people in the greater Columbia area were without power. Traffic lights in downtown Columbia also were experiencing problems. But at USC, only 180 students went without power at The Roost residence hall because a tree took out two of the three power lines into the building.

Housing Director Gene Luna approved \$3,200 to rent a 500-kilo-

watt generator for three days until SCE&G could restore power to the building.

"Without electricity we can't do anything," said second-year computer information systems student Jermaine Sims. "There is no hot water, and The Roost is so far out there is not really much to do."

The generator was delivered at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday. Luna said the generator would power the building and students wouldn't notice when the main power came back up.

Elsewhere USC grounds crews worked to clear fallen tree limbs and rope off areas that were dangerous for pedestrians. With wind forecasted for the late afternoon

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PHOTO BY MORGAN FORD/THE GAMECOCK

Winter weather conditions caused limbs to fall into the streets.



PHOTO BY DAVID STAGG/THE GAMECOCK

Students had a hard time trekking through the Horseshoe without getting wet as ice melted off the trees. USC maintenance workers projected significant tree loss from the storm.

Weather causes delay in SG filing deadline

BY JON TURNER
THE GAMECOCK

Because of an ice storm that shut the university down Monday and part of Tuesday, only one student has filed for Student Government president.

As an emergency measure, the filing deadline has been pushed back almost two days.

Elections

Commissioner Rachel Keisler explained the situation.

"We're extending filing through the rest of today, then all day tomorrow and half day Thursday," she said.

She said the lack of candidates was probably because of the chaos surrounding the school's closure and subsequent delay.

"I don't think anybody filed yet because, well, I know a lot of people have been without electricity," she said. "It's just mayhem. I think a lot more people will file."

SG Vice President Zach Scott was the only student to file for an executive position by the original 4 p.m. deadline Tuesday. Scott said he expected opposition.

"I think it's only been half a day," he said. "I think there are a lot of student leaders on this campus, and it would be a shame if they didn't file because they didn't think the job was right for them. The only way elections are effective is if several people come in with different issues."

In the absence of contenders for the positions, Scott emphasized the need for strong executive officers.

"I think different positions

◆ SG, SEE PAGE 3



PHOTO COURTESY OF KRT CAMPUS

Presidential hopeful Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.) stops motorists including this fireman to ask for support.

Kerry wins N.H. primary, Dean finishes second

BY RON FOURNIER
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MANCHESTER, N.H. — John Kerry overpowered Howard Dean to win New Hampshire's primary Tuesday, scoring a second-straight campaign victory to establish the four-term senator as the Democratic Party's presidential front-runner.

"I ask Democrats everywhere to join us so we can defeat George W. Bush and the economy of privilege," Kerry told supporters, promising to "reduce the poverty of millions rather than reducing the taxes of millionaires."

Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina and retired Army Gen. Wesley Clark were in a distant race for third. Sen. Joe

Lieberman of Connecticut, sagging to fifth place, rejected advice from some advisers to abandon his bid.

After trooping through coffee shops, country stores and living rooms of Iowa and New Hampshire, the candidates now

move to the cold realities of a national campaign — airport rallies and multimillion-dollar ad buys

in seven states holding contests next Tuesday.

Kerry, who reshaped the race with his stunning win in Iowa's caucuses Jan. 19, steams toward the cross-country contests emboldened with the aura of success to argue that he is the candidate best suited to oust President Bush in November.

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Edwards packed for S.C.

BY ROSS SNEYD
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MERRIMACK, N.H. — John Edwards said he was happy with his finish Tuesday in the New Hampshire Democratic presidential primary because it showed he was the candidate who consistently was improving each week.

The 13 percent of the vote he had in early returns in New Hampshire was a vast improvement over the single-digit support he had in the polls immediately after his second-place showing in Iowa last week, Edwards said.

"It's important for me to show I can move up," Edwards said.

The North Carolina senator was in a tight race with retired Gen. Wesley Clark for a distant third place, well behind Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry's first place and former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean's second.

Edwards, despite spending a good part of the past year campaigning in New Hampshire and holding more than 100 town hall meetings, could not overcome the built-in advantages of the New Englanders.

"They're from right next door," Edwards said of Kerry and Dean. "They're expected to do that."

"General Clark withdrew from Iowa and I finished second, so I'd argue I already made that case," he said.

Exit polls showed Edwards was most competitive among those who thought health care, education and the economy were the top issues — getting almost one in five among those voter groups.

Edwards declared himself the positive, optimistic candi-

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Expert assails mutual funds

USC law professor testifies before Congress about fraud in industry

BY Z'ANNE COVELL
THE GAMECOCK

USC law professor John P. Freeman testified before Congress yesterday in regard to fraud in the mutual fund industry.

Freeman said he was asked to speak because of his research and writing about the mutual fund industry's corruption.

"There's been a lot of press about what I've done," Freeman said. "I was invited by Sen. Fitzgerald of Illinois, who is concerned with the mutual fund shareholders and the scandal of how they are being treated, and he heard about my efforts and saw my name in the papers."

According to the statement Freeman presented to the Senate Subcommittee on Financial

Management, the Budget and International Security; the industry's external management, where an outside company manages the fund while simultaneously holding positions on the fund's board, creates a structure of conflicting interest and guarantees the external manager will treat the shareholders unfairly.

As a result of these conflicting interests, rampant fee overcharging commonly ensues but is often covered up by the management.

Freeman said shareholders need to become aware of the money they are losing to the industry. "This is important because there are 95 million Americans with mutual funds, and it's a serious problem," Freeman said. "Mutual funds are a \$7 trillion industry, and my research con-

cluded billions of dollars are being wrongfully diverted from the shareholders every year."

Philip Lacy, the law school's associate dean for academic affairs, said Freeman's work for the underdog will bring notoriety to the school.

"This is a major issue in the financial community, and he's one of the leading authorities on corporate fraud," Lacy said. "He is viewed as a champion of the little guy, and I think this reflects well on the school."

Freeman said that, unlike others, his position allows him to be both informed and impartial when testifying.

"Most people who are knowledgeable in this area work for the mutual fund industry, and they are not in a position to speak because they have conflicting interests," Freeman said. "I can be objective and fair even though I have major criticisms of how the funds are

being run."

Freeman, a USC law professor for 31 years, has been researching mutual funds throughout his schooling and his career.

"I've been involved in writing about the mutual fund industry since I was a kid in law school, and I've been doing it ever since," Freeman said. "As a lawyer I'm basically gathering and analyzing evidence and figuring out where it leads me."

Freeman's hearing lasts for only one day, but he says he would be more than willing to speak again in the future if he were invited.

"I'm not bashful about sharing my views," Freeman said.

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecocknews@gwm.sc.edu

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Weather

TODAY		THURSDAY	
High 47		High 55	
Low 23		Low 32	
Sunny, winds at 15 mph		Mostly sunny, winds at 8 mph	

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