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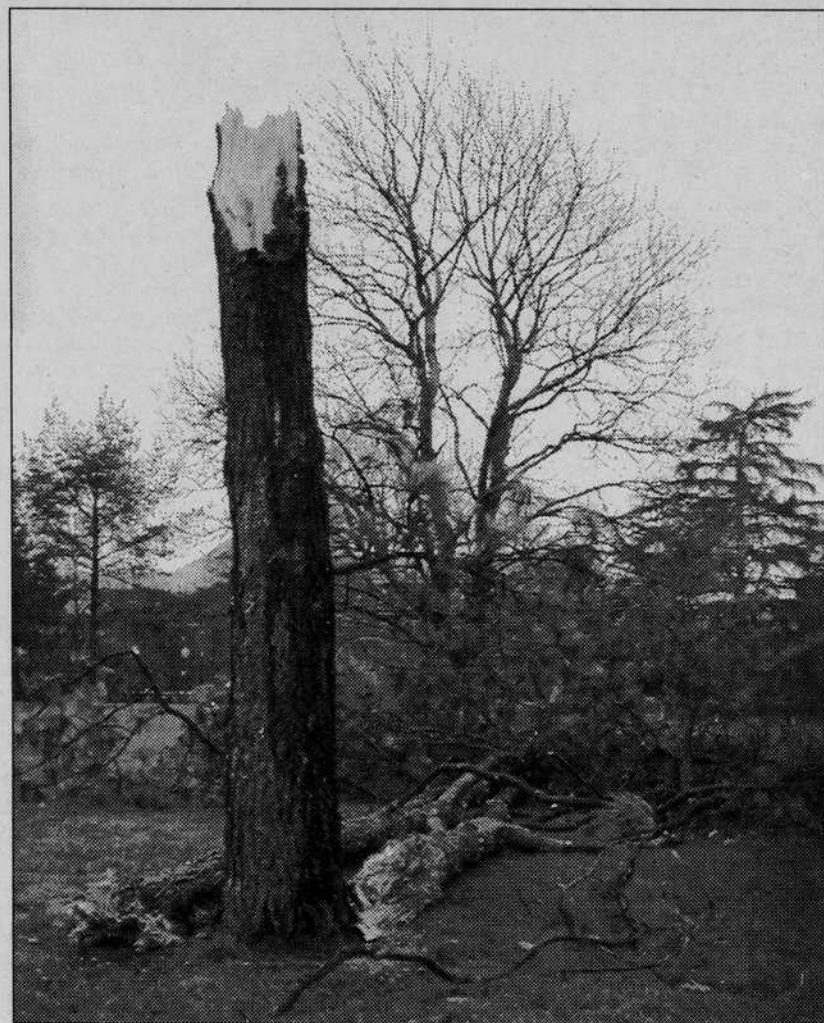
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Thomas Patterson Emerald



Erik Farleigh
(above) turns
on a lantern
to light his
Alder Street
apartment,
which lost
power during
Thursday
afternoon's
wind storm.

A shattered
stump (right)
remains where
a tree stood
earlier
Thursday. The
broken trunk
and
dismembered
branches were
spread across
the East Lawn
between
Carson Hall
and the EMU.

Russell Weller Emerald



Thomas Patterson Emerald

Storm

continued from page 1A

Sacred Heart Medical Center and McKenzie-Willamette Hospital both reported a handful of small injuries; McKenzie-Willamette lost main power and had to rely on back-up generators. Sacred Heart switched to the power generator after the building's lights began to flicker.

The wind snapped and uprooted thick tree trunks outside Deady Hall, the EMU and Pioneer Cemetery. A tree at the edge of cemetery, across University Street from McArthur Court, fell onto six parked cars and pinned a live power line to the ground.

Alan Jackson, from University Crowd Management, said two of the cars under the tree had broken windshields, and one truck directly under the tree looked to be bent in half. University student Gregory Abel, owner of the bent 1984 silver Mazda B-2000-SE5 truck, appeared to take the news in stride as he surveyed the damage.

"That's my truck. Was my truck," he said.

The downed line caused power surges in Mac Court, and maintenance officials there didn't try turning on the lights until 5:30 p.m. With the power line laying across the street and some cars, DPS blocked off University Street and only let people move cars on the Mac Court side of the street. Horner said DPS was waiting for the Eugene Water

and Electric Board to shut off the power.

But EWEB and the Eugene Police and Fire Departments were stretched thin responding to wind-related damage in the West University neighborhood and the Eugene-Springfield area.

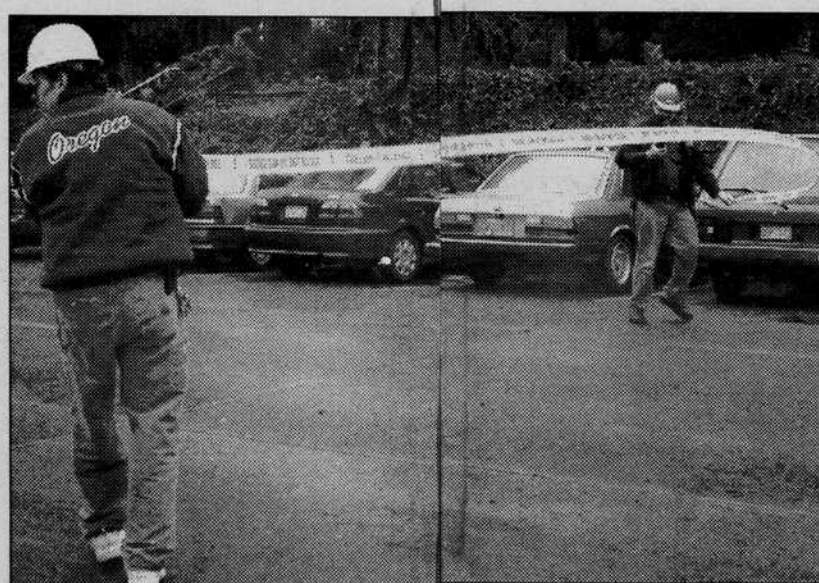
EWEB distribution planner Mel Taylor said five main transmission lines went down in the Eugene-Springfield area, causing about 15 percent of the system to shut down, but he expected 90 to 95 percent of EWEB customers would have their power restored by today.

EPD spokeswoman Pam Alejandre said every member of the Rapid Response Unit was dispatched to reports of downed power lines, small fires and malfunctioning traffic lights. The storm, which hit just as many people left work, caused major traffic jams on roads and highways.

A tree stuck a Lane Transit District bus at the corner of 13th Avenue and Pearl Street, but no injuries were reported.

"There are road closures in every part of the community," Alejandre said. "We've had hundreds of calls." More than 500 calls were made to the 911 Communications Center throughout the evening to report storm-related damage, according to EPD.

One of those campus calls came from the Aldersgate Quads at 1436 Alder St., where a tree broke and



Thomas Patterson Emerald

"I got up to adjust the TV antenna, and boom," Eugene resident Al Gaylord said. "We heard the crack of the electric line."

The tree knocked out power to most of the block, including the Chi Omega sorority house at 1461 Alder St. A fire officer on the scene said the tree tore off the facing from around the top of the apartment, but none of the buildings suffered structural damage.

"My apartment is fine, except for some paint coming off the walls," Gaylord said. "I'm amazed the window didn't bust in."

Elsewhere on campus, a falling branch hit a student's leg as the stu-

dent was crossing the EMU east lawn. Paramedics gave the student ice for the leg, and the student left the scene.

A Klamath Hall lab experienced a power outage that briefly shut down an exhaust control system that keeps fumes from experiments from building up.

"For all the stuff that went on, I think we were fortunate that more people weren't hurt," DPS Lt. Joan Saylor said.

Emerald staff members Kara Cogswell, Hank Hager, Michael J. Kleckner, Eric Martin and Leon Tovey contributed reporting to this story. E-mail managing editor Jeremy Lang at jeremylang@dailyemerald.com.

Duck fans brave dismal conditions

A downed power line caused by a fallen tree didn't stop the Oregon women from taking the floor at McArthur Court on Thursday.

And it sure didn't stop the 4,830 in attendance from coming to the game. Despite having to block off a portion of University Street, University officials were able accommodate fan parking near Mac Court.

Event manager Vicki Strand said that donor and disabled parking were most affected by the fallen tree, but of more concern was opening up the street to traffic. With the power line down, she said power surges inside McArthur Court were also a concern.

However, by game time, the most serious of problems had been fixed. The tree and power line have not been removed, but were not of enough concern to delay the game.

Strand said the Eugene Water and Electric Board is expected to come in and remove the power line, but only after surrounding debris can be cleared.

—Hank Hager

The National Weather Service predicts high pressure will build over the southern Willamette Valley on Friday, cutting off the showers.

Friday — Showers decreasing in the afternoon, with partial clearing and a south wind up to 15 mph. Highs near 50 and lows in the upper-30s are expected.



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