

Wrestlers brings home gold!
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POWER OUT

Erin Carey
Arts & Culture Editor

Students woke up Thursday, March 6 to messages alerting them to a major power outage on the Oregon City campus. Campus officials cancelled classes and sent home all non-emergency personnel for most of the day.

To the delight of many students that meant an extra day off to study for finals or just catch up on sleep. The power outage marked the third day officials closed campus due to weather-related emergencies this term.

A nearby tree belonging to Clackamas Fire District on South Molalla Ave. caused the outage. Around 3:10 a.m. Thursday, strong winds caused the oak tree to fall onto a power line that connects to CCC, said Bob Cochran, dean of campus services. Workers didn't restore power until approximately 2:45 p.m.

CCC spokeswoman Janet Paulson said she understood some teachers and students may be worried about missing class but pointed out the difference between a college and grade schools. "Our requirements for classes are not based on 'seat time' that you might find in a K-12 district," Paulson wrote in an email. "We have options such as hybrid or online. Our instructors work to ensure that students achieve course outcomes, which are not based on 'seat time.'"

This leaves a lot of instructors pushing to keep students up to date on their course work. Missing a day, much less three, can hurt students who rely on class time for help.

Teachers are scrambling to keep up with their course schedules.

It's not often that CCC has been forced to cancel its classes. The last time it faced a snowstorm like the one in February was in 2008, Paulson said. But that snowstorm fell between fall and winter terms, so the college didn't cancel classes.

Last Thursday, PGE worked quickly to repair the damage done to CCC's power and got the campus back up and running in time to make sure the evening classes could happen.

No one was hurt in last Thursday's incident, save for the giant oak tree that caused the damage.

Days after the outage, a sign in front of the fire station read "it did make a sound."

Campus policy says that classes must be cancelled if the power goes out for more than 30 minutes due to safety issues; campus fire alarms won't work without power. Campus buildings also don't have backup generators.

Officials follow established guidelines during emergencies such as power outages.

When the power goes out, alarms alert a plant engineer, which is what happened Thursday. "That's when he responded to find out what was going on," said Cochran.

Officials asked only emergency personnel to stay on campus. Still, other employees continued to show up to get work done, said Lloyd Helm, director of campus services.

A stern Flash Alert message reminded staff. "Any non-emergency staff on campus are asked to leave."

Helm said: "It was just a polite way of telling everyone to go home."

Contributed by Bob Cochran/Clackamas Community College

Last Thursday, an oak tree fell on a powerline connecting to CCC, causing a massive power outage.

Top 5 things you want to know about Ukraine

Chris Browarski
The Clackamas Print

If you've tried watching the news in the past few months, you've probably been alerted to the riots, chaos and overall craziness that has been going on in Ukraine.

If you're coming late to the party, then you might have a hard time catching up with the events.

Here are the quick answers to five questions you might be asking about the crisis in the region.

1. What is Ukraine and Crimea?

Ukraine is a large Eastern European country bordering Russia, Belarus, Poland, Slovakia, Moldova, Hungary and Romania. Crimea is a self-governed republic belonging to Ukraine, mostly separated by the Black Sea, near Russia.

The country has had a rough history being placed under Soviet control through most of the 20th century. Ukraine gained its independence after the fall of the Soviet Union in 1990 but, according to Clackamas Community College political science instructor James Hite,

has struggled to keep itself truly independent.

"Other former Eastern Bloc countries like Poland and the Czech Republic have had an easier time getting away from Russia," said Hite. "Ukraine has had the hardest time transitioning since gaining its independence."

In 1994 Ukraine signed a treaty with Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States to uphold its borders. Since then, Russia has held a strategic naval base on the coast of the Black Sea in Crimea, which served as the country's only warm-water port.

The 2004 Ukrainian presidential election won by Viktor Yanukovich was surrounded in scandal over vote rigging, and non-violent protests broke out around the Ukrainian capital of Kiev. After a recount, Yanukovich's win was revoked and was awarded to Viktor Yushchenko in what is known as the Orange Revolution.

Yanukovich regained power in 2006 and became prime minister and then was eventually voted in as president in 2010.

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Want up-to-the-minute accounts of what's happening in Ukraine? Here are five Twitter accounts to follow for Ukraine news.



@shustry
Simon Shuster — Reporting for Time in Moscow.



@ngumenyuk
Nataliya Gumenyuk — A Ukrainian reporter tweeting in English from the streets of Kiev. She has provided consistent details around the clock.



@ChristopherJM
Christopher Miller — An editor of the Kiev Post. Offers most up-to-date insight on political movements in Ukraine and Russia and reports of the protests.



@ukrpravda_news
Pravda — A Kiev-based newspaper that tweets only in Ukrainian but offers many photos and video from the capital city.



@rt_com
Russia Today — A Russian news outlet that does not strictly focus on the Ukrainian crisis but shows the news from the Russian spectrum.

Bonus: Check out the Ukrainian conflict sticky post on reddit.com/r/worldnews for a live, updated timeline of events and news stories from Kiev, Crimea, and Moscow. The live thread provides aggregated new stories as they come in and is the fastest way to catch up on the events in Europe.

— Compiled by CHRIS BROWARSKI