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Town, UNC regroup after storm

UNIVERSITY OPENS AT 11 A.M.; ROADWAYS STILL A DANGER

BY SARA LEWKOWICZ
STAFF WRITER

Chapel Hill worked Monday to recover from a snowstorm that dropped 3 to 5 inches on the area while trying to prepare for a possible ice storm that might cause further complications.

The storm has been sweeping through the Southeast region of the country, but officials at Orange County Emergency Management predicted at press time that the Triangle would miss the worst of it.

UNC will reopen at 11 a.m. today and the University will operate at Condition I of its adverse weather policy.

"Most of the storm is going to go south and east," said OCEM Director Nick Waters. "We'll be spared the heavy rains."

But Waters warned that roads still would be treacherous for most of Tuesday and that residents should not travel unless necessary.

"If you must travel, use extreme caution, because even roads that have looked clear may end up with black ice on them," he said.

OCEM reported seven traffic accidents Monday, though none was serious, in addition to the 80 reported Sunday evening when the

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UNC workers John Burnette (left) and Dave Brannigan clear snow Monday from the sidewalks in front of the Undergraduate Library.

Gov. Easley declares state of emergency

BY AMY THOMSON
STAFF WRITER

N.C. Gov. Mike Easley declared a state of emergency late Sunday as a deadly winter storm edged up the East Coast, dumping snow and ice on most of the state and rendering roadways impassable.

About 1,000 state National Guard soldiers and airmen were told they might be activated to respond to the storm while officials prepared generators and helicopters for the worst. Fifty soldiers

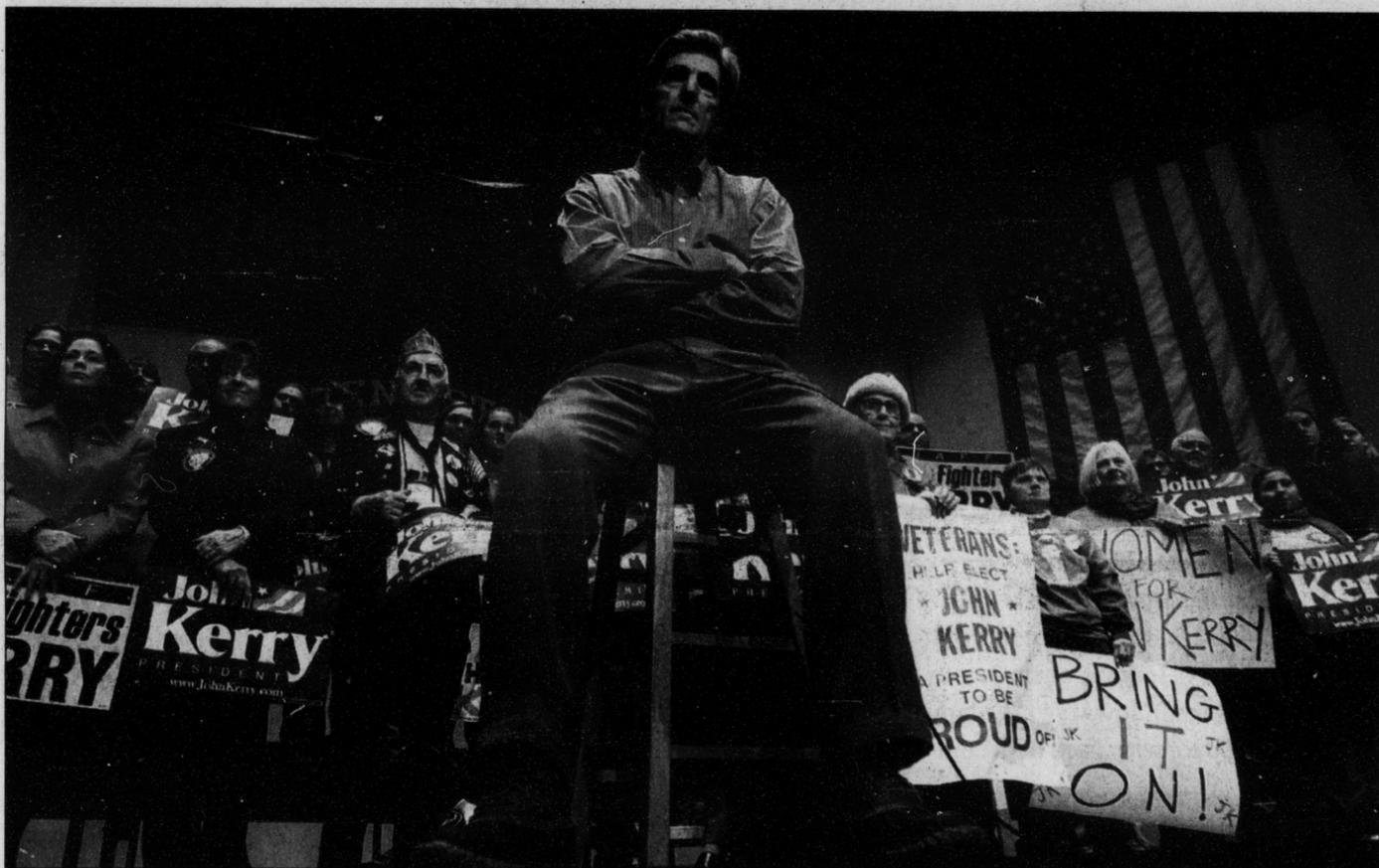
already are on active duty, standing by to reactivate power to sensitive areas if electricity goes out.

The N.C. Department of Transportation is working to clear major and then secondary roads with 6,000 maintenance workers, 2,775 pieces of equipment and more than 100,000 tons of salt, double the amount used in a typical year.

In a press release, Easley urged North Carolinians to stay off the

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NEW HAMPSHIRE PRIMARY



U.S. Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., fields a question from the audience at Keene State College in Keene, N.H., during a campaign stop Monday. Kerry won the Iowa primary Jan. 19 and is considered the front-runner in the New Hampshire primary, which will be held today. Below: Sen. John Edwards, D-N.C., leaves a campaign stop in Laconia, N.H., on Saturday.

DTH PHOTOS/BRIAN CASSELLA

N.H. CAMPAIGNS LEAVE MARK ON RACE'S FUTURE

BY MATT HANSON
SENIOR WRITER

KEENE, N.H. — The shoulders of New Hampshire roadways are blanketed with the marks of winter 2004.

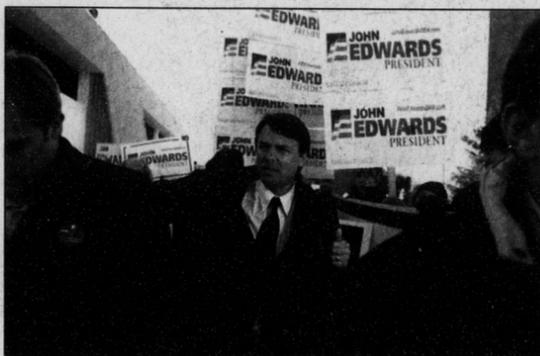
The once pristine and untouched snowbanks from a recent blizzard are littered with two weeks worth of dirt, road sludge and a kaleidoscope of campaign signs.

Democratic candidates have criss-crossed this state many times over in the last two weeks, leaving a trail of support in small towns such as Claremont, Laconia and Peterborough.

The day before the primary, the candidates were rushing again to reach every voter in every part of the state before the final votes are counted.

Retired Gen. Wesley Clark, one of the three candidates battling for second, visited all 10 New Hampshire counties Monday, starting the morning in Keene, a city of 56,340 people.

This city in the southwestern part of the state has seen all six candidates zip through in recent months, prodding Democrat and



independent voters for support.

"This is a good thing for America," said Maria Erling, a Pennsylvanian with a house in Jaffrey, N.H. "Almost everyone in New Hampshire has the opportunity to see the candidates."

Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts, who held a commanding lead in most polls as of Monday, was the latest of the group to pass through Keene. Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina spoke here at a jazz club Sunday night.

Keene State sophomore Elisebeth Galvagni, who has seen

various candidates at recent campaign trail stops, illustrated the state's importance in nominating a Democratic presidential candidate.

"New Hampshire projects this as a taste of what's to come," she said. "Here, you really get to influence what other people think."

Though Galvagni said her family supports Kerry because of his roots in her home state, she added that North Carolina Sen. John Edwards is her man.

She first met Edwards when he visited Keene last fall.

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No clear victor in final stretch

BY CHRIS COLETTA
SENIOR WRITER

As the turbulent race for the Democratic presidential nomination approaches the nation's first official primary, prognosticators and pundits are finding it increasingly difficult to predict what will come next.

But despite the changes that have taken place in the eight days since the Iowa caucuses, which represented the first major test in the nomination process, one thing remains the same: Victory in New Hampshire, the site of today's primary, is still up for grabs.

"Things can change, and they can change quickly," said Ferrel Guillory, director of UNC's Program on Southern Politics, Media and Public Life.

The front-runner, Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts, is riding high after his rapid rise and subsequent victory in Iowa, where he

was running in third place just one week before the caucuses.

Amid speculation that former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean ran an angry campaign and is incapable of beating President Bush, Kerry's victory propelled him to the national limelight and prompted him to christen himself "Comeback Kerry."

"I think Kerry's riding high," said Thad Beyle, professor of political science at UNC. "He's having a lot of fun with it, and he's very exuberant."

Still, the senator's victory is not a foregone conclusion. Dean, his biggest opponent, is in second place in most polls. Some suggest that his support, which declined sharply in the days leading up to the caucuses, is increasing.

In Monday's version of that poll, Dean had 28 percent support,

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Student election races kick off

Weather doesn't affect campaigns

BY MEGAN SEROW
STAFF WRITER

With sleet and snow covering campus the day before the official start of student elections, candidates face more than the usual challenges today as they kick off their campaigns.

Several candidates said that while they might not receive signs and banners in time, they are excited to start their campaign season.

"I almost got in a wreck a few times trying to get paint, but you gotta do what you gotta do," said student body president candidate Laura Thomas.

The first forum was supposed to be held Monday but was cancelled because of inclement weather. Today marks the candidates' first opportunity to publicize their ideas.

"The weather has gotten in the way, but we aren't worried," said Ashley Castevens, student body president candidate. "I'm just excited about being able to talk about my platforms."

Most candidates plan to use traditional strategies such as setting up tables around the Pit, putting up signs and passing out fliers.

Many said they don't want to hit students with too much information at once and plan to space out campaigning instead.

"Everyone doesn't need to see everything on the first day," said candidate Lily West.

While some candidates said they will use these traditional strategies when campaigning, others said they will use innovative methods.

Matt Liles, also running for the top student office, said he has ideas to include sports, music and dining with students to reach a wider audience. "We're trying to be even and cover everyone," he said.

The first dorm-storming event, in which candidates meet students by going door-to-door in residence halls, will start tonight. Candidates said talking to students in places other than the center of campus is a crucial part of their campaign.

"We're not going to just ask for their name and major, but what we can do to make their education better," said student body president candidate Matt Compton.

This shift away from the Pit is partly a result of new rules regarding campaigning.

In the past, the Pit has been a major area to campaign, but space has become an issue this year because of the many candidates.

Unlike past years, candidates can campaign in the center of the Pit

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INSIDE

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The Residence Hall Association looks to overcome its lack of exposure **PAGE 3**

COMING TOMORROW

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Due to Monday night's early deadline, the DTH will offer game coverage Wednesday

INSIDE

EXTREME SLEDDING

Hundreds of students take to South Campus to sled, with some left injured **PAGE 2**

WEATHER

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THURSDAY Sunny, H 50, L 27

