Sprinkler Freezes, Breaks in Edgerton Crosswalk

By Jeremy Hylton
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Last Saturday night, a sprinkler in a crosswalk at Edgerton House froze and burst, flooding parts of four floors in two wings of the graduate dormitory, but causing little damage.

The sprinkler was located in the ceiling of the upper crosswalk that connects the building’s two wings. The basement, first, second, and third floors of the D wing, and about a third of the C wing were flooded, according to Christopher Nolan, general manager of renovation and construction in the housing office. Nolan said there was little permanent damage. “The carpet needs some cleaning, but the damage really was minimal. We’ve been lucky,” he said.

Steve Mann G, an Edgerton House resident, described the cleanup. “There was someone in my apartment with a big vacuum cleaner mounted on top of a 50-gallon oil drum, vacuuming up the water off the floor,” he said.

By Sunday night, the maintenance crew had cleared away most of the water. “The cleanup crew has been working on it all day, and still is working. They’ve cleared most of the water, and now there are big blowers in each of the rooms to dry out what remains,” Mann said.

Nolan was pleased with the cleanup. “The housekeepers and the maintenance crews did a really good job cleaning up,” he said.

Nolan said the recent cold weather has created many problems with heating and sprinkler systems all across campus. “It’s been hectic. Physical Plant has been doing a good job keeping everything running,” Nolan said.

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