

Budapest battered by windstorm

by UPI

BUDAPEST, Hungary -- City workers in Budapest were busy cleaning up Monday after a weekend windstorm downed trees and utility poles and damaged buildings, local media reported. Beginning Saturday through Sunday night, gusty winds near 70 mph spawned 2,275 emergency calls to city firefighters, the Caboodle.hu Web site reported. Fire officials said 231 of the calls were for downed trees or electrical wires blocking roads, while 296 others were to report structural damages such as toppled chimneys, the MTI news agency said. There were no injuries reported, and none of the damage was significant enough to require evacuations, firefighters said. There was no immediate estimate of the cost of damages from the storm, the report said. The city was hit by a similar windstorm last Thursday when a falling tree seriously injured a woman, Caboodle.hu said.

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