

Recent mugging prompts safety tips from DPS, EPD

Police are asking for the public's help in finding the crime's suspect, 26-year-old Joshua Russel Kindler

By A. Sho Ikeda
Reporter

The Eugene Police Department is investigating a mugging that occurred last week just one block away from campus, and detectives are asking for the public's assistance in locating a male suspect.

The male victim was robbed Tuesday evening at gunpoint near East 13th Avenue and Alder Street. The suspect, Joshua Russel Kindler, is described as a 26-year-old white male, weighing 250 to 300 pounds and standing at 6 feet 2 inches tall, according to the Eugene Police Department. He is also described as having brown hair, hazel eyes and may have a beard or mustache.

The suspect was last seen driving a gray, four-door 1986 Oldsmobile with Oregon license plate SYE 469. Anyone with information about Kindler's whereabouts is asked to call 9-1-1. Kindler is considered armed and dangerous, and people should not attempt any contact with Kindler, but should instead contact police immediately.

With the mugging taking place so close to campus, students and community members may want to know what to do if they find themselves in a dangerous confrontation. Public safety officials have many recommenda-

tions on how to avoid and deal with similar situations.

Department of Public Safety Sgt. Jeff Breno said people should be aware of their surroundings when walking at night.

"A lot of people tend to walk around with their head down, staring at their feet," Breno said. "It's much safer to keep your head up and just be aware of your surroundings."

Sgt. Scott McKee of the Eugene Police Department's Violent Crimes Unit agreed.

McKee recommended people travel with a friend or a group whenever possible and carry a cell phone. He added people should keep their eyes up and watch for people in the distance.

"You should follow them with your eyes as they get closer," McKee said. "If this person starts to give you the creeps, you can change the path you're taking."

McKee explained that many criminals seem to "telegraph" their intentions. He said if someone crosses the street and begins to cut you off, you should be on alert.

"Rely on that little voice in your head if it tells you to be suspicious," McKee said.

Alleys can be very appealing to anyone trying to get somewhere quickly, but McKee said those shortcuts make good hiding places for muggers. McKee said late-night walkers should always use well-lit paths where other pedestrians and cars can be seen.

If a person finds themselves confronted by a mugger, McKee said he or she should initially comply.

"Robbery is a crime motivated by desperation," McKee said. "The desperation is often fueled by the need for a drug. These people are desperate and may be on a substance, and if you resist, you may get hurt."

But McKee warned that people should only comply to a certain extent.

"If they are trying to force you somewhere, like a car or a dark location, we recommend that you try to get out of that situation," he said.

McKee said trying to talk your way out of the situation can work, adding that running is sometimes the only way out of a dangerous situation.

"You can just bolt and get out of there as quickly as possible," McKee said. "I'd rather get shot in the butt than executed."

McKee said a person could also try to fight.

"It's a very personal decision and there's no right answer," McKee said. "It's up to the individual and the situation."

McKee said it is also important to be a good witness during a confrontation, especially trying to remember details about the suspect such as scars, tattoos and clothing.

"It's always important to try to keep your wits about you," McKee said.

Contact the reporter at shoikedadailyemerald.com.

Bradbury

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dangers of landfill e-waste is the presence of lead in many old monitors. Bradbury appeared surprised to learn from Smith that some monitors contain up to 7 pounds of lead.

During the school year, Smith teaches students in the education department's integrated teaching master's technology program how to de-manufacture old computers. One day each term, Smith's students break down unwanted systems from different University departments. Smith has to distinguish between useless computers and parts and those that can be used again. She said the team can dismantle 140 to 160 computers a day.

While monitors and computers are made of numerous parts, only some are recyclable. Most of the plastic used in the older computers cannot be recycled in the United States, and some copper parts are also difficult. However, new Macintosh models are made from recyclable plastic, Smith and Williams said.

"The people who (initially) designed (computers) never thought they would have to take them apart," Williams said.

Williams said recyclable parts are carefully packed and sent out. The University bears all costs of the de-manufacturing.

Smith said research still needs to

be done on the recycling of monitors like those found in laptops, however.

"We may find that the hazardous waste may even exceed those in (old monitors)," Smith said.

She added these computers usually have a mercury tube behind the screen, which can be harmful if broken during dismantling.

Smith's students also visit Eugene elementary schools and teach about the environmental dangers of old computers in landfills. The younger students learn some parts of the de-manufacturing process, such as how

to handle tools and lift components from the computer.

Smith said University students were helping to plant seeds in the younger generation, adding that the elementary-age

children showed great concern about their environment.

"Our programs are pretty unusual and we kind of see it as a model for others to follow," Smith said.

Bradbury said programs like the Computer Harvest are very promising. With the state's many computers, Bradbury said, the administration is conscious of the need to recycle and reuse, as well as to boost purchasing guidelines that include computer "end of life" prescriptions as part of the deal.

"It needs to grow — this kind of effort will grow," he said.

Contact the reporter at ayishayahya@dailyemerald.com.

"The people who (initially) designed (computers) never thought they would have to take them apart."

Nick Williams
University Environmental Manager

Cell tower

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reasonably far from surrounding residences and residence halls.

Barta said the University and Sprint PCS are still in the process of negotiating contract details, but that the wireless provider would pay about \$900 a month to operate the tower. Barta added that Sprint PCS could allow two other wireless providers access to the tower and charge them for its use.

Mona Linstromberg, a member of Oregon's Citizens for Responsible Placement of Cell Phone Transmission Towers, said she had concerns about the proposed cell phone tower. She cited independent studies that in-

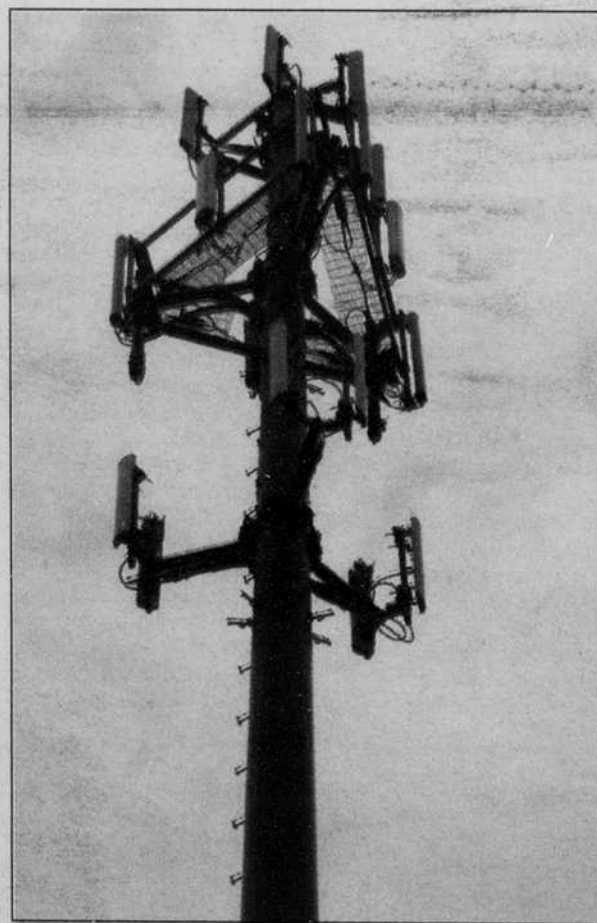
dicating that radiation emitted from towers could be harmful to people.

"Companies seem to have gone hog-wild with building these towers," Linstromberg said. "Public concerns need to be addressed before building these towers."

Associate City Planner Kent Kullby said public input concerning the cell phone tower is encouraged. He said public notices about the proposal will be sent out to nearby residents next week, and the city will also post signs about the cell phone tower around the area.

Kullby said public input will be accepted and reviewed for a two-week period after the notices are sent out.

Contact the reporter at shoikedadailyemerald.com.



The proposed Sprint PCS cell phone tower, to be located on University property, is designed to blend in with its surroundings. Many current Eugene cell towers, like this one at 1210 Willagillespie Rd., clash with their environment. Jessica Waters Emerald

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CAMPUS BUZZ

Tuesday
"Preserving the Sights and Sounds of Oregon — The Don Hunter Legacy," Museum of Natural History Exhibition, noon-5 p.m., Hallway Gallery at Museum of Natural History on 1680 E. 15th Ave., free to museum members and Univer-

sity students, exhibit open through Aug. 31.
Thursday
Guest lecture in U.S. Immigration class about ethnic persistence among Italians in America by Sacramento Bee staff writer Robert Masullo, 2-4 p.m., 360 Condon, free. The first hour of

class features documentary films of Italian Americans. Masullo is the founding member and director of the Italian Cultural Society of Sacramento. He is also founder and co-host of "Sacramento Italian Style," a weekly radio program.

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