

## Sun show

History was in the making Monday morning when the moon inched over the face of the sun creating the first total eclipse of the sun the Northwest has seen since 1918. The view of totality swept over the earth like a wall of darkness. A few viewers looking toward the sky were able to see the moon's shadow creeping along to totality. What most people saw eclipse morning was the fast fading darkness of the sun, with a thick cloud cover making it hard to view the phenomenon from most Portland area neighborhoods. Eric Holstrom, Print photographer, was among the lucky ones who got a chance to view the eclipse first hand.

Holstrom was a member of Mike Aronson's eclipse class and says the class really paid off. Practicing taking pictures of the event to make sure everything was right was a "good idea," he said. Holstrom and five other class members camped out close to the McNary River and Monday morning hiked up a hill to stand and watch the eclipse "in awe," said Holstrom.



Phyllis Thompson tries to capture elusive eclipse on canvas. Photos by Eric Holstrom.



Eclipse image is reflected off sunglasses of Bob Schilling.

## State legislators face issues

Oregon legislators will be faced with several issues that affect community college students during this legislative session.

One of them, child care subsidies for low-income students, affects students throughout the state, and another, building projects, will be of special interest to students at the college.

The child care bill (HB 2663) would appropriate \$3.7 million in direct subsidies to low-income student parents. This money would be administered through the State Scholarship Commission through the State Need Grant program.

At present, there are no programs to help students with the cost of child care while they are attending school, according to Molly Smith, Oregon Student Lobby legislative

coordinator. The cost of quality day care is approximately \$115 per month, she said.

It is the contention of the OS� that providing these funds would make it possible for more parents who are currently on public assistance and not receiving any education to attend school, and would allow more part-time students to attend college full-time.

"We feel our request for these funds is legitimate, even in a legislative year that will see money matters facing serious scrutiny," said Happie Thacker, student liaison for OS� at the College.

"Our goal is to convince the legislature that parents who are given this help to get an education will become economically viable members of the community and more than repay any child care fun-

ding they receive once they go to work and start paying taxes," she said.

The building priorities problem will be of special interest to Clackamas County residents and students of the College, Thacker said. There are nine community colleges that qualify for building funds but Governor Atiyeh's building proposals plan stops at priority number four. The new science building for the College scheduled to be under construction by next fall, is number six on the list.

"We are not trying to get the legislature to move us up higher on the list because that would hurt the other schools," said College President John Hakanson in an address to Associated Student Government last week.

"What we want to do is

convince them to fund all nine scheduled projects, but certainly to number six on the list as it stands," he said.

In order to influence the legislators to vote in favor of the students, Hakanson and Thacker have asked students to begin an intensive letter writing campaign to their representatives, and especially to members of the Full Ways and Means Committee and the Ways and Means Education Subcommittee.

"I would also like to have people contact me who are willing to testify before a legislative committee on the child care issue," said Thacker.

"I need students who are attending school part-time but would go full-time if they could get child care assistance, those who have had to quit school

because they couldn't afford child care and especially former students who have finished school and are now working who have utilized child care facilities," Thacker said.

Guidelines for writing letters to legislators, names and addresses of legislators to contact, and information about testifying before a committee are available from Thacker at the Student Activities Office, 656-2631, ext. 245.

"It is important that these letters be written as soon as possible to be the most effective," said Thacker. "Soon the legislative session will be in full swing and all legislators will be swamped with letters and lobbyists. We want to get ours in before the crush so they will be noticed."

