

Earthquake strikes campus Are we prepared for the big one?

STEVE NIELSEN
News Editor

Last Wednesday's 6.8 earthquake in Washington was just a tremor when it reached Clackamas' campus a little before 11 a.m. It didn't cause any structural damage, but it did raise questions about the school's preparedness in the event of a stronger or closer earthquake.

Wednesday's quake was centered about ten miles north of Olympia and 32 miles deep, and was the biggest quake in the Northwest since 1949. Though this rumble didn't do any damage to the college, it caused some excitement.

"I thought I was going to faint," said student Rebecca Martin-Beach. "I thought it was just me, then I looked around and everybody else had this look on their face like they wondered what was going on."

"It made me feel sick because I didn't know what was happening," said Michelle Waggoner, student activities

secretary. "I looked around; the walls were shaking and I felt the earth moving."

Another student, who was sitting upstairs in McLoughlin Hall, had a disorienting experience.

"My chair felt like someone was moving it. The glass shook and looked wavy. I kind of felt like I was going crazy."

Just after the shaking stopped, Environmental Health and Safety Officer George Sims sent people out to examine the structures for damage.

"I had people check everything and make sure there was no structural damage or leaking gas lines, which is what we'd normally do," said Sims. "If we'd had structural damage it would have been a totally different scenario."

In that case, said Sims, the school would be evacuated and a structural engineer would have inspected and assessed the damage.

"I was down at the Community Center and thought everyone was outside because it was a nice day," said Sims who, like

many, didn't even feel the quake.

The college does put out an Emergency Safety Procedures manual that every employee should have. It advises people, in the case of an earthquake, to stay indoors if they're already there and get under a heavy desk or table or in a corner and to stay away from glass. If they're outdoors, they need to get into an open place away from trees, power lines, cars, buildings or anything else that could cause injury. It also instructs people to prepare for aftershocks and not to re-enter buildings until instructed by authorized personnel.

A larger Multi-Hazard Emergency Action Plan, still in draft, goes into further detail including communication organization and the formation of response teams. Among other tasks, these teams would assess and care for injuries, make safe-zones, account for employees, check gas lines and prepare for the possible release of hazardous materials.

Campus Poll Did you feel the quake?



"We thought we were all just messen up or something. Then we asked someone if they felt it and they said 'No... give us the dope you guys are smoking, man'."

Ryan Boyle



"I saw the calculators swinging and the plants moving, but nothing fell from the shelves."

Alice Prideaux

Photos by Mike Pollock. Information compiled by Maggie Jirasek and Mike Pollock.



"I was walking outside. I didn't feel nothing."

Shawn Kelnonen



"I was on the phone and saw the plants shaking, so I went outside."

Gary Craig



"We felt it, it rolled, but it wasn't a big deal. Nothing fell, or anything like that. The water in the water cooler was sloshing back and forth."

Brenda Gibson

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Got money?

MAGGIE JIRASEK
Feature Editor

Clackamas' scholarship program offers more than 60 individual scholarships this year, making more than \$200,000 available to students who plan to enroll in the 2001-02 academic year at Clackamas.

Scholarships are being awarded based on a variety of criteria, including intended field of study, personal barriers, academic merit, high school attended, county of residence and transfers from Clackamas to a 4-year college or University.

Anyone who plans to attend Clackamas, has a high school diploma, GED or high school equivalency, and has at least a cumulative 2.0 grade point average is eligible to apply.

"It is a myth that a scholarship is only for top notch students," informed Chippi Bello, scholarship coordinator. "If you are not involved in activities or do not have a grade point average of 3.5, that does not exclude you from many scholarship opportunities."

The Clackamas Community College Foundation has made the scholarship program possible with the intention to help and reward students. Scholarships help students by paying for tuition and school expenses as well as giving them a sense of confidence.

"By receiving a scholarship, I was able to finish school. It gave me more self-esteem and confidence than anything else that has happened in my life. It made all the difference in the world to me," said Marilyn Ferebee, student and scholarship recipient.

The scholarship deadline is March 12, 5 p.m. It is also recommended that students complete the free Application for Federal Student Aid. A completed scholarship application packet should include the Clackamas scholarship application, the student's unofficial transcript, at least two letters of recommendation and a personal statement. By completing the application process, students are automatically considered for all Clackamas scholarships for which they are eligible.

Bello emphasizes how important the scholarship program is and invites all students to participate by filling out an application.

"Since the program was established in the late 1980's, at least 1500 students in the late 1980's, at least 1500 students have been awarded some type of Clackamas scholarship. The program is important because it is a vital part of what makes our college successful," explained Bello.

For more information, call Chippi Bello at ext. 2373.

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