

Break-ins shatter glass, security

MAGGIE JIRASEK
Editor-in-Chief

Shattered glass covered Clackamas' parking lots last Saturday morning, Feb. 2, after three car break-in incidents occurred in less than an hour. A wallet and a camera were reported stolen.

While patrolling Pauling parking lot, Security Officer David Phelps noticed that the driver's window of a black Honda Accord was broken.

"The window was smashed but I didn't notice anything missing just by looking into the car," said Phelps.

After the owner of the car, a Clackamas student who was attending an 8 a.m. class in one of the Pauling buildings, inspected the Honda and then returned to her class, another damaged vehicle was found.

"The student noticed that a camera was missing and then she went back to class. I waited and checked the parking lot but didn't notice anything else," said Phelps. "Then the whole class came out and the students checked their cars. We found a minivan with a shattered window."

Fortunately, the owner did not notice anything missing.

"I don't know how it is that someone got into the car with-

out breaking the window completely," said Phelps. "But they did unlock the car door."

According to Phelps, the break-ins must have occurred some time between 8 and 8:39 a.m.

"I noticed the broken glass at 8:39. So I thought that this couldn't have happened too long ago so I was looking if anybody had run off, but didn't see anyone," said Phelps.

At 9 a.m., Phelps received a phone call from an automotive student telling him that someone had broken into his pickup truck parked in Barlow parking lot and stolen his wallet.

"The owner had left his wallet in the car and it was visible from the outside," said Phelps. "Whoever had done it must have gone through the parking lots looking into the windshields, searching for a target," said Phelps.

To avoid incidents like this, students should not leave any objects visible from the outside in their vehicles.

"Locking your car is not a protection," said Phelps. "It takes only a few seconds to break a window and steal something. I'm sure the victims will never leave anything visible in their car again."



MAGGIE JIRASEK / Clackamas Print
Above: photo shows Barlow parking lot and glass from one of the three cars that was broken into early Saturday morning. Right: A close-up of the broken glass.

Legislative special session convenes this weekend in Salem

President hopeful for quick budget solution

FRANK JORDAN
News Editor

As the Oregon Legislature gets ready to convene a special session this Friday, Feb. 8, Clackamas Community College President Earl P. "Joe" Johnson and Dean of College Services Al Erdman are confident that the Legislature can hammer out an agreement on the budget for

the upcoming biennium.

"We are hopeful the lawmakers can come to a quick, permanent solution that will be a win-win for all sides," said Johnson. "But whatever happens in Salem, Clackamas is prepared to make the necessary steps to help us weather this storm."

Governor John Kitzhaber originally came out with a budget forecast that called for an 8 percent reduction in community college funds, and all community colleges in the state started making budget forecasts based on that 8 percent figure.

In the governor's revised budget two weeks ago, Kitzhaber proposed only a 3.3 percent reduction to the community colleges in state aid. Although this is a significant improvement over the original forecast, community colleges around the state started to revise their figures.

"We have not altered our original projections at all. We are really waiting to see what is going to happen once the special session of the legislature is over," said Johnson. "If the results are more favorable, then we will take the appropriate steps to ensure that students, programs and services are not affected."

Departments and academic areas on campus are growing rapidly and state aid will have a direct impact on some areas. Some programs are funded at Clackamas are funded by the state and will have state aid discontinued. One such

facility at Clackamas is the Oregon Advanced Technology Center in Wilsonville. Clackamas will have to absorb the cost of the facility in the upcoming budget.

The college was looking at perhaps raising tuition an additional \$1 per credit hour, in addition to the \$1 per hour already scheduled for the 2002-03 school year. According to Johnson, the additional tuition raise will almost certainly not

happen at this time. "We are going to try our hardest to make sure that the college will have adequate instruction for all the classes that we offer, to maintain the same level of classes that we currently offer and, per-

haps most important of all, to maintain our current staffing levels. He added, "We may have to make some minor adjustments as far as our people are concerned, but we are committed to maintaining our full-time staff."

All of the Oregon community college presidents met with Governor Kitzhaber on Jan. 30 in Salem, to enlist his support for the community colleges.

"We collectively stood in that room with the governor and told him that we feel that the community college mission is important to everyone in the state, and although we realize that some things will have to be cut, we wanted the governor to know how important the community college is the people of Oregon," said Johnson.

Erdman attended a business management meeting

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