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RDC student receives award

A Red Deer College student has been awarded the 2011 Association of Canadian Community Colleges Gold Award for Student Leadership Excellence.

Steven Kwasny, a second-year political science student, is being recognized for his outstanding leadership both on and off campus. He is president of the RDC Students' Association and is an advocate at the provincial level for financial assistance and enhanced learning opportunities for students.

Kwasny has been an active and effective spokesperson for Alberta college students through several media outlets, including television, the college newspaper and his activist blog.

The Student Leadership Excellence Awards were presented at the association annual conference taking place in Edmonton through today.

The Silver Award for Student Leadership Excellence was presented to Frank Neufeld, a graphic design student at Fanshawe College in London, Ont. The Bronze Award went to Richard von Dadelszen, a student in the Advanced Game Development Diploma program at Algonquin College in Ottawa.

The awards showcase extraordinary contributions of individuals and programs to their institutions and highlight the role colleges play in the social, economic and cultural development of their home

community.

The association is the national voice for 150 publicly-funded colleges and institutes with campuses in 1,000 communities across Canada.

Theft suspect photographed

Police want help identifying a man who allegedly tried to walk away with unpaid merchandise from two Red Deer stores on the same day.

Both incidents happened on Saturday, May 28.

At 4 p.m., Red Deer City RCMP received a complaint of a laptop computer theft from Future Shop, in the 5200 block of 22nd St. An unknown man allegedly walked out of the store with the laptop after making no attempt to pay.

At 4:40 p.m., a complaint was received from the London Drugs in the 2000 block of Gaetz Avenue. An unknown male had been seen attempting to leave the store with some personal grooming merchandise at about 4:20 p.m. When approached by a loss prevention officer outside the store, the suspect dropped the merchandise and fled on foot.

Surveillance footage and photos of the suspect were obtained from both of the businesses. Police are asking anyone who can identify the suspect, or who has information about these crimes to call 403-343-5575.

Those who wish to remain anonymous can call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or report online at www.tipsubmit.com. If information leads to an arrest, tipsters are eligible for a cash reward of up to \$2,000.

Man faces two trials

A 23-year-old man will have two separate trials on different sex-related offences and driving charges early next year.

Brandon Curtis Bill of the Innisfail area will stand trial in Red Deer Court of Queen's Bench on the sexual assault, two assault counts, dangerous operation of a motor vehicle and two counts of uttering a threat from Feb. 28 to March 1, 2012.

The sex assault charge is alleged to have occurred in the summer of 2009.

The driving, assault and threat charges are alleged to have happened in 2010. His second trial with a different judge is set for March 5 to 7, 2012.

Both trials will be heard by a judge sitting alone.