

Vandals Break Into Vacant Theater; Theft, Damage Estimated At \$1,750

The Brunswick County Sheriff's Department Monday was looking into a break-in reported Saturday at a vacant theater building in the Southport area, according to a report on file at the sheriff's department.

Arnold Lane of Southport told authorities that Oak Island Theater on Long Beach Road was entered sometime between Dec. 16, 1989, and Saturday morning. There were no signs of forced entry.

An AT&T telephone worth \$1,200 was removed from the building. Damages estimated at \$550 were done to a film projector, a lighted soft-drink sign and a wall.

Car Stolen
In another case on file Monday, a car was reported stolen Saturday from a Calabash residence.

Edward Schaack told lawmen that his 1980 Pontiac Phoenix sedan was driven away from his home on Calabash Drive, Carolina Shores. The theft occurred Saturday between 6:30 p.m. and 9:45 p.m. The vehicle was worth \$2,000.

Homes Entered
The sheriff's department also was investigating several residential break-ins that were reported over the weekend.

Laura Coker of Route 5, Leland, said her house near Lincoln Primary School was entered Saturday between 4 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. The in-

truder broke out a living room window to gain entry.

Stolen were an Emerson 13-inch color television, a General Electric videocassette recorder and a cable television converter box. The items were worth \$800. Damage was estimated at \$100.

Shirley Reynolds of Leland reported that her mobile home in Picket Ridge development was entered Saturday between 5 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. The thief entered the home by prying open a front door.

After ransacking the trailer, the intruder removed a 25-caliber semi-automatic handgun, a pair of diamond earrings, assorted costume jewelry and \$100 in old coins. Theft loss was placed at \$850.

Paul Edward Hathaway of Tabor City told officers that his vacation home in Tanglewood subdivision off Seashore Road near Holden Beach was broken into between Jan. 20 and Friday afternoon.

The thief pried open a front window to get inside the mobile home. A Sears 19-inch color television worth \$250 was stolen.

Carmie Houser of Vale reported a break-in at his summer home in Water Wonderland subdivision off N.C. 179 in the Seaside area. The break-in happened between Jan. 21 and Friday night.

After prying open a rear door, the intruder removed a Makita electric drill, set of drill bits, case of soft

CRIME REPORT

drinks and the remote control to an RCA color television. Stolen items were worth \$190. Damage was estimated at \$200.

Vehicles Entered
Four vehicle break-ins were reported to the sheriff's department last week, with two of the incidents occurring near an N.C. 133 bridge that was being repaired by the N.C. Department of Transportation.

Alexander Hart of S&G Concrete Company, Wilmington, told deputies that he parked his 1986 Oldsmobile on the roadside near the bridge last Thursday evening. He discovered the break-in Friday at 7:30 a.m. when he returned for the car.

A rear window was broken out of the Oldsmobile, and a General Electric mobile two-way radio worth \$1,200 was removed from the vehicle. The radio belonged to the concrete company.

Deborah L. Bowling of Leland said someone broke into her 1988 Nissan, which also was parked on N.C. 133 near the bridge. The break-in happened between last Thursday at 10 p.m. and Friday at 8:15 a.m.

After breaking out a rear window, the thief unsuccessfully attempted to remove the car's stereo system and damaged both the AM/FM ra-

dio and rear speakers. Also, an Electrolux vacuum cleaner worth \$500 was stolen out of the car's trunk.

In another vehicle break-in, Kermit R. Beck Jr. of Route 4, Supply, said someone entered his 1987 Ford Ranger pickup truck in the parking lot of the DuPont plant near Leland.

The incident occurred Friday between 4 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.

Stolen was a 25-caliber pearl-handled handgun and an ammunition box full of assorted tools. The missing items were worth \$275.

Jeremy R. Palmatter, a student at North Brunswick High School, Leland, reported that his 1967 Chev-

rolet truck was entered in the school parking lot Friday between 8 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. The thief got inside the vehicle by reaching through a sliding rear window.

The intruder stole two Pioneer stereo speakers worth \$200 but was unable to remove the rest of the truck's stereo system.

CP&L To Pay \$75,000 NRC Fine For Slow Response To Problems

Carolina Power & Light Co. has no plans to contest a \$75,000 civil penalty proposed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff for alleged violation of NRC requirements at the Brunswick Nuclear Plant.

The fine has been proposed, according to the NRC, because the company failed in 1988 and early 1989 to promptly identify and correct two deficiencies in the plant's service water system that could affect its ability to function. Neither deficiency posed a major risk, according to both CP&L and the NRC.

During an emergency, the service water system provides cooling for both safety and non-safety-related components to assure adequate cooling water for safety-related equipment. Other systems supply water directly to the reactor core.

The NRC said the company failed to recognize the danger that could arise from the equipment problems and then was slow to correct them after being alerted by the NRC.

The base civil penalty for the violation is \$50,000. However, the NRC said it was being increased by 50 percent to \$75,000 in this case because the full scope of the problem was identified by the NRC after it questioned CP&L's evaluation.

The NRC indicated plant personnel should have been more aggressive in problem solving and better identifying the underlying causes of the problem.

This is not the first instance in which the plant has had difficulties in finding "root causes" for problems. "Problem solving, or root cause analysis, has been one of the major areas of focus at the plant over the last two years," said Russell Starkey, vice president of the Brunswick Nuclear Project. The plant has made improvements have been made in this area since the events occurred that led to the violation and civil penalty, he continued, and continued improvement is expected.

The plant's resident NRC inspector first raised concerns about the system in February 1988, with questions about the company's handling of an issue involving electrical relays. The relays are associated with a valve which would be used to isolate non-safety-related components during a hypothetical emergency. After the question came up several more times, the agency said the company incorrectly determined that there was no reason to be concerned about the ability of the system to function as it should in an emergency.

Then, on Aug. 6, 1988, service

water pump motors were identified as operating at high "winding" temperatures. The overheating resulted because airflow to cool the insulated windings was restricted.

The NRC said planned corrective action was not timely, as indicated by the failure of one of the motors on April 29, 1989.

While CP&L has 30 days in which to either pay the penalty or protest it, a news release from the company indicated it had no plans to contest the fine.

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