

# The Claremont Colleges

Dept. of Campus Safety, Ext. 7-2000

May 2000

## April Crime and Incident Report

### Trends and Analysis

We've had more than the usual number of protestors, pyromaniacs, nudists and utility cart thieves. There has been little change, however, in the number of fire alarm activators, alcohol abusers, vandals, bike theft victims and laptop computer theft victims. We're hard-pressed to make any sense out of it other than — that's life. So, for now, draw your own conclusions. We'll try to do better next semester.

### Selective Incident Summary, April 1 – 30, 2000

- A fire alarm activated in a dorm. Officers found that the contents of a trash can ignited from a discarded cigarette. Students doused the fire with water and officers reset the alarm at 0025 hrs.
- Officers heard fireworks exploding and subsequently found expended and unused fireworks near a student center.
- Following a report of persons driving an electric cart on a playing field, officers found an abandoned cart, possibly belonging to a dining

hall.

- Student/staff reported a possible stalking of one male student by another over the attentions of a female student.
- Staff reported that an electric cart had been driven off of a platform into a rock lined fountain damaging both the platform and the cart. Officers found another cart in the fountain. Both had been substantially damaged and overturned. Another overturned cart was found nearby. Later in the day a towing company was called to retrieve the carts and return them for repair.
- Grounds staff found an electric cart on which the steering wheel had been tied in place and the accelerator propped, causing the cart to do "doughnuts" in a lawn area until the battery was depleted.
- Staff reported that a women's bathroom shower door had been ripped off.
- Someone reported numerous students "toilet papering" student apartments. Officers confirmed that a courtyard had, indeed, been "papered".
- A male student was "egged" by another student in his dorm room on two occasions. Once by 1 egg and subsequently by 12. The dean is handling the incident.
- A dorm fire alarm was activated by the illicit discharge of a fire extinguisher. Housekeeping was notified to clean up the residue.
- At 0057 hrs., A Safety officer observed 3 small fires near student apartments in a fountain, BBQ pit and courtyard. Students extinguished the blazes but nobody saw who started them.
- A Safety officer observed pushing between male students and a fight about to break out between groups of opposing football team supporters and called for officer back-up. The situation cooled and the students dispersed.
- Students reported misogynous name calling by a group of males to passersby and another group on a 2<sup>nd</sup> floor balcony yelling back. Two males were identified.

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- A Safety officer reported damage to an emergency phone along a walkway and the blue light smashed.
- An officer found an abandoned white utility cart with 2 males fleeing from it. He then observed another cart with 3 males and a female driving through a dorm then fleeing from him. The cart almost collided with a Jeep while crossing the street.
- An officer found an “uprooted” trash receptacle which had been moved about 30 feet along a walkway.
- Someone from off campus reported an abandoned dining hall cart in their yard. A Safety officer retrieved it.
- A female student reported that two unknown black males in their 20's had entered her dorm room and asked to use the bathroom. While there, she thought, they seemed to be looking around suspiciously.
- A laptop computer was stolen from a student's unlocked dorm room between 1800 and 0200 hours.
- Someone observed 3 - 4 while males running from an area where 10 or more fireworks devices had been ignited near a student center.
- Two off-campus female students reported being followed to their apt. by a slender white male about 5'10" whom they later saw near the apts. They reported the incident to CPD.
- A Safety officer found two off-campus, non-associated, males asleep in different vehicles in a campus lot at 0146 hrs. Both were warned about trespassing and left.
- A student reported the theft of a backpack from a pool locker room.
- A student “doing donuts” on a softball field was seen by staff who later found the offending vehicle parked on another campus. The vehicle owner admitted to the minor vandalism and the deans were notified.
- An RA reported that an explosive device had been detonated near a campus fountain. Safety officers found the lid from a broken coffee jar with the smell of gunpowder on it in the area.
- An unlocked bike was stolen from outside of a dining hall.
- A staff female reported two rowdy, beer drinking male subjects on the porch of a campus house/office. Safety officer interviewed the subjects and called CPD. One subject was arrested for outstanding warrants for drugs and traffic violations. He had a marijuana pipe in his pocket and beer in a bag. The other subject was interviewed and released.
- A Safety officer discovered about 60 students hoisting a cross with a person strapped to it outside of a recreation center. The student on the cross and others said that everything was all right — it was just part of the voodoo hex activity.
- Two incidents of intoxicated, upset males trying to contact or otherwise harass former female friends occurred.
- An anonymous male reported a group of students running nude through a dorm courtyard. Others saw the group enter a different dorm.
- A Safety officer discovered a moped hanging from a tree outside of a dorm. The owner was advised and the vehicle was cut down by grounds staff.
- While a Safety officer waited for vehicle owners to remove cars illegally parked, blocking a loading dock, a truck backed into the dock and ran into one of the cars. Traffic accident forms were provided to the drivers.
- A female student reported a male sitting in a fountain slumped over. Safety officers found an intoxicated student next to the fountain, covered in leaves and dirt. He was escorted back to his room assisted by an RA.
- A white female who refused to cooperate with Safety officers was annoying people at a public event. She left after telling officers and others that she was heiress to a petroleum fortune and was the daughter of Marilyn Monroe and Howard Hughes.
- A student reported two unknown black males in their 20's, who were intoxicated and hanging around the dorm. The subjects were identified and advised to leave and complied.
- A surveillance officer reported that a vehicle parked in a campus lot had been “egged” with approx. a dozen eggs. The owner was advised and declined to have a criminal report made.
- An employee who ejected an unauthorized group from an athletic facility later found that her backpack disappeared from the area at about the same time. Since keys were in the backpack, the appropriate locks were re-keyed.
- Someone ignited a paper flyer hanging on a dorm wall, activating the fire alarm.

- A traffic accident on a city street adjacent to the campus resulted in one of the vehicles traversing an open lot, crashing through a rock wall, wood fence and into the corner of a college-owned house. The driver was hospitalized with minor injuries.
- A mountain bike cable-locked to a dorm rack was stolen.
- A student reported that his rear bike tire was slashed while parked near a student center.
- A female student received two annoying and threatening calls at approx. 0230 hrs.
- Safety officers saw a VW driving erratically through a quad lawn and obtained license information. The student-owner was identified, the vehicle was found and cited for the offense.
- Safety officers were called when two students who didn't like the music being played at an outdoor event threatened to damage the equipment and/or the party organizer with a baseball bat. The bat was confiscated but the music makers declined to file a criminal report. The matter was handled by the dean on call.
- A Safety officer inadvertently left a dept. radio in a bathroom stall where it was found by a group of young people who played with it and communicated with that radio to the supervisor on duty. The radio was later found in a trash dumpster off campus and turned in to CPD.
- A chair, paper and lighter fluid were found ablaze in a campus fountain.
- At 0229 a student reported a fight in progress. Safety officers found a group of 10 male students in a truck bed. One had a bloody nose but no further information was obtained.
- A stolen, damaged, and abandoned utility cart owned by Aramark was found near an academic building.
- At 0153 hrs. Safety officers, CPD and paramedics responded to a dorm room and transported a student to the hospital because of a stab wound in the chest, reported by the student by phone.
- A student reported receiving annoying "no answer" phone calls for the past month.
- Safety officers responding to a report of vehicle tampering found three students tied to a vehicle belonging to a student newspaper reporter.
- A student reported hearing a loud noise in a dorm lounge then seeing a black male leaving the area where a candy machine had been broken into and candy removed.
- During the time frame of an outdoor social event open to the public there were several instances of unknown males loitering in parking lots and other areas or smoking marijuana. Several subjects were interviewed by Safety and CPD officers and one was cited for a drug offense.
- A former employee subsequently banned from campus for offenses was discovered at a social event. He was escorted off campus.
- An underage, intoxicated female student assaulted a Safety officer by throwing a can of beer at the officer. She was escorted to her room and the dean was notified.
- There were two reported instances of groups from two campuses readying to fight each other. In both cases the groups dispersed upon the arrival of Safety officers.
- A student reported that someone threw a large piece of concrete through his window screen and window and it dented his door as well. Officers discovered that another nearby window had likewise, been broken.
- Officers responded to a fight at a dorm and found one subject, somewhat bloody, being hit and kicked by another with a number of bystanders. The victim was uncooperative and fled. This followed a report from an RA that a group from another campus was enroute in retaliation for a previous altercation on yet another campus. However, it is believed that the fight victim also discharged the fire extinguisher which activated the alarm which caused the dorm to evacuate.
- One student who evacuated the dorm previously mentioned, reported the theft of a laptop computer from the unlocked room during the evacuation.
- An unknown male subject found wandering around a dorm study room at 0322 hrs. initially gave false information to Safety officers and CPD but was eventually identified. He lives in his vehicle and continued to hang around after attending a social event the previous day. He was ejected from campus.

- An off-campus complainant said there was loud “drumming” coming from a campus wilderness area at 0238 hrs. Safety officers found a student and four friends drumming. They were asked to desist and complied.
- Staff reported the theft of a college “boom box” from an auditorium.
- Officers responded to a report of students taking their clothes off in front of a campus building. The students, reclothed, said they were doing a photo shoot for “Body Image Week”. With the dean’s O.K., the project was taken indoors.
- An unlocked bike was stolen from outside of a dining hall.
- An unlocked bike was stolen from a rack outside of a student center.
- Officers requested the assistance of CPD in checking a white male subject seen suspiciously looking into car and dorm windows before leaving the campus. He told CPD that he was looking for a friend on campus.
- An unlocked bike with personal property in its rack pack was stolen from an academic building rack.
- Safety officers responded to an altercation at a pool in which a male was confronted by persons who were offended because he was peering at them through binoculars and would not stop. His binoculars were thrown into the pool by one subject and 7 others registered a complaint against the looker.
- An unlocked bike was stolen from outside of a dining hall.
- An unlocked bike was stolen from the stairwell of student apartments.
- A Safety officer saw 3 naked males running through a quad and into a student center courtyard.
- At 0607 hrs. a custodian reported that students had taken over an administrative building, locking the doors and covering the windows. Officers said that students said they were doing so in protest of working conditions and benefits of dining hall workers. Everybody was notified. ( Students tricked the custodians into opening the door then locked them out, once in. ) The building was occupied for over 2 days when the students left after having negotiated an agreement with the campus president.
- Staff reported the theft of a rented BBQ valued at \$800.
- A student’s keys, temporarily left in the dorm room lock were stolen. The locks were changed.
- At 0239 a Safety officer saw a large group of students running nude on 6<sup>th</sup> St.
- An unconscious, intoxicated female was found on the restroom floor of a student center. She was discovered to be an alumna whose friends took care of her.
- LACFD was called to extinguish a fire in a dumpster that neither students nor Safety officers were able to control. It may have been started by a flare or other incendiary device.
- A student reported the theft of a laptop computer from an unlocked dorm room. Students saw a white, bearded, male, about age 25 - 30, height 5'8" to 5'10" fleeing the area.
- Officers responding to a fire alarm smelled marijuana smoke and speculated that it had activated the alarm in the dorm corridor.
- A male student said a female entered his room through a window, opened the door while he was in the bathroom and allowed another female to enter. The second woman (both are known to the victim) then hit and kicked him before both fled.
- Safety officers discovered a dining hall utility cart with its steering wheel tied, turning in circles while afire. Cameras recorded some suspect information.
- Safety officers, CPD and LACFD responded to a student apartment basketball court where a bed and mattress were found on fire.
- An elderly female riding a motorized tricycle overturned near a dorm, badly injuring her head. She was transported to PVHMC.
- A female student was transported to PVHMC for alcohol poisoning.
- A female student reported being assaulted by another female student. Although CPD responded, the victim declined a crime report.
- Students reported that a Hispanic male who tried to sell narcotics to students involved in a “pole sitting” endeavor also verbally abused them before leaving. Officers UTL.
- Two male students and one female student were found “skinny-dipping” in a locked pool. They were identified and ejected.

- A male student slapped an RA in the presence of Safety officers who were handling another incident nearby. The on-call dean was notified and the subject was identified.
- A Safety officer reported that a male student pushed him, called him derogatory names and refused to show his ID. He was identified and a dean's report was written.
- Another four or more incidents involving stolen, vandalized, crashed dining hall utility carts were reported.
- One plate glass pane of a double entry door to an administrative building was broken in, possibly by a rock.
- A female student reported receiving 7 prank phone calls on one day.
- A Safety officer reported 25 naked females on a grassy quad. They then entered a dorm.
- [END OF APRIL 2000 INCIDENTS]
- However, as a last entry: At 0555 hrs. of 5/1/00, Student protestors locked themselves to the exterior handles of the entrance doors of an administrative building, preventing entrance by employees. Using U-locks around their necks attached to the handles and cable locks locking student bodies together the same protestors who had taken over a building on another campus earlier now prevented the use of this building protesting the same dining hall worker conditions. Staff noticed that the students had missed one basement door and Safety officers promptly controlled it and maintained control of that door and the interior of the building for the period of the protest which lasted for 1 ½ days until a negotiated settlement was reached.

had thefts from unlocked rooms when the keys had already been turned in but the property had not yet been removed and secured in a vehicle. Others have left boxes of property in hallways or at the curb while making trips to room or vehicle and the property disappeared in the interim. Lastly, property has been taken from vehicles which have not been secured during the packing process. In each case property should be locked up or watched vigilantly at all times.

For the rest of us, after the students have gone — there will be a hiatus of a couple of weeks before summer programs begin. In that period construction and renovation projects will begin. We will have many unknown workers on campus and theft will, undoubtedly, continue. We must be especially watchful about doors left open for renovation and project work. Construction workers are notorious for leaving buildings totally unsecured at the end of their work day.

When the summer programs begin, we should do our best to warn incoming visitors and guests that they must secure their property in their dorm rooms, their offices, etc. Thieves will continue to prey on the careless. The serenity of the campus does not deter thieves. Only watchfulness, good reporting and routine, consistent security practices work.

## Crime Prevention Strategies / Tips

**O**ur concerns for the remaining few days of the semester are focused on preventing the theft of student property during "move out". This year, as in years past, there will be thieves moving in and among families, friends, and students moving property out to vehicles. It is most important that property not be allowed to sit anywhere unwatched or unsecured. In the past we have

## April 2000 Statistics

Annoying call	2
Assault	0
ADW (assault w/deadly weapon)	0
Disturbance	0
Hate Incident	0
Indecent Exposure	0
Prowling	0
Rape	0
Robbery	0
Sexual Assault	0
<i>Other</i>	0
Arson	0
Burglary	0
Theft (From Auto)	0
Theft (Bike)	6
Theft (Building)	8
Theft (Other)	1
Grand Theft Auto	0
Trespass	0
Vandalism	0
<i>Other</i>	0

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