

The Claremont Colleges

Dept. of Campus Safety, Ext. 7 - 2000

January 2001

November / December 2000 Crime and Incident Report

Trends and Analysis

The crime trend, clearly, is toward more dorm theft and more bicycle theft. Before the winter break we had a series of dorm room thefts. Some off-campus thieves were apprehended. During the break additional apprehensions were made. The first week after the return of the students thefts were discovered which occurred sometime over the break. While there are some dorm room “break-ins” which are mysterious, as to how entry was gained, most of the illicit entries are known to have been through windows which were not adequately secured.

During the break Campus Safety officers apprehended two of “our” students in the act of carrying off loot stolen from multiple dorm rooms on a campus adjacent to their own. CPD arrested them and is investigating the crimes. Thousands of dollars of electronic items, games, and other valuables were recovered. CPD arrested another student for forgery and in a search of the student’s dorm room, stolen property from another student was found. These unhappy situations prompt a rescission of a long-held tenet that “outsiders” were

responsible for most of the major thefts on campus.

Bicycle thefts, of which we have had approximately a dozen in a one week period of mid-January, are following the usual pattern of the thieves cutting cables or removing locked front wheels to get the bikes. Generally, bikes **properly** locked with U-locks remain protected. (“properly” means that at least one wheel, the frame and the rack are captured in the lock enclosure.)

Selective Incident Summary, Nov.1 — Dec. 31, 2000

- Two male students suffering from excess alcohol ingestion at 0205 hrs. were evaluated by paramedics. They were not transported for treatment. RAs were left with the responsibility of checking on them later.
- Staff at a student dean’s office found the office glass door shattered in the morning.
- A student’s bike, cable-locked to a handrail was stolen and a cheaper bike left in its place.
- Smoke and a burning odor were reported at an academic building at 0001 hrs. Officers found a wooden board and other items on top of a kiln, in use, which had burned.
- A student reported the theft of a bonsai tree from outside of a dorm room.
- A cell phone was stolen from on top of an outside wall.
- A Campus Safety officer found a case containing 24 CDs in a parking lot. The item is being held until claimed by the owner. (pcc#2046)
- A male student was seen on the roof of an academic building. Officers reported that he appeared to be intoxicated. The incident was

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handled by residence hall professional staff after Safety officers got him down from dangerous heights.

- A pizza delivery person was badgered and harassed by off-duty employees demanding free pizza near a dining hall. The name of the owner of the vehicle in which they drove away was provided to campus administrators.
- A student turned in currency found on the lawn near a student center. It is being held until claimed by the owner. (pcc#2047, 11/4/00)
- Someone vandalized academic building offices by removing a message board, writing obscenities and drawing obscene pictures on the doors.
- A student reported the theft of a wallet with cash from a student center.
- A passerby reported plants pulled out and a small tree pushed over near a campus pool.
- The stereo was stolen from a vehicle parked in an interior campus lot. Entry was through a smashed window.
- An RA reported malicious defecation, urination and regurgitation on the floor and walls of an interior dorm hallway.
- Indecipherable graffiti and a Canadian flag drawing were applied to the walls of an academic building in red crayon and red marker.
- A cell phone was stolen from an unlocked car.
- A student was transported to CPD for a psychological evaluation following an emotional, threatening incident in an administrator's office.
- A cell phone was stolen from a student's bag in an academic building.
- An unresponsive, intoxicated, O/C male was found by a female behind some bushes on a campus perimeter. CPD assisted Safety officers in interviewing the subject and arrested him for "drunk in public".
- An employee's sibling came to the campus place of work demanding money and making threats with a small knife. The matter was referred to the administration and the family for follow-up action after officers determined that no present danger existed. A subsequent, similar threat resulted in a determination that CPD will be called for any further incidents.
- Four BMX bikers "stunting" on campus facilities caused some damage to a bench and

were stopped by Safety officers. They were interviewed and told to leave campus.

- An electric golf cart rented by an injured student was stolen and later found being driven by children. They said that two students had given it to them and told them to return it to a campus building.
- Someone entered an unlocked student's dorm room during dinner and took a computer and electronic organizer.
- At 0208 hrs. someone activated a dorm fire alarm pull station as a prank.
- Safety officers stopped and interviewed five juvenile skateboarders reported by staff as "stunting" on campus planters.
- RAs stopped several off-campus subjects they observed throwing bottles and a verbal confrontation ensued before the subjects, who had been visiting a student, left.
- Several pull stations in different dorms were pulled as a prank around 0220 hrs. Sunday morning.
- Several rollerbladers doing tricks on campus facilities were interviewed and told to leave.
- A student reported a suspicious male walking down a dorm hallway pulling on doors before going down to the next floor. Safety officers were UTL.
- A trash dumpster at the rear of a dining hall ignited from hot coals dumped in it. The fire was extinguished by staff but erupted again an hour later when it was definitively extinguished by LACFD.
- Safety officers interviewed two transients who were interfering with an art installation in progress and escorted them off-campus.
- Two solicitors for a local ski area were advised of campus policy and escorted off-campus.
- A power outage and subsequent re-powering resulted in a surge causing an explosion in a manhole which left several campuses with limited power for several hours, meanwhile disrupting traffic on the street.
- Three solicitors at dorms were told to leave and complied.
- An off-campus male came to the campus workplace of a family member and harassed the employee multiple times. Safety officers were alerted to the circumstance.

- Approximately 200 persons protesting the construction of KGI on the Bernard Field Station marched from the central campus to the KGI "south campus" and blockaded a large tent set up for convocation ceremonies. The ceremonies were moved to an adjacent building from which the protestors were restricted. Although a large force of Safety officers and CPD were "on scene" no arrests were made nor damage caused.
- A female student jogging on Foothill Blvd. said she was accosted by two off-campus males, one of whom grabbed her hand and suggested that they mutually remove their clothing. She freed herself from his grasp and continued jogging and they did not follow.
- An unknown person broke a dorm corridor window on the 2nd floor at 2340 hrs.
- A seventeen year old female student was evaluated by paramedics and transported to the hospital for treatment of alcohol poisoning after being escorted from a social event by a Safety officer.
- Safety officers and CPD responded to a dorm where two intoxicated male students from different campuses were fighting. One suffered minor injuries but no charges were pressed in what was defined as "mutual combat".
- An upper level dorm smoke detector activated when someone ignited paper.
- Students broke into two fire extinguisher cases and discharged extinguishers in the dorm, setting off the fire alarm. Someone used a cell phone and dialed 911 resulting in a LACFD response. [FYI, cell phone 911 calls go to the Calif. Highway Patrol and are routed from there. ALL emergencies on campus should be called to the Dept. of Campus Safety, 7-2000, for the most effective response and referral service.]
- Safety officers and CPD responded to a party site following a physical altercation between two students from one campus and two working Student Security persons from another campus. Student Security personnel declined to bring criminal charges against the offenders.
- A broken floor lamp and the lens of an outdoor light standard were found broken on a campus walkway.
- A student reported the theft of an ATM card from a dorm room. The bank provided identification of a person using the card which

led to a CPD investigation and the arrest of a student mentioned in the first section of this newsletter for grand theft, theft of a credit card and forgery.

- A laptop computer valued at \$2000 was stolen from an unlocked dorm room between 1756 hrs. and 1815 hrs.
- Someone destroyed 5 plaster molds, causing numerous, deep scratches, possibly with a dinner fork, at an art studio facility.
- There were several instances of persons in a van illicitly attempting to sell speakers.
- An 18 yr. old female who consumed over 1/4 of a bottle of tequila was transported to an emergency care facility for treatment of alcohol poisoning.
- A student reported the theft of a laptop computer, valued at \$3000, from a locked dorm room where the window had been left partially open.
- Female roommates received approx. 25 obscene, threatening phone calls from unknown males and were able to identify the number from which the calls were made. CPD responded but the women decided to pursue the matter through campus judicial action rather than bring criminal charges against the student callers who were identified.
- Two students were seen fleeing the location of a broken dorm window at 0400 hrs. Other residence hall staff saw the two male subjects hiding while watching the reaction to the window breakage.
- Someone found a vial of white powder on the floor of a dorm hallway and turned it in to the dean. It was identified as cocaine and turned over to CPD.
- A Safety officer found two large panes of a window wall of an administration building broken, apparently by a pool ball thrown from the inside.
- At 1544 hrs. a student reported that he observed four males walking by the campus and one of them said something about "hacksawing" something. Safety officers were unable to locate the subjects. At 1720 hrs. staff discovered that a dining hall door had been pried open and a section of a roll-up door had been hacksawed out as well as a padlock from an office door. Nothing was discovered missing.
- Officers responded to an athletic field for a reported fight. They found two male subjects

from different campuses whose argument about sports had escalated into a fight with one suffering minor injuries. One of the participants used a fake ID in an attempt to conceal his student identity. Safety officers confiscated the fake ID and wrote a report.

- A transient white male with dreadlocks, wearing a gray blanket was seen exiting an admin. building restroom. He refused to stop for a Safety officer but left the campus.
- A student's parked vehicle was damaged in a "hit and run" accident. CPD responded for a report.
- A Safety officer on parking control reported nearly being struck by the vehicle of a person insisting upon parking in a prohibited area. CPD responded and discussed the incident with the parties involved.
- A male student was arrested for battery after he attempted to get into a dorm other than his own and students inside would not open the door for him. When he finally gained entry he assaulted one of the students who hadn't opened the door for him.
- An unlocked bike was stolen from an athletic facility rack.
- Someone walked upon a parked vehicle denting the hood.
- A student reported pry marks on his dorm door but did not want a crime report.
- A groundsman found a grave headstone engraved with a name in a hedge on campus. CPD referred the matter to a local cemetery and they picked up the headstone.
- A day planner containing checks and an item of clothing were stolen after being left in a classroom.
- Students reported a solicitor selling magazines. Safety officers found him and escorted him from campus.
- Two female students reported obscene and threatening phone calls from a whispering male, from a campus phone, who knew what articles of clothing they wore. CPD took a report and is investigating.
- Staff in a library reported the theft of items related to identity theft and of keys and a substantial amount of cash from a copy center, during a renovation period.

- An off-campus male banned from campus was seen on campus and was found visiting student friends. He was arrested.
- Staff of one college found students from another campus stealing firewood from their cache. The students were counseled.

[End of November incidents]

- A staff groundsman reported the theft of a \$400 blower from a utility cart.
- A backpack with personal property was stolen from a dining hall.
- A Safety officer stopped an older white male carrying a bike. The uncooperative subject said he did not have identification with him. CPD responded and identified the subject and arrested him for outstanding warrants in Los Angeles.
- Two short, white males with dark hair attempted to enter a dorm but were turned away. They were then seen videotaping students through dorm windows and otherwise harassing students. They fled from Safety officers but came back again. They then fled when CPD arrived. While officers were talking to students about the incident they noticed a male student removing the bicycle seats from all of the bikes in a rack and throwing them in the bushes. He was identified and encouraged to replace the seats, which he did.
- CPD responded to a party at the request of Safety officers trying to control about 50 students arguing, pushing and shoving each other. One intoxicated male student was arrested for assaulting a female student.
- At 0107 hrs. a male student was transported to the hospital for treatment of probable alcohol poisoning.
- Custodial staff reported two males who took milk from a dining hall. They may have entered through a window.
- A student reported the theft of golf equipment from a common storage area.
- A locked vehicle was stolen from a campus lot within a 13 day time frame.
- Students reported that the males videotaping students the previous day returned. Safety officers stopped the five subjects, interviewed them and escorted them off campus.

- A male subject described as “scraggly”, age 40's, with facial hair and wearing a brown leather jacket and red cowboy boots wandered around inside a dorm at 0215 hrs. then left. He was seen entering through a propped door.
- At 0314 hrs. another older white male wearing a dark sports jacket was seen in the same dorm courtyard. He was reportedly extremely intoxicated and incoherent but was gone when officers arrived.
- A cable-locked bike was stolen from a dorm rack.
- A student's vehicle was the recipient of damage caused by a “hit-and-run driver.
- Seven skateboarders with video camera equipment were stopped by Safety officers and were advised about campus policy regarding skateboarding “stunting”. Actually, there were dozens of other similar situations with fewer participants which have not been reported here.
- After the fact, a student reported that he had been battered by another student in a residence. CPD had already taken a report and the victim had already been treated at a medical facility.
- An office phone was stolen from an academic building.
- A security officer on fire watch duty reported the theft of his jacket from a chair in the work area.
- The parents of a student reported that their parked car was hit with an egg thrown by subjects in a passing car who were trying to hit three black males walking nearby.
- Two female students in the same dorm reported receiving a series of sexually oriented calls from a male subject who knew them by name and knew what clothing they wore. CPD is investigating. A recording was made of the caller's whispered voice.
- A stolen golf cart was discovered with four students in it. They were identified after they advised that they had borrowed it to go to dinner.
- A vehicle previously reported stolen was found parked in a different area. The GTA report was cancelled.
- Students stole a case of champagne from a party and fled into a suite of rooms in a dorm, blocking the door, then fleeing out through a common bathroom. Meanwhile, RAs and the dean on call were provided with sufficient identifying information to deal with the subjects at a later date.
- At 0028 hrs. a dorm fire alarm was activated via an upper floor pull box. No fire.
- At 0045 hrs. a female student was transported to the hospital for alcohol poisoning.
- Custodians found a homeless male subject in a physical education facility in the morning. He had entered the day before and hid out in the men's room because of inclement weather. He was escorted off campus by Safety officers after being interviewed by CPD.
- Two female students reported the theft of personal items from a common bathroom in a dorm.
- Officers and dean's staff responding to a dorm fire alarm found numerous beer bottles and a strong odor of marijuana in a basement area. The alarm was reset.
- A cable-locked bike was stolen from a dorm rack.
- A student reported a 10 yr. old drinking at a student party. Safety officers found two off-campus males, aged 20, accompanying the juvenile. CPD was advised and checked with the parents who knew the child was with the older males at the party. The juvenile was not drinking but all three left the campus.
- A \$1500 mountain bike, locked with a \$30 cable lock was stolen from a dorm bike rack. The cut cable was left at the scene.
- A backpack and contents reported stolen the previous week was found intact — not stolen.
- Students, RAs and Safety officers observed a large group of students smoking marijuana, drinking alcohol, throwing bottles and making a lot of noise in a dorm courtyard. They fled.
- An RA reported that a dorm bulletin board had been ripped from the wall.
- Safety officers responding to a report of a suspicious male wearing a blanket, carrying a stick found an off-campus male wandering through campus carrying a prayer stick and blanket. He was interviewed, advised of campus policy regarding trespassing and left.
- A female student reported that an unknown male shined a flashlight onto himself as he exposed himself to her and a female friend walking by on a walkway near some tennis courts.

- A student reported items stolen from his dorm room. He became aware of the theft when the Visa Card people called him about large charges on his card.
- A student's laptop computer was taken from a dorm room.
- A student parked her vehicle in an academic building lot and returned 2 hrs. later to find the door handle pried and a dent in the door.
- At 0150 hrs. a smoke detector in a dorm was torn down by unknown persons, requiring a service call by alarm technicians from home. Three hours later the alarm was re-set.
- A student reported being contacted by Master Card regarding large purchases and attempted purchases on his stolen credit card. CPD is investigating.
- A student in another dorm was advised that someone attempted to obtain credit to buy a \$4500 computer using the student's name and social security number. CPD is investigating.
- A staff person reported solicitors in a dorm. They were gone when Safety officers arrived.
- Another solicitor on another campus was reported by a staff person. The male subject was interviewed by Safety officers and left campus.
- An electrical fire started from a generator, during an event at a faculty club resulted in a response from multiple campus officials and CPD and LACFD. The building was evacuated while the fire was extinguished and smoke cleared from the building. One vehicle blocking a fire lane at the arrival of LACFD was towed although "Fire" considered running hoses through the windows of the vehicle. The episode resulted in a temporary power outage on the feeder servicing the facility, for repairs.
- Safety officers saw two students driving a golf cart erratically. They abandoned it and fled when officers approached. The cart was taken to the Safety office for safekeeping.
- A bike, locked to itself, was stolen from a bike shed.
- A bike locked by the front wheel only to a rack with a u-lock, was stolen but the locked wheel was left in the rack.
- A student reported a suspicious male subject who walked into another student's room. The reporting party saw the subject at a local mall days earlier, selling magazines. Safety and CPD found and interviewed the subject, a Tennessee resident who said he is living in a Pico Rivera motel. He was escorted from campus.
- Safety officers responding to a pool alarm found two naked, intoxicated males and females who verbally identified themselves and left the area.
- At 0221 someone reported two males with boxing gloves fighting in a parking lot. Safety officers found two males with boxing headgear and gloves but they weren't fighting. The event was postponed for the night.
- A large Freightliner tractor parked in a campus lot turned out to belong to a female student who took the semester off to "drive truck" and was visiting on campus.
- A male subject with a prayer stick, cap and blanket, previously interviewed, was again stopped and interviewed and escorted from campus.
- Someone reported a little girl in pajamas, carrying a sleeping bag walking along a city street through the campus at 1717 hrs. Safety officers discovered she had an event at school requiring the "dress-up" gear and was now enroute home. She was escorted to her residence several blocks further.
- CPD officers on routine patrol discovered two males on BMX bikes lurking near a parked vehicle with the rear door open. They fled. Safety officers secured the vehicle after confirming a student owner.
- A female student reported a sexual assault which occurred on another campus in a dorm room after a party. Alcohol was involved. CPD is investigating.
- A student reported the theft of cash from a wallet in a dorm desk.
- A student's cell phone was stolen from on top of a dresser in an unlocked dorm room.
- An unlocked bike was taken from outside of a dorm room door.
- A student reported a male subject rummaging through a dumpster. He was interviewed by Safety officers and left campus.
- A student reported a suspicious male on a bike looking into windows and subsequently entering a dorm. Safety officers stopped the male Ontario resident who entered a suite through a window and stole three marijuana

pipes. Students in the suite did not claim the paraphernalia but knew that it had been stolen from the suite. CPD arrested the subject for burglary.

- Welding on the roof of the library caused smoke and fumes to be circulated throughout the library through the air handler ducts and the library was evacuated until the contractors resolved the problem.
- The driver's side window of an employee's parked vehicle was found shattered.
- A student reported that while she and her roommate were out of their apartment between 1600 and 1700 hrs., someone entered the locked apartment and cut and dyed their hair (black) in the kitchen sink. "Facilities" was notified to re-key the lock.
- A 16 yr. old male found loitering by Safety officers, during the "break" was interviewed and escorted off campus.
- At 2254 hrs. 2 off-campus male subjects who said they were trying to pick up something from a friend were stopped during the break by Safety officers and escorted off-campus.
- Safety officers found two students with backpacks near dorms on a campus adjacent to their own at 0140 hrs. They were interviewed and CPD responded. Eventually, many thousands of dollars of stolen equipment from dorm rooms was found in the backpacks and their vehicle. They were arrested.
- A Safety officer found a transient walking through bushes adjoining a parking lot at 0423 hrs. CPD assisted with an interview of the subject who was discovered to be a registered sex offender. He was warned not to return and was escorted off campus.
- Safety officers saw someone climbing over a wall out of a dorm area. They were found to be students who had enter a dorm illicitly during the break.
- At 2243 hrs. on Christmas day, Safety officers found three male subjects loitering in hammocks in a dorm quad area. They supposedly were visiting friends. Safety officers interviewed them and escorted them off-campus.
- There were numerous instances of skateboarding, rollerblading and BMX biking, illicitly, on campus. Many subjects were stopped and warned and many others fled.

- CPD officers reported that they detained five male subjects in the city, one of whom, was found to be in possession of property belonging to at least one student — including a calculator and four BMW emblems.
- A groundsman found scuff marks on a wall under a window and a window leading to a dorm bathroom forced open. Safety officers checked the building and found nothing further amiss.

Crime Prevention Strategies/Tips

Sometimes common sense things that we all should know need to be repeated over and over in the hope that a few more people will pay attention and take appropriate protective action. This list is such a "repeat" of a previous exhortation.

- Secure your laptop with cables, or better, inside of a locked cabinet, chest, or enclosure when not in direct line of sight.
- Always lock your bike (correctly) with a good u-lock or very sturdy locking device. Our campus vulnerability should be considered in the "high risk" class.
- Lock your dorm room when you are not in it or when you sleep. Make sure your roommates or suitemates do likewise. Unlocked adjoining bathrooms are a common entry point.
- Secure windows where there is any possibility of getting in.
- Secure your property when social activities involve your room/area. "Acquaintances" are just strangers with names and you can't trust all of them.
- Call Campus Safety for an escort — any time.
- Use electronic locks or other devices to secure your vehicle against theft or burglary.
- Obtain a whistle and be prepared to use it to alert the campus to danger. The whistle program is active and it works. (Call Campus Safety if you hear a whistle being blown and try to provide direction of travel information to responding Safety officers when you see suspicious activity.)
- Never prop — always unprop dorm doors you see propped.

- Report strangers you see in dorms or whom you see enter as a "follow-through" to an RA or Campus Safety.
- If in doubt about anything dangerous or suspicious — CALL CAMPUS SAFETY 7-2000.

November 2000 Statistics

Annoying Call	0
Assault	0
ADW	1
Disturbance	0
Hate Incident	0
Indecent Exposure	0
Prowling	0
Rape	0
Robbery	0
Sexual Assault	0
other	0

Arson	0
Burglary	2
Theft (From Auto)	1
Theft (Bike)	2
Theft (Building)	0
Theft (Other)	7
Grand Theft Auto*	0
Trespass	1
Vandalism	5
other	0

*Grand Theft Auto" statistics include both the "theft" or "recovery" of motorized vehicles on campus.

Sexual Assault	0
other	0
Arson	0
Burglary	1
Theft (From Auto)	1
Theft (Bike)	1
Theft (Building)	2
Theft (Other)	12
Grand Theft Auto*	1
Trespass	0
Vandalism	0
other	0

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December 2000 Statistics

Annoying Call	0
Assault	1
ADW	0
Disturbance	0
Hate Incident	0
Indecent Exposure	0
Prowling	0
Rape	1
Robbery	0

