

The Claremont Colleges

Dept. of Campus Safety, 7 - 2000

November 2000

October Crime and Incident Report

Trends and Analysis

In spite of having apprehended two professional thieves and chasing another through the campus, we continue to experience dorm room thefts, classroom thefts and bike thefts. There are other crimes as well, but these are seemingly continuous and unremitting. Theories about crime and crime prevention include a recognition that, ultimately, criminals will appear where opportunities exist. It doesn't matter how many thieves are caught. If doors are left unlocked; bikes are inadequately secured; classrooms are left open; windows are not secured; someone, finally, will see the opportunity and take advantage of it. Reaction and, even, apprehension, is not the answer, although we like to apprehend. We, as citizens of this community are not doing enough to secure our own property nor that of the institutions in our consortium.

Alcohol related incidents continue to have significance related to sexual assaults, vandalism, assault, battery, noise complaints, and general disorderliness. In the months of September and October fifty-five alcohol related incidents came to the attention of the Campus Safety Dept.

Selective Incident Summary, Oct. 1 – 31, 2000

- A intoxicated student fell while descending stairs, injuring her leg. She was transported to the hospital for treatment.
- A staff person reported a missing golf cart belonging to the campus which was subsequently found slightly damaged.
- A female student walking in "The Village" was approached by a male in a vehicle who was masturbating while trying to get her attention. CPD took a report.
- Staff reported a dorm front desk phone missing.
- A student saw someone taking his unlocked bike. Suspect description: Hispanic male with black spiky hair, dark goatee, wearing a long blue jacket and jeans. CPD was advised.
- A senior staff person reported receiving sexually harassing, pornographic materials via campus mail.
- Staff reported the theft of two master keys to a student center.
- A grounds supervisor reported a hand grenade in a parking lot. CPD and the bomb squad responded and determined that the device was a "dummy" and removed it from the area.
- A student reported the theft of his vehicle logo and model number which were pried from his parked vehicle.
- CPD and the L.A. County Coroner were called to investigate possible embryonic tissue found in a dorm area. It was determined to be animal tissue.
- A Safety officer noticed two male juveniles on skateboards enter a propped basement door to a dorm. He found them after a building search, identified them and escorted them off campus.

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- A student reported the theft of a locked bike from a dorm rack.
- An unlocked mountain bike was stolen from the patio of a student apartment between 2000 and 2100 hrs. .
- A Safety officer reported a fight at a party in which one male was attacked by two males from another campus over the attentions of a woman. Injuries to a knuckle and a jaw were reported but both declined medical attention. CPD took a report.
- A student reported that a black male subject, about age 16, was seen exiting his dorm room through the window. The student's safe and keys were stolen. CPD took a report.
- An unknown subject entered another student's window, stealing jewelry and cash.
- A Safety officer saw four males smoking marijuana and looking into dorm windows at 0035 hrs. They disappeared when he approached but other officers found subjects nearby who were carrying a pint of rum.
- Staff reported that 3 males in a stolen golf cart drove through a student center, down a staircase, into a pillar, causing damage and fled.
- Safety officers interviewed two suspicious males found entering dorm rooms. One subject was found to be a former student from another of the campuses and the other was his friend. They were eventually escorted to the room of a friend as guests.
- CPD officers stopped two students in a stolen golf cart on Mills ave. , north of Foothill Blvd. at 0150 hrs. They arrested the driver for DUI and for a fraudulent license. The cart was later identified as the one which had been driven into a pillar earlier in the day.
- A female student reported experiencing the symptoms of a date rape drug which may have been given the night before. Testing was arranged.
- Someone threw a rock toward a pool, from the bleachers. It hit the pool deck, cracking the tiles.
- A digital camera was stolen from a dorm room. It was adjacent to another room where a burglary occurred and the same suspect was seen exiting the window.
- Someone entered a dorm room through a connecting bathroom and stole a wallet left inside a coat pocket.
- A student reported the theft of cash from an unlocked dorm room. The victim had seen a black male in his early 20's, wearing gray gloves walking around in the suite earlier.
- Another theft of cash from a dorm room in which entry was made through an adjoining bathroom was reported. The same suspect had been seen.
- Another room was burglarized of cash from a purse. A black male subject had been seen by the victim outside of her window at 2300 hrs. Entry to the room was by the window from which the screen had been pried off.
- An additional burglary of cash from a dorm room occurred. The victim said that a black male with short hair and a dark jumpsuit entered through an adjoining bathroom, according to witnesses.
- A student reported that her car windshield had been broken and now someone had glued a key into her dorm room lock, preventing her use of the lock. Maintenance was called.
- A CD player was stolen from an unlocked dorm room.
- An antenna was stolen from a vehicle parked on a campus street.
- Staff reported the theft of a VCR from a student center.
- A student reported the theft of a laptop computer and a digital camera from an unlocked dorm room. The thief left a Gatorade bottle while there.
- A student's unlocked bike was stolen from a dorm bike rack.
- A passenger side mirror and a driver's side chrome strip were removed from a parked vehicle.
- Money was stolen from a wallet left inside of a locker at an athletic facility.
- A student taking sinus medication and a cough suppressant also imbibed a liter of peach schnapps and smoked some marijuana, rendering her unconscious. She was transported to the hospital.
- A staff person witnessed a hit and run vehicle accident and identified the running vehicle. Information about a graduated student, who owned the vehicle, was provided to CPD for investigation.
- A cable-locked bike was stolen from a dorm rack.

- Staff reported that money belonging to four students was stolen from a locker room in addition to the money already reported stolen from a previous victim.
- Plainclothes Safety officers on a burglary stakeout at the request of the Dean of Students, followed a suspicious black male and Hispanic male who had been peering into dorm windows. The subjects spotted the officers and fled. Other Safety officers and CPD caught both subjects who had split up. Both were arrested. The subjects were carrying two-way radios and one had burglary tools in his vehicle, which Safety officers found. The other had a warrant for possession of burglary tools. Both had been arrested on campus before.
- Several subjects were seen vandalizing a vending machine in a dorm. Safety officers identified three students who were attempting to remove snacks with a coat hanger. The RA was advised.
- Students reported a black male wearing gray gloves on the 2nd floor of a dorm behaving suspiciously. They chased the subject who was later stopped by a Safety officer. The subject pushed the Safety officer's bike over and ran, swiftly several blocks where he entered a vehicle in a parking lot. There he was approached by another Safety officer in an electric car. The subject backed his car into the Safety officer's car, pushing it sideways 6 ft. and fled. CPD was notified. (black male, 5'10", 160 lbs., age 25 approx., short "fade" haircut, gold stud earrings, slight facial hair,
- Grounds staff reported an attempted theft of a tractor. The ignition wires had been pulled out.
- Over the "fall break" cash was stolen from a student's locked room.
- A student reported the theft of all of her jewelry from her locked dorm room, over the "fall break".
- Staff reported the theft of two VCR's, and one TV from an academic building.
- A student reported the theft of his vehicle from an unmonitored lot.
- A TV and VCR were stolen from an academic building office.
- A Safety officer found a door propped with a rock in the same general area from which a TV and VCR had been stolen earlier in the week. The door was secured.
- Staff reported chalk graffiti in a commons area. Safety officers found slogan and fliers pertaining to protests against the Keck Graduate Institute.
- Additional graffiti was found on the wall of Big Bridges and nearby areas in chalk, referring to KGI and Bernard Field Station. Staff cleaned it up.
- Staff reported damage to a fountain structure by three BMX bikers. Safety officers caught two and advised CPD. A parent of one of the offenders was called and arrived to take custody of the subjects.
- An intoxicated female who refused medical attention eventually lost consciousness and was transported to the hospital.
- A Safety officer found four males burning a hole in the exterior of a window screen in an area where there were frequent burglaries recently. One of the four was the resident of the room who lost a key and used the window to enter his room.
- RAs observed a student driving a tractor through a dorm quad area at 0242 hrs. The tractor had been "hot wired" and taken from a different campus. Enroute, the tractor had knocked down a lamppost and burst through a chain link fence, breaking the lock and damaging the gate. The driver was identified as the same person who, earlier in the day, had been seen urinating in the bushes near a dining hall and throwing beer bottles from a dorm roof. While enroute to the site of the tractor theft the student had also assaulted students and "beat-up" a campus visitor based on the suspect's perception of the visitor's sexual orientation. No criminal charges were requested by the assault and battery victims because of fear of retaliation.
- There were multiple incidents of skateboarder and BMX bikers "stunting" on campus elevated surfaces, causing substantial damage.
- A student reported a dead fish on top of the card reader to student apartments. An RA was called to handle the situation.
- An RA reported three males attempting to steal a handicapped sign at a nearby intersection. Safety officers UTL.
- A bike cable-locked to a dorm rack was stolen.

- Staff reported the theft of a VCR from an academic building.
- A student's bike, reported stolen last month, was found by the owner locked to a rack in a different place. CPD responded, "recovered" the bike and returned it to the owner.
- An unlocked bike was stolen from a dorm rack.
- Students reported a transient male hanging around a dorm. Safety officers found a 27 yr. old male looking for a student with whom he last had contact in 1997. He was advised that she is not available and was encouraged to leave.
- A female student said she received a call from a male who said he was a prospective student who had been given a list of student numbers he could call to get information about the college. He began asking routine questions but diverted to sexually oriented questions. At that point the student broke the connection.
- A student's vehicle had an obscene message written on the windshield.
- A burglar entered an unlocked dorm room and took money, a passport, blank checks and a plane ticket.
- A bike, cable-locked to a dorm rack was stolen.
- An "older" white male, "grungy" and wearing a backpack was seen trying to engage students in conversation in a dorm courtyard. Safety officers stopped the subject who had previously been interviewed and ejected from campus four times, the last time being in 1997.
- An RA reported damage to, and theft of snacks from a vending machine by 3 males who told him that they were from off campus but they knew the campuses well. Safety officers were UTL.
- A golf cart provided to an injured student for temporary use was stolen from its location and found by Safety officers on the other side of the campus.
- An unlocked kayak, valued at \$960 was stolen from a student parking lot.
- A bike, cable-locked to a dorm rack, was stolen.
- Safety officers found an intoxicated subject impersonating a police officer, at a party, looking through attendees purses and wallets. He was arrested for "drunk in public".
- While officers were dealing with the officer impersonator a student assaulted one of the officers by throwing beer on him. He was arrested for assault and "drunk in public".
- Officers at the same party reported an extremely intoxicated female throwing things at officers and engaging in verbal battles with others. She ran into a dorm and ultimately slipped back into the party, eluding officers.
- A student reported harassment and vandalism by three males who pounded on a dorm door, tore off a "Gay Rights" poster and shouted harassing comments and questions to the resident regarding sexual orientation.
- A Safety officer detained four skateboarders who were trick-riding and filming themselves, who had also taken containers of orange juice from a courtyard where classes were being held. The juice was recovered and the trespassers were ejected from campus.
- A student reported the theft of a computer, scanner and keyboard from an unlocked dorm room.
- A student reported the theft of his car cover from his parked car.
- A large, custom-made banner was stolen from the exterior wall of a student center.
- Vandals walked on the roof of a parked car, caving it in.
- A Safety officer observed suspicious behavior of a male subject behind a wall at 2110 hrs.. When officers questioned the subject, a student, he said, among other bizarre things, that he had killed a professor. The student, pulled a knife out in front of the Safety officers and was handcuffed by them, then arrested by CPD for attempted murder, when officers confirmed that a professor had been stabbed (not killed) when he befriended the student who had been arrested the day before for misdemeanor crimes.
- A vehicle previously reported stolen from a student lot was found two weeks later in the Bookstore lot. The owner did not remember leaving it there. A "recovery" report was written.
- Staff reported the theft of a memory chip from a computer lab.
- Staff reported that two juveniles had thrown an egg at a parked vehicle. They were then encouraged to clean it off and did so.

Crime Prevention Strategies/Tips

First — Think SECURITY / SAFETY!
We know — it seems so serene here. Really though, people come here to steal stuff from us! There are things we can do to reduce the likelihood of victimization.

1. Lock your dorm room and secure the windows when you are away for even the shortest time.
2. Lock the room when you are taking a nap or sleeping for both your safety and security of your property.
3. Close exterior doors that you find propped. (Don't prop doors!)
4. Always lock your bike with a U-lock or heavy channel stock lock. At a minimum, grasp the frame within the lock enclosure.
5. Use the escort service. Either a student escort or a Campus Safety escort is available 24 hrs. daily.
6. Report suspicious activity promptly. Use emergency phones or any other nearby phone to call the Dept. of Campus Safety. (7-2000)
7. Pull academic and administrative building doors closed behind you so they latch/lock.

October 2000 Statistics

Annoying Call	0
Assault	0
ADW	1
Disturbance	0
Hate Incident	2
Indecent Exposure	0
Prowling	0
Rape	0
Robbery	0
Sexual Assault	0
other	0
Arson	0
Burglary	9
Theft (From Auto)	0
Theft (Bike)	8
Theft (Building)	12
Theft (Other)	7
Grand Theft Auto*	4
Trespass	0
Vandalism	2
other	0

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

Published By:

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