

The Claremont Colleges

Dept. of Campus Safety, Ext. 7-2000

May 2001

April Crime and Incident Report

Trends and Analysis

The last weeks before the end of the semester and “move-out” day are normally hectic. This year we had the normal pressure-driven student activity during finals and, coincidentally, had many instances of suspicious persons, presumably from off-campus, roaming the

A review of the following incident summary will reveal the obvious — that the colleges draw criminals to the campus because of the opportunities here. While we prefer to consider our fellow employees and students to be honest and the colleges to be a secure environment, we must secure our property and report suspicious activity to preclude being naive victims of criminals who do not respect our trusting ways.

Selective Incident Summary, April 1 — 30, 2001

(a) A student said she was sitting in her dorm room at 0119 hrs. when someone punched a hole in the window. Officers attributed the damage to an intoxicated male student.

(a) A BMW parked in a reserved section had the front quarter panel and door kicked in by unknown persons. CPD took a report.

(b) A \$1500 bike cable-locked to a dorm

dorms. Dorm room and office burglaries were frequent. Most of the thefts were from unlocked rooms, whether office or dorm room. As usual the most frequent target items stolen were laptop computers, cash, CD's, cell phones, and other small items.

staircase handrail was stolen between 1400 and 1645 hrs. on a Sunday.

(c) Staff reported felt tip marker graffiti applied to several different areas of a student center building.

(d) A student's car cover was vandalized, being cut in two places.

(e) A \$200 speaker measuring 3' X 1' was stolen from the lounge of a dorm.

(f) A Safety officer found a throwing knife on a table in a campus wooded area.

(g) Gang graffiti was applied to an academic building men's room with a felt marker.

(h) A staff person witnessed a traffic collision after which a driver put a note on the windshield of the damaged parked car that was struck. It was later found to be blank, but the staff witness provided sufficient information for CPD to take a report and identify the suspect.

(i) A student left her purse with cash, credit cards, license and social security card, etc. in a dorm restroom. It was gone 30 minutes later but she then received a call from a student who had found it and returned it to the owner.

(j) A female driving a moped struck a vehicle, fell and exhibited shock symptoms. Paramedics responded and she was transported to the hospital.

(k) Students were watching a film on race relations in a student center theater when the film stopped. They checked the projection room and found that the video cassette had been removed from the machine and smashed on the floor. A hate crime report was written.

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- (l) A male student reported that a black male wearing a black sweater and black beanie asked him for money and wanted the student to follow him to his vehicle. He didn't. Safety officers were UTL.
- (m) A car parked in a student center lot was "keyed" — a 24" scratch across the driver's door.
- (n) Two males attending a conference argued. One pushed and kicked the other. CPD and Safety officers counseled the subjects.
- (o) A student reported a fire in a courtyard fountain. It appeared as if paint thinner had been poured in and ignited.
- (p) An uncooperative, intoxicated off-campus subject seen kicking the doors of an auditorium was interviewed by Safety officers and CPD and escorted off-campus where his sister took responsibility for him.
- (q) A female student awakened at 0145 hrs. and found a young male about 5'10" and 175 lbs. leaving the room. Her laptop computer was stolen but she couldn't see the subject's hands. Entry was through an unlocked door or window.
- (r) At 0204 hrs. a student reported a male yelling. Officers found an intoxicated juvenile without I.D. who said he was hearing voices. He was taken into custody for a curfew violation and for his own protection.
- (s) A student reported the theft of a laptop computer from an unlocked dorm room. The thief did not take other valuable items in the room.
- (t) A student's backpack was stolen from a bench in an athletic center. A white male subject about 6'1" wearing dark workout clothing was seen running from the area with a backpack.
- (u) The license plate of a car parked in a campus lot was stolen.
- (v) A Honda Accord was stolen from a campus lot. CPD took a report. The vehicle was recovered days later with the stereo and battery missing.
- (w) A male student said he came back to his room from the shower at 1717 hrs. and found a male subject with short black hair wearing a black shirt standing in his room. The subject asked whether this was Citrus College. When the resident "confronted" the subject he left immediately.
- (x) A female student said that two laptop computers, valued at \$2800 and a cell phone were stolen from her unlocked dorm room. She said that other valuables were not taken but that a packet of 3'X5" advertising cards for Club Midnight Populace, located on Sunset Strip were scattered about her room.
- (y) A student reported the theft of a laptop computer from a dorm room. Whether the door was locked was uncertain.
- (z) A car parked in a staff lot was "keyed" deeply, causing substantial damage.
- (aa) Staff reported a car parked in the middle of the street. Officers called CPD who discovered that the vehicle had been stolen. The ignition switch had been forced and it stopped in the street because it ran out of fuel.
- (bb) At 0640 hrs. a student reported a couch on fire in a dorm room. LACFD was advised and Safety officers responded. Three extinguishers were used in an attempt to control the fire but it substantially burned two rooms before being extinguished by LACFD. No injuries were reported.
- (cc) An intoxicated student jumped off a high wall into shrubbery and sustained some injuries but was combative and uncooperative with CPD and LACFD who had been called. They handcuffed the subject to the stretcher in order to transport him to the hospital.
- (dd) Safety officers confiscated a knife taken from a student who had threatened self-harm with it. A dean and counselor were contacted to handle the situation.
- (ee) Two vehicle burglars were apprehended by CPD after a Safety officer observed their suspicious activity on campus, got descriptive information and initiated a "tail" by another Safety officer who provided location information to the police. One stolen radio was found in their car and the vehicle from which it was stolen was found on campus.

- (ff) The rear window of a Ford Mustang parked on a campus street was smashed. Nothing was taken.
- (gg) A student's cell phone was stolen by three young, male subjects who asked to borrow it at a party then never returned it.
- (hh) A student reported his portable CD player and sunglasses were stolen from his unlocked room during a party. Three male juveniles were seen leaving his room in the time frame of the theft. This was the same area as that of the theft of the cell phone in the previous entry.
- (ii) A student reported a fire in a pool building. Officers found smoke coming from the chemical storage and equipment area. LACFD responded and extinguished a small fire which had been started by a diesel engine.
- (jj) A delusional student threatening suicide who heard God giving messages was transported to a care facility by Tri-City Mental Health staff for evaluation.
- (kk) A cable-locked bike was stolen from a dorm rack.
- (ll) A homeless male subject released by CPD after a "drunk in public arrest" was found on campus and interviewed by Safety officers who escorted him off campus.
- (mm) A former student of one of the campuses, apparently homeless, who had been seen frequently in various facilities, washing and sleeping was spotted by a Safety officer going into a locker room. The officer "served" a "ban" letter from the college to the subject and escorted him off campus.
- (nn) An unlocked \$350 bike was stolen from a dorm rack.
- (oo) A student reported phone calls made and billed to her by virtue of the phone access card PIN number having been acquired by someone.
- (pp) An untended purse was stolen from a dining hall.
- (qq) Student newspaper staff reported the theft of 400 — 600 newspapers which had been dropped off for distribution on a campus.
- (rr) A female driver backed a Mitsubishi station wagon into a 5 ton truck, smashing the Mitsubishi's rear window, then left. No damage to the truck.
- (ss) A female student reported a suspicious male subject in the women's restroom of a dorm. Officers found the subject on an adjacent female campus where he said that he was going to meet a named male student to go hiking. CPD responded when Safety officers discovered the subject had driven a motorcycle onto campus but did not have a current driver's license. He was told to leave and have someone with a license come back to pick up the motorcycle.
- (tt) A student reported that someone broke the side mirrors of her vehicle and those of two other vehicles parked nearby. A report was written.
- (uu) Staff reported the theft of a bag of tools from the back of a Physical Plant truck.
- (vv) A roll of "caution tape" was delivered to residence hall staff to tape off a dorm area where viral meningitis had been diagnosed in a student, pending an inspection by Public Health officials.
- (ww) An off-campus male subject banned from the colleges and previously arrested was found in a campus building and, again, arrested for trespassing. He was also under the influence of something.
- (xx) Student staff requested an escort for an extremely intoxicated male subject living on the other side of the campuses. The subject was found, unresponsive, in an adjacent parking lot but he became combative with paramedics who called for CPD. He was transported to the hospital but hospital staff called asking for CPD to respond because of his continued belligerence and being 4 times over the legal limit of alcohol for driving. The on-call dean assisted.
- (yy) At 0137 hrs. a Safety officer saw a vehicle being driven recklessly with occupants throwing bottles out and advised CPD. CPD then found and pursued the vehicle back onto campus where the occupants parked in a student lot and fled into a dorm leaving containers of beer and spilled beer in the car. CPD impounded the vehicle since they were unable to find the owner.
- (zz) At 0240 hrs. a student reported seeing an "older" male riding a bike carrying a pair of pliers between dorms. Safety officers found the subject with two bike wheels on the handlebars

of the bike, coming out of a faculty residence courtyard. CPD responded and the wheels were identified as being stolen from the residence. The subject was arrested for possession of stolen property and for possession of burglary tools.

(aaa) A Safety officer confiscated a set of illegal nunchaku from a student outside of a dorm. He didn't realize the weapon was illegal to possess in California, not to mention — the campus.

(bbb) At 1215 on a Monday a student reported a repairman on the floor of a laundry room who appeared to be dead. A Safety officer confirmed the report and Safety notified paramedics, CPD, appropriate staff and the company for which the deceased subject worked servicing machines. The coroner responded 2 hrs. later. Death was, apparently, the result of medical causes.

(ccc) A student was transported to a mental health facility following a suicide attempt.

(ddd) A student allowed two male subjects into an administrative building with his slide card at 0530 hrs., then had second thoughts and reported the incident, since he thought they were off-campus persons. Safety officers saw three male subjects run from the building and leave in a Mercedes. A fourth male was still in the building and was interviewed. CPD responded and ID'd the subject who was then warned to stay with his campus host when on campus.

(eee) A bike cable-locked to a dorm rack was stolen.

(fff) A wallet and contents was stolen from a purse left in an unlocked office.

(ggg) Staff reported the theft of an envelope containing \$5 and receipts from a locked office.

(hhh) A student reported that two subjects in a gold van tried to sell him speakers.

(iii) A student who had a seizure, fell and suffered a nose injury and was transported to the hospital for treatment.

(jjj) Staff reported the theft of a VCR from a locked room in an academic building.

(kkk) A purse and contents valued at \$420 was stolen from an unlocked classroom.

(lll) Someone vandalized a car by breaking off the side mirror.

(mmm) A student's car was vandalized by having the hood ornament broken off while parked in a fire lane service road.

(nnn) A student reported his dorm room window broken by a rock thrown through it.

(ooo) At 0127 hrs. staff reported a stolen electric utility cart. Safety officers found two students from an adjoining college driving the cart, which they said they found blocking the door to their dorm. Since there was a hand-held radio on that cart at the time of its disappearance which was now also missing CPD responded to take a report and interview the subjects stopped. A crime report was written for the radio and the cart was returned to the campus from which it was taken.

(ppp) Staff reported vandalism in the men's room of a student center following a party. Four faucets were bent by unknown subjects.

(qqq) A dorm fire extinguisher was discharged in a hallway, activating the fire alarm.

(rrr) A Safety officer stopped three off-campus subjects in a parking lot who were distributing flyers. They were escorted off-campus.

(sss) A reserve safety officer was advised of a despondent student possibly contemplating suicide with a sword. Regular officers responding to the scene encountered a distraught male who jumped up from a prone position with a samurai sword and took an aggressive stance, threatening the officers. A CPD officer arrived and, at gunpoint, convinced the subject to drop the sword and surrender. He was sent to a mental health facility with anticipation of a subsequent arrest for assault with a deadly weapon.

(ttt) A male subject banned from the campuses was visiting a female in her dorm room when he became upset with her and urinated on her bed and threw objects and pushed her. Safety officers responded, caught the fleeing subject in a quad area and held him for police. He was arrested for trespassing only.

(uuu) A male subject passing out flyers on campus was confronted by a custodian and ran. Someone else reported the fleeing subject and he was caught by Safety officers and escorted off campus.

(vvv) Someone pried a door into a locked closet where a safe was kept, substantially

damaging the door and frame in the administrative building. The safe was locked however and nothing was reported missing. There were no signs of forced entry into the building or suite, however.

(www) A Safety officer saw a male subject previously banned from the campuses and previously arrested multiple times. He was stopped, interviewed and, again, arrested for trespassing.

(xxx) A student's video camera was stolen from an unlocked dorm room during "move out".

(yyy) A student reported the theft of 200 CD's from an unlocked dorm room.

Crime Prevention Strategies / Tips

There is no secret to securing property against theft on a college campus, whether dorm room or office, etc. LOCK IT UP! Thieves do come to the campus and steal during the day and during the night.

(zzz) Use a U-Lock to secure your bike, capturing frame and at least one wheel to a strong rack or object.

(aaaa) Lock your room or office when you leave.

(bbbb) Lock your valuables (CD's, cash, jewelry, LAPTOP, etc.) in a lockable chest, safe, file cabinet, desk, etc.

(cccc) Close and lock windows when you leave.

(dddd) Never leave laptops, purses, CD cases, wallets, cell phones, keys, etc. lying about during social activities.

(eeee) Install/use an electronic alarm on your vehicle.

(ffff) Report unknown persons wandering in your work area or dorm. Say "hello" and ask whether you can help them find something. Their response may help you determine whether to call Campus Safety regarding suspicious activity.

April 2001 Statistics

Annoying Call	0
Assault	0
Assault w/Deadly Weapon	1
Disturbance	0
Hate Incident	1
Indecent Exposure	0
Prowling	0
Rape	0
Robbery	0
Sexual Assault	0
Other	0
Arson	0
Burglary	6
Theft from Auto	2
Theft (bike)	3
Theft from building	4
Theft (other)	12
Grand Theft Auto	3
Trespass	2
Vandalism	9
Other	2

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