

The Claremont Colleges

Dept. of Campus Safety, ext. 7-2000

March 2001

February Crime and Incident Report

Trends and Analysis

After a substantial hiatus of vehicle crime incidents, we are now experiencing a series of window smash incidents, vehicle stereo thefts and thefts of cars themselves. Bicycle thefts continue unabated. One suspect apprehended by Safety officers, and arrested, seemed to have tools consistent with the theft of both bikes and vehicles on his person. We're not prepared to say that he was the source of all of our troubles in those areas, however. More than likely, the opportunities available in the form of bikes locked only by cables and cars without alarms catalyzed the motivations of the thief or thieves. Somebody will always "step up" and take advantage of opportunities, no matter how many we catch.

Alcohol continues to be a factor in episodes of vandalism, disorderly behavior and general belligerency. Some of our students continue to harbor or otherwise support off-campus persons who come to the campuses to traffic in drugs and cause significant safety concerns in dorm areas.

Thankfully, most of the reports of suspicious activity or crimes in progress

also come from students who conscientiously intercede, through timely reporting, to maintain safety and security.

Feb. 1 — Feb. 28, 2001 Selective Incident Summary

- A four car traffic accident with injuries at Foothill and Claremont Blvd. resulted in several persons being transported to hospitals via ambulances and a helicopter. One student who was involved was not injured.
- A non-injury traffic collision on a campus street between a student- driven car and a student-owned, parked car required a tow truck to remove one vehicle with a broken axle.
- A Safety officer assigned to a social event reported that a 15 lb. weight, a turntable and a lamppost were thrown from a 3rd floor dorm.
- At 0037 hrs. multiple students reported a fight involving a large group of males in a dorm room where the door was blocked to prevent entry. Safety officers and CPD officers responded, as did residence hall staff. Students from another campus had shown up unexpectedly at a birthday party. Two male students got into an argument and fight and others joined. One student was injured when struck on the head with a beer bottle. One involved student was temporarily handcuffed but released. The person seen striking the student with the bottle fled the scene. No arrests were made but police were seeking the known suspect.
- A student with possible suicidal tendencies was evaluated by Tri-City Mental Health Evaluation Team in a dorm room and was transported by staff to a health facility for observation.

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- A resident reported an unknown white male wandering around inside of a dorm at 0308 hrs. He told the resident that he was looking for a vending machine, then left. Safety officers were UTL.
- At 0230 hrs. a fire alarm activated in a dorm. Officers found the source of the alarm to be a discharged fire extinguisher, but no sign of fire.
- A Safety officer reported an intoxicated female who vomited and lost consciousness in the bathroom during a social event. She recovered sufficiently to refuse medical treatment by paramedics and refused a Safety escort. Four female students, also intoxicated began carrying the subject to a dorm but they dropped her several times, hitting her head on the curb. They refused to identify themselves and ultimately were unwilling to take responsibility for their friend. Paramedics were recalled an hour later and the student was transported to the hospital.
- A surveillance operator observed 2 subjects in a parking lot jumping on vehicles. Officers were busy on a medical call but later found one vehicle with a broken side mirror. The owner was advised.
- A student reported an unknown male walking through campus swinging a sledgehammer at 2357 hrs. Safety officers found a student from another campus and his off-campus friend, intoxicated and swinging the 12 pound hammer. It was confiscated for safekeeping.
- A visiting professor reported the theft of his wallet from his backpack in an academic building.
- Staff reported that a card reader mounted for use by persons in vehicles was struck by a vehicle and damaged.
- A wallet was stolen from an unlocked office in an academic building.
- A surveillance operator reported two subjects walking in a field with a rifle aiming at rabbits. Responding officers found two students. One had a BB gun which was confiscated and the dean was advised.
- A CPD officer took into custody, a student suspected of sexual battery against another student.
- A cell phone was stolen from a backpack inside of a campus theater.
- Twenty-two small sculptures were stolen from a student's locked locker in an art studio.
- Maintenance staff reported that somebody dropped two very large rocks onto water valves located alongside a campus street, breaking them and affecting the water supply to a dorm.
- A student called Campus Safety and reported the ingestion of an overdose of several medicines in a suicide attempt. Safety officers had to force the barricaded dorm door open and found the student conscious but sick. Paramedics and CPD responded. An RA accompanied the student to a care facility.
- A student reported that a hysterical, disoriented student with cuts on both wrists wandered into her dorm room. Safety officers, CPD and paramedics responded to the apparent suicide attempt and the student was transported to a hospital.
- A Safety officer assigned to a social event reported an intoxicated female losing consciousness. Responding officers encountered a group of intoxicated female students obstructing officers and paramedics. One of the argumentative obstructionists attempted to pour water down the unconscious victim's throat and refused to identify herself. She was arrested by CPD. The victim was transported to the hospital.
- During the previous incident someone let the air out of a tire on a Campus Safety vehicle parked nearby.
- An RA reported vandalism to a hallway wall. Several holes of different size were punched into the wall, possibly with a pole.
- At 0153 an RA requested assistance in removing off-campus subjects from a dorm. Safety officers stopped two subjects, who had previously been arrested or stopped on campus for various offenses, including suspected drug dealing. A third subject who rode a bike in a dorm hallway and ran into an RA then fled was stopped by CPD at a nearby Chevron station and was arrested for battery and possession of marijuana. The other two subjects were released but were subsequently banned from campus by the administration.

- A student received three threatening, obscene, scatological phone calls from other, suspected, male students who seemed upset about a party being broken up. Suspect information was relayed to the dean.
 - An ex-boyfriend grabbed a female student by the hair, banged her head on the wall and dragged her down a dorm stairway before she broke away and fled into a room. Safety officers and CPD responded and searched for the suspect, an off-campus male. Police in the suspect's city were contacted to try to make an arrest there but failed to find the suspect. The victim was transferred to a different room and safety precautions were taken.
 - At 0006 hrs. a student found an unconscious male in a dorm quad. Safety officers called paramedics for the intoxicated subject, an 18 yr. old visitor on campus, who recovered enough to be uncooperative. He was transported to the hospital, nevertheless.
 - A Safety officer on a party assignment reported a fight between two male subjects. They were identified and were cooperative with responding officers and desisted from further altercations.
 - Two other male subjects at the same party as the previous entry became argumentative and uncooperative while very intoxicated. Both were counseled by Safety officers and one was escorted to his room.
 - A student reported four juveniles loitering on campus at 0303 hrs. Officers found four male subjects leaving campus after having thrown plants into the roadway. CPD was advised.
 - A female student reported that her window screen was moved and the dorm room window shattered.
 - A desktop printer was stolen from an unlocked academic building office.
 - A female student walking on an adjacent city street saw a black male, about age 30 – 40 with pockmarks, 5'6" tall, in a car driving in the other direction turn around, exit the car, and approach her. He asked her inappropriate, sexually oriented questions then left when she declined to converse with him, in a black convertible with a black top.
 - A female previously assaulted by an ex-boyfriend reported him at her door but fleeing.
- Officers were UTL but did find the dorm entry door propped and the suite door taped with the bolt hole stuffed with paper to prevent locking.
- A passerby reported a parked car possibly on fire in a lot. Officers and responding LACFD found a fire caused by rainwater leaking into the electronic controls of a door which shorted out and started the fire. It was extinguished and the battery was disconnected.
 - A coach requested assistance in removing a belligerent male subject from a gym. Officers found a University of LaVerne student and two friends, all intoxicated. Officers ejected the subjects and advised CPD of their direction of travel and vehicle information.
 - A staff person reported that a male subject continually calls her office and shouts obscenities at her. An officer, hearing one of the calls, also heard a female laughing in the background.
 - A Safety officer spotted a male subject bent over at a dorm bike rack at 0607 hrs. and stopped and questioned the subject. He fabricated stories about being a student and knowing students and, when CPD responded, was found in possession of two pairs of pliers, two screwdrivers, a pair of needlenose pliers and pieces of sparkplugs on string. Additionally, officers found a bolt cutter next to the bike he was leaning over. CPD arrested the subject for possession of burglary tools.
 - The vehicles of two RA's were "keyed" while parked in a campus lot. The number "27" was scratched into the trunk lids.
 - A staff person was involved in a traffic collision at Foothill and Dartmouth. There was substantial damage to the vehicles but no injuries.
 - Two female students who left their dorm room unlocked but with the window secured and the lights out, returned and saw that the lights were on and the door was locked. They knocked on the door and heard someone exiting through the window, but nothing was stolen.
- Staff reported that three walkie-talkies and an AM/FM radio, stored for emergency use were stolen from a locked cabinet in an academic building, which had been forced open.

- A bike, locked to an academic building rack by the front wheel only, was stolen. The wheel remained locked to the rack.
- There were several instances of solicitors for various businesses working the campuses. Most were found and advised of campus policy and advised to leave.
- A student reported the theft of his Honda Accord from a student lot between 2130 hrs. and 0058 hrs. CPD took a GTA report.
- A student parked in the same lot as in the previous entry, and at about the same time said that his Honda Accord was broken into and his stereo, speakers and CD's were stolen. There were no signs of forced entry.
- A professor reported the theft of computer hardware from an unlocked office. A suspect was seen exiting the building with boxes previously holding scrap paper in the affected office. CPD is investigating.
- Another Honda accord was broken into and the stereo stolen. This was from the same lot as that of two previous incidents and, again, there was no sign of forced entry.
- At 1932 hrs. a Safety officer noticed five subjects with a beer keg in an area where no authorized events were scheduled. The subjects, initially uncooperative, were identified as three students from two colleges and two off-campus persons. The keg was stolen from a social event at a different campus. One of the off-campus subjects with a history of illicit and illegal behavior on campus was arrested for trespassing and public intoxication by CPD.
- A female student reported an "older" white male who she thought was walking through the hallways of a dorm checking room doors at 2041 hrs. When he opened her door and saw her, he closed it immediately. She checked the hallway and he was gone. Safety officers UTL.
- A student observed two off-campus individuals, who got out of vehicles, involved in a fight on a campus border. He helped one of the subjects into a vehicle driven by a friend who was going to take him to the hospital.
- A student who previously reported an assault by an ex-boyfriend advised that he might be in the dorm. Safety officers and CPD officers responded and found the subject in her suite and arrested him.
- Someone smashed the driver's side window of a vehicle parked on a campus street. Nothing was taken.
- A fire alarm activated at 2132 hrs. Responding officers discovered that a cooking fire occurred and had been extinguished.
- A Safety officer on dorm patrol found two drug pipes (unknown substance) on a 2nd floor balcony. An RA was advised.
- At 0138 hrs. and RA reported a male student suffering from an overdose of alcohol combined with some medication. Safety officers, CPD, LACFD, and the on-call dean responded. The student was transported to the hospital in restraints because of his inability to cooperate in the process.
- At 0459 someone reported students setting things on fire in the middle of a campus street. Officers found burned furniture and a burned phone book. Four intoxicated students carrying "open containers" were found nearby and were interviewed. They denied knowledge of the fire.
- Physical Education faculty reported damage to a jacuzzi cover, found by a pool maintenance worker at 0600 hrs, and beer cans in a pool skimmer. Students who illicitly entered the pool earlier in the morning were suspected. A damage estimate was given as \$3,495.
- A computer and related equipment were taken from an alarmed office in a dorm. The theft could have occurred during a power outage.
- A staff person advised that he was followed to work three times. This time the person walked up to his parked car and took a picture of him in the his car. CPD responded and interviewed the victim.
- A Physical Plant truck collided with the rear of a parked car when the driver applied the brakes, they locked and the vehicle swerved to the side and into the car.
- Students reported a black male with orange hair soliciting something in the library. Safety officers UTL.
- At 2250 hrs. Safety officers found a group of nine students assembling explosive devices (dry ice bombs) in a field near a dorm. They were identified and discarded the containers and spread the dry ice out in the field. The dean was advised.

- A male and four female solicitors were found on campus selling "fake" perfume. CPD assisted Safety officers in explaining campus and city regulations regarding solicitation and identified the subjects before they left.
- A bike reported to have been stolen was found to have been cut off of a handrail by the maintenance dept. and stored for safekeeping.
- Several female students reported being harassed and assaulted by a male former student. Safety officers found and interviewed the subject playing basketball and advised him to leave. The subject was subsequently banned from campus.
- The window of a parked Nissan Sentra was smashed and the stereo was stolen.
- A student's parked vehicle was dented by an unknown object during the night.
- Staff reported that someone entered a dorm lounge kitchen and damaged an oven door, twisted the wall-mounted phone upside down, threw food all over and removed the knobs from the stove with the burners on.
- At 0036 hrs. a female student was found intoxicated, and vomiting. Paramedics responded. She was found to be in possession of an altered ID which was confiscated and she was transported to the hospital for treatment.
- At 0058 a female reported a potential fight between intoxicated male subjects outside of a dorm who, possibly, had knives. Safety and CPD officers responded but found no weapons and the fight did not develop.
- An intoxicated male student riding a bike on a campus walkway ran into two pedestrian students from behind, then "flipped" off of the bike, injuring his head. He was given an IV and transported to the hospital in spite of his resistance. The pedestrians were not injured.
- Students reported two white males writing on dorm hallway walls and harassing students. Officers found one student and two off-campus, intoxicated, males doing the writing. Both subjects had previously been arrested on campus and had been banned. Both were arrested again. The dean was advised.
- A staff female reported being harassed by an acquaintance from years earlier following a casual contact via e-mail. She is being assisted by department management in dealing with the situation.
- A staff person reported a suspicious white male, about age 30, wandering in an academic building at 0711 hrs. Safety officers and CPD checked him out and advised him to leave.

Crime Prevention Strategies/Tips

Electronic alarms for vehicle WORK! Yes, they're annoying sometimes but they do deter vehicle break-ins, thereby preventing theft of stereo equipment and other property as well as theft of the vehicle itself. Unfortunately, alarms don't prevent window breakage but that's a small price to pay for the overall security.

For bicycles, the best security is to use a U-lock, enclosing the frame and at least one wheel to a secure rack or object. **Cables are not secure** in our high risk area. If the bike can be locked inside of a building, all the better, but it should not be left unlocked even if inside.

There has been an increase in computer equipment theft, mostly from offices. Other office/admin. building theft continues, as well. (wallets, phones, etc.) Please lock doors when the office/area is not occupied. Experienced thieves walk into unlocked buildings at all times of day or night. They can easily pick up unsecured equipment and put it into a backpack or other container and walk right out in seconds.

February 2001 Statistics

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

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