

# The Claremont Colleges

Campus Safety, ext. 7-2000

April 2002

## March Crime / Incident Report

### Trends and Analysis

Last month we predicted that This year's March statistics would closely match last year's. That would have been good news. They didn't. The March figures burgeoned to 44 crimes this March compared to 28 last year. The March figures did closely compare to February of this year, however. Overall, this year, we are showing an increase. As usual, the predominant crimes are theft of one kind or another. The category of most frequent crime this month? Bike thefts — 13.

We again note an above average number of arrests (7) related to campus incidents. This, encouragingly, should be attributed to conscientious citizen reporting and to Safety officer observations and rapid responses. While catching and arresting thieves and other criminals is good, there seem to be more than enough "back-up" bad guys to replace them. Obviously, doing a better job of securing our property is a more reliable deterrent than catching the thieves.

We believe that most of the crimes reported in the table at the end of this

newsletter were initiated by off-campus criminals who came to the campus to prey on us in one way or another. However, Not all of the bad things that happen to us are documented with crime reports and there are many incidents that involve students and other campus personnel. There is some internal theft and most of the sexual assault and gender-related incidents are between "campus" individuals. Our own people are largely responsible for safety compromises such as fire alarm breakage, pranks and tampering. We, too frequently, have fire extinguishers removed from their locations and discharged with mean-spirited intent and often have fires ignited on bulletin boards, doors, etc. inside dorms. Many of those incidents are fueled by alcohol misuse which, in turn, has an additional impact on safety illustrated by incidents of alcohol poisoning requiring hospitalization and injuries caused by fighting as well as accidents. Many of those incidents are not documented as crimes but may be listed as incidents in the following incident summary.

### Selective Incident Summary March 1 — 31, 2002

- A passerby reported seeing two white males on the roof of a dining hall at 0249 hrs. A responding officer saw the males run out of the building and away.
- Suspect(s) smashed a vehicle wing window and removed the stereo/CD player after cutting the alarm wires under the hood. The student's vehicle was parked in a campus lot.
- Two employees, one of whom was pregnant and short of breath, were stuck in an

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elevator for a half hour before being released by elevator repair technicians.

- A student's \$3000 laptop computer was stolen from a student center office. The door should have automatically latched and locked upon his exit but it didn't.
- At 0609 hrs. a Safety officer observed a white male carrying a blanket and backpack attempt to enter a locked administrative building. He refused to show I.D. or talk to the officer but left the campus. CPD advised that he is a known transient person.
- A female student was awakened when an unknown, intoxicated white male without shoes entered her room asking for a female by name. Then he left. Responding officers and RA's checked hallways and found a pair of shoes. They surmised that the subject was visiting someone in a room directly above and became disoriented in a bathroom search.
- A patrol officer found a dorm lounge door open and a sleeping male on a couch surrounded by empty beer bottles. He had apparently been vomiting into a trash can. Officers determined that he fit a student profile and left, after securing the door.
- Officers found a male sifting trash in a dumpster and female nearby. Both were interviewed and identified. The female was arrested for outstanding warrants by CPD.
- An unlocked bike was stolen from a student apartment patio.
- Eight baseball fans from Whittier got into a heckling exchange with about 20 campus fans resulting in a fight in which one campus fan was slightly injured, suffering cuts and a large shoeprint on his face. CPD responded. Officers dumped a half case of King Cobra beer that each group said was owned by the other. Later, officers checked another student group headed toward the event with paper bags and found more King Cobra, which was also dumped.
- A male student, intoxicated and vomiting was transported to the hospital for care, from a party location. Paramedics confiscated a four inch lockblade knife from the subject before transportation.
- A student, using an emergency phone, reported a white male holding the neck of a female and then throwing keys at her. Officers were UTL. (unable to locate)
- Between 0145 and 0200 hrs. someone broke the glass of a vending machine in a dorm lobby and stole about 75% of the candy.
- A student reported the theft of a jacket, with dorm keys in the pocket, from a party. The room lock was scheduled for replacement.
- A wallet and digital camera were stolen from an unlocked dorm room.
- Students reported a swarm of bees on a dorm exterior Sunday afternoon. The grounds dept. requested that signs be posted advising students not to open the doors or tap on the windows on that side until the beekeeper arrives the following morning.
- Someone stole a skateboard left outside of a student activity center.
- At 0243 a student saw a white male with a shaved head trying to enter student storage rooms. He fled when he saw the student and officers were UTL.
- CPD responded to the campus to investigate a previously reported hit-and-run accident involving a motorcycle and an SUV. The suspect vehicle was located but the owner did not respond when contacted by phone. CPD towed the vehicle, which had a paint chip on the bumper matching the damaged motorcycle.
- An employee reported persons in a white van trying to sell speakers to students. It was gone before officers arrived.
- A student reported the theft of his '88 Honda Accord from a physical education center parking lot. CPD took the report.
- A bike, locked to itself only, was stolen from a dorm rack.
- Maintenance staff reported the theft of an American flag from a campus flag pole.
- An employee reported a male subject asleep outside of a campus building at 0554 hrs. A Safety officer said that the subject, wearing a hospital smock and no shoes was visibly shivering. He was identified by his hospital bracelet and CPD responded to assist in trying to get shelter and guidance to no avail. He was escorted to the bus stop for a trip to Pasadena where, he said, he had friends.
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At 1728 hrs. on Thursday, a female student unlocked and entered her dorm room and discovered an unknown black male inside. (medium height and build) The subject jumped through the window, pushing the screen aside, then fled toward another campus. Safety and CPD officers searched for the subject who had been spotted running across a playing field but he was successful in his flight. CPD took a burglary report although the burglar had been surprised before actually stealing anything. He, apparently, cut the screen and entered the room through the open window.

- At 2217 hrs., also on Thursday, a female student in another dorm on the same campus, reported that someone cut her dorm window screen, entered and stole cash from her wallet between 1805 and 2135 hrs.
- At 0003 hrs. several female students and their male friends were returning to a dorm suite when they saw a male subject exiting with a backpack. They noticed a roommate's laptop computer missing and chased after the subject, catching up with him outside of the dorm. They held the subject and checked his backpack, finding the missing computer. CPD and Safety officers responded. The subject was arrested and the computer was returned to the owner. Police also found about \$100 worth of marijuana in the subject's possession. The same subject, befriended by someone on an adjoining campus, had been caught weeks before, taking a computer from another area, but the owner declined to "press charges".
- Safety officers were called regarding a report of students on the roof of a dorm. Upon arrival of Safety officers the rooftop group, who had been drinking alcohol there by the look of the bottles remaining, fled. As they were leaving, officers encountered another group of males with a male whose legs were taped together while he was being carried somewhere. Officers interceded and freed the hapless captive.
- At 0734 an employee reported a male subject sleeping in a tea garden structure. Safety officers interviewed a 41 year old male who said he was recently rendered homeless. He left on foot.
- Staff reported a black male subject with a backpack who went from one dorm to another on a bike and had been seen in various dorms

previously. Officers followed the subject to a student center on another campus and spoke to a student who provided a name for the subject and said the subject was a student. Later, a check of student rosters showed that he is not registered at the colleges.

- Students reported an off-campus male who had been asked to leave the dorm area and refused, saying that they would need to call the police. Safety officers responded and called for the police, but the subject, who appeared to be having some mental problems, left on foot. CPD was working with the family to resolve the problems.
- CPD responded to campus because of noise complaints generated by a party. They gave a warning to the organizers but returned an hour later and shut the party down because of continued complaints.
- A student's Toyota Camry was stolen from a campus lot.
- Safety officers encountered a group of 20 subjects in a verbal confrontation which escalated into a physical altercation. Officers interviewed two different off-campus groups who had intermingled with students in the fracas. Both off-campus groups were interviewed and escorted from campus.
- A Safety officer recognized a male subject banned from the campus he was on. The subject was "served" the ban letter and escorted left the area.
- At 0035 hrs. student security staff reported being shot with BB's from a BB gun while working at a party. Safety officers responded and found that the shots came from a dorm room in which a group of students and off-campus people were smoking marijuana and drinking alcohol. Officers sequestered the group in the room except for one male O/C subject who pushed officers and ran. Officers chased and caught the fleeing subject who was then arrested by responding CPD officers. The other persons in the room, including students from an adjacent campus, were identified and officers found several containers of marijuana and paraphernalia items outside of the open window of the dorm room in the bushes. A report was prepared for the dean.

- A male student found vomiting in a dorm bathroom had consumed a substantial amount of two bottles of hard liquor and was vacillating between unconsciousness and irrationality. He was forcibly transported to PVHMC for alcohol poisoning.
- At 0250 hrs. a student reported glass items being thrown from a dorm balcony. A Safety officer found broken glass as well as a broken CD player.
- Officers discovered a banner stolen from one of the colleges hanging from a dorm room window on another campus and confiscated it.. The student said he found the banner 2 ½ years ago and wanted it back. He was referred to the maintenance dept. of the owning campus which assessed the value at \$750. They kept the banner.
- Residence hall staff reported damage in a dorm to fire alarms and fire exit signs.
- Campus Center staff reported an “older” white male illicitly utilizing the TV room. Officers talked to the uncooperative male subject who said that he has been coming to the campus for years. CPD assisted in interviewing the subject and getting his correct identification. He was warned about trespassing and left in his green Wagoneer.
- A student found standing outside for over an hour and fifty-four minutes in one spot, said the activity was for a project. She then advised Campus Safety of future similar locations in which her project would be activated.
- A Safety officer found an off-campus male subject, who claimed to be a student, sleeping in a wooded area at 2351 hrs. CPD responded and found that the subject had outstanding warrants for traffic violations. He was cited and released.
- A male student was transported to PVHMC after a bad reaction to marijuana possibly laced with something, causing unconsciousness and convulsions.
- A parent called Campus Safety and reported that a dorm room theft of a wallet resulted in unauthorized charges on an American Express card.
- Conscientious citizen reporting disclosed a student illicitly using an ex-employee’s hang-tag and parking in a staff lot. The vehicle was cited pending further discussion with the owner.
- Following a strong odor of smoke in a campus building, staff uncovered an employee smoking on the roof next to an air vent.
- Staff reported the theft of a speaker phone, a \$2000 digital balance and the male/female bathroom signs from an academic building.
- A professor found a bag with a Powerbook computer in it, in a trash can. It was held in the dean’s office for safekeeping.
- A student parked his unlocked bike outside of a library. Upon his return, an hour and 20 minutes later, it was gone.
- Another unlocked bike was stolen from a dorm rack between 1330 and 1530 hrs.
- Residence hall staff confiscated a huge gym mat from students, but the source of the mat was unknown.
- An unlocked, purple, single-speed bike was stolen from an academic building rack.
- A male student wearing a bathrobe in The Village for a class project was warned by police not to allow another wafting breeze to expose more than it should.
- Officers found a group wearing black robes gathered in an academic building at 0242 hrs. . Apparently, it’s SOP for students of that campus to play “tag” there on Saturday nights.
- Staff reported 10 to 15 vehicles belonging to the Physical Plant had been affected by thefts and attempted thefts from the “yard”. Tools and other items were stolen.
- A student’s laptop computer was stolen from his unlocked dorm room between 1530 and 1930 hrs.
- A white male on a blue bike fled when he saw an approaching Safety officer at 2245 hrs. Other officers and CPD units were unable to locate the subject. (UTL)
- CPD advised that they had recovered a stolen TV set with a phone number on it. It stolen from a physical education building on campus.
- At midnight during “spring break” a student called the Safety Dept. to report that a badly injured fellow-student in Mexico had been hospitalized. Safety dispatch coordinated contacts with the dean and the injured student’s family.
- Two white male subjects in their “twenties”, wearing blazers and ties were found

walking around a dorm interior asking students if they wanted pictures of Jesus Christ. Officers stopped and interviewed the subjects and escorted them off-campus.

- A female employee reported that she received two obscene phone calls on her voice mail at approximately midnight.
- A Safety officer observed a suspicious male subject in a vehicle near campus facilities, but on a city street. The subject is suspected of having burglarized other campus buildings. He explained to Safety and CPD officers that his vehicle broke down, at that remote near-campus site.
- A fire alarm was activated by water from a roof cooling tower overflow which leaked into the building walls and ceilings, puddling floors and shorting fire alarms. Repair technicians were notified and the alarms silenced.
- A Safety officer found a male subject sleeping in a van in a campus lot. The man said he had business on the campus earlier and did not want to drive home afterwards. He was advised to leave and complied.
- Paramedics responded for an employee who suffered a severe asthma attack in an administrative building, and was transported to the hospital.
- An employee found a check made out to the Spanish Trails Girl Scouts Council for \$1068. Safety dispatch contacted the issuing bank and arranged for them to redirect the check appropriately.
- Two students downloaded items from a truck in a parking lot, in the course of carrying the items to their rooms. In a transport interstice a thief made off with bags containing a variety of personal property and clothing.
- A student reported the apparent intrusion of a bird in a dorm room over the spring break. There is residual evidence and "fluttering" in the walls. The custodial dept. was advised.
- At 2005 hrs. a Safety officer discovered a burnt American flag hanging on an administrative building door handle.
- An off-campus male subject, banned from one campus, was found on another campus where he was sponsored by a student. He was warned to stay in the company of his sponsor.
- At 0438 hrs. a student saw two male subjects trying to break into a dorm room across

the courtyard from his room. He lost sight of the subjects when he called the Safety Dept. Safety officers and CPD officers responded and checked several rooms and the general area but the subjects were gone.

- A groundskeeper reported seeing a blonde white male with a goatee trying different keys on a gray Acura door. When he was seen by the employee the subject entered a different gray Acura and left.
- An officer found a JD scooter in the bushes near a walkway and brought it to the station for safekeeping.
- A \$2,000 GT mountain bike locked with a cable lock was stolen from a dorm rack.
- Residence hall staff reported that a staff residence door had been vandalized by "egging" and attached caution tape while another entrance had been roped shut.
- A female student reported being harassed by an ex-boyfriend. The dean's office and Safety officers were informed and she was advised to contact local police as appropriate, as well.
- A student's two day old bike, left unlocked at the bookstore, was stolen within an eight minute time frame.
- An off-campus guest of an employee, playing basketball passed out and was transported to PVHMC following a paramedic response.
- An employee who suffered a back injury while lifting a trash can was transported to the hospital for treatment.
- Dining hall staff reported the theft of freezer keys. The locks were replaced and the contents inventoried.
- A student riding his bike fell and hit his chin and struck his head on a rock column. He was transported to Doctor's Hospital for treatment.
- A custodian found a semi-conscious female on the floor of a restroom. Paramedics responded but the subject recovered sufficiently to refuse paramedic treatment and was transported to Baxter Medical on campus.
- A professor reported that someone attempted to pry the lock on a supply locker inside of an academic building.
- The front wheel of a bike locked to a rack at a dining hall was stolen.

- A bike locked to a rack at a dorm was stolen. The cable lock was cut.
- Someone switched the alphabetic hall designation on dorm rooms in two different wings of a dorm.
- Police and Safety officers responded to a dorm where residents in two rooms were engulfed with chemical fire suppressant that had been sprayed in through the screens of their open windows from outside. The powder caused breathing problems and activated fire alarms in addition to covering everything with a film of chemical dust.
- An irate male caller complained that a Safety officer had flashed his flashlight at him and lectured him on speeding when he was actually on a city street outside of Campus Safety's jurisdiction. CPD dispatch confirmed that he called them and they told him he shouldn't have been speeding near students crossing the street.
- Several minutes after a report of a fire extinguisher discharge into a dorm on one campus, another incident was reported on an adjacent campus where two male subjects were seen entering a dorm lounge where they discharged the extinguisher and were then chased by students in the area.
- Paramedics responded to treat and transport, to PVHMC, a female with alcohol poisoning who had been imbibing rum and tequila.
- A male student received severe lacerations and other facial injuries when riding a bike off-campus, when the wheel fell off as he was "bunny-hopping". Other students brought him to campus from whence he was transported to PVHMC.
- An officer reported seeing two parked vehicles in a campus lot that had been shot with paint balls. The owners were notified.
- Employees reported that five suspicious subjects who climbed a wall, were milling around near cars in a lot. Officers found students on an Easter egg hunt.
- An employee forgot her purse in the dining hall and discovered \$240 missing when she went back to retrieve it.
- A female student reported being harassed by an off-campus male via e-mail and telephone over a period of two weeks.
- Staff reported extensive damage to a college golf cart, including having the headlights ripped off.
- A male subject seen lying on the ground between dorms at 0150 hrs. was later identified as the intoxicated guest of a female student.
- A student reported that someone drew a swastika in the dust on his car window.
- CPD responded to take a hit-and-run report in which a parked car was damaged in a parking lot.
- An employee reported the theft of two \$100 bills (out of four) that were in his wallet lying on a dining hall counter when the dining hall was closed. Only employees were known to be in the area at the time.
- Roommates of a woman who had been harassed by a former male student said that someone pounded on their apartment door and fled with a beer and a bag of trash they had left outside the door. They believed it was the harasser.
- A representative of the dean's office requested that Campus Safety escort a former student, who had been accused of stalking a female student, off campus. He was escorted to his vehicle and off-campus.
- An officer reported that an uprooted "fire dept. access" sign had been dragged from one campus and was lying near a dorm on another.
- At 0520 hrs. on Saturday, Safety officers spotted a subject who seemed to be "cruising" the campus and stopped him. CPD responded and assisted in getting his correct identity. They discovered that he was wanted on warrants and was on probation for drug offenses and arrested him.
- A student reported the theft of a bike bag and seat from a locked bike. Later, the bag was found.
- At 2028 hrs. a student reported two suspicious males hovering near a bike with the handlebars removed near an academic building. Responding officers found one male in the area and the other on an adjacent campus. Both were identified. One had burglary tools and the other, when checked by the Claremont Police, was the subject of a bulletin from CPD identifying him as a high risk sex offender. Both subjects were arrested.

- A bike reported stolen, with the front wheel left locked to the rack was found, minus the front wheel near another building on the same campus.
- A bike, locked with a U-lock to a hand rail in a dorm patio, was stolen.

## Crime Prevention Strategies / Tips

Techniques, ideas and practices that work, to prevent crime:

- Always lock your dorm door, office door, car doors, when nobody is inside.
- Always use a U-lock or heavy duty steel bar stock lock to secure your bike frame and wheel to a rack.
- Install/use an electronic alarm system on your vehicle.
- Have an unbreakable bond with your laptop computer when it is not locked up inside of something strong.
- Secure your credit cards and identity documents as well as your cash and other valuables.
- Safeguard your keys and those in your care.
- Do not prop doors / always un-prop doors.
- Report suspicious activity and wrong things happening. (right away) (ext. 7-2000 )
- Use the campus escort service (provided by student organizations or by Campus Safety. Call Campus Safety at ext. 7-2000 for either one.

### Crimes (property)

Arson	0
Burglary	7
Theft (From Auto)	2
Theft (Bike)	13
Theft (Building)	4
Theft (Other)	3
Grand Theft Auto	2
Trespass	1
Vandalism	2
Other	4

### Published by:

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## March 2002 Statistics

### Crimes (persons)

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