

# The Claremont Colleges

The Dept. of Campus Safety

November 2002

## October 2002 Crime and Incident Report

### Trends and Analysis

As usual, most of the crimes reported on our campuses are property crimes of one kind or another. Of a total of 47 reported crimes, 37 were some kind of theft. Of the thirty-seven theft crimes, 17 were of bicycles — a particularly bad month for us. Other thefts from buildings lumped together totalled 13. There is also a rise in vehicle related crime.

### Selective Incident Summary, Oct. 1 — 31, 2002

- A student reported that somebody partially cut the cable of her locked bike parked near a dorm.
- A male student reported a 5'6" male in a dorm at 1601 hrs. asking "sexually explicit" questions and seeming disoriented. Officers were UTL. [unable to locate]
- CPD officers came onto campus and served a restraining order on a male student who had intimidated a former girlfriend after he continued to harass her after the initial

altercation.

- A thief cut a cable lock and took a bike from a dorm rack, leaving the lock behind.
- A custodian reported a suspicious white male near a facilities office, trying to avoid being seen. Officers responded, found the subject's pick-up with two disassembled bikes in the campus shell and called CPD for assistance. While waiting for CPD, Safety officers found the subject hiding in a fenced backyard of a college-owned house. He was interviewed and released because the bikes were not provably stolen.
- The suspect with the bikes in his truck was arrested by CPD days later when a stolen bike report from the campus came in later on the same day and matched one of the bikes in his possession. )
- A box of canned goods was taken from outside of an administration building where collections for charitable giving had been set-up.
- A cable-locked bike was stolen from student apartments.
- An anonymous female reported that a friend had been the victim of unwanted fondling by a male student at an off campus social event. The dean was advised.
- A student's cable-locked bike was stolen from an academic building handrail.
- At 2237 hrs. deans staff and Safety officers heard a loud explosion but were unable to determine the source.
- A student's cable-locked bike was stolen from an academic building rack between 0915 and 1055 hrs. on a Thursday.
- A passerby reported a vehicle with a rear window broken. The culprit was a pine cone which was found inside the vehicle.
- A student reported the theft of multiple boxes of personal property from a dorm storage

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area. The time frame of the theft was between February and September. The loss was estimated at \$4000.

- At 2201 hrs. a Safety officer attempted to question a white male, approx. age 25 biker on a BMX style bike, who had been in a dorm area. He refused, shouted an obscenity at the officer, and fled off campus.
- A custodian reported finding a black male subject sleeping inside of a locked, walled/gated courtyard of an administrative building. The subject was interviewed by Safety officers. He said he was tired as he was enroute home and stopped to rest, and that he is a student at the School of Theology. Safety officers and CPD checked with the School of Theology and confirmed that he was not a student. He was warned about trespassing.
- Maintenance staff encountered a perplexing freshman "hazing" event in which students from one campus transported student's mattresses (about 20) to the dorm lawn of another campus. Also enroute to the new location were four dorm room doors and other furniture that never made it over the dividing street median. The dean of the "receiving" campus asked that the items be removed and this was accomplished by the intervention of the dean of the "sending" campus.
- An officer found an unregistered vehicle with a broken passenger side window with glass inside and on the ground. The owner was identified by a Blockbuster receipt in plain sight, and was contacted. He declined a report.
- The driver's side window of a Lincoln Navigator SUV was smashed. Nothing was stolen.
- A campus visitor reported that her child's wagon was stolen from the exterior of a dining hall. Officers began a search and found the wagon behind an athletic facility on another part of the campus.
- At 2115 hrs. a student reported 4 males leaning on a car parked on a campus street. Officers found 4 subjects, one urinating in the bushes and all with open containers. After an initial denial, one subject was identified as a student with three guests. They then complied with campus alcohol policies
- At 0547 hrs. a student reported that an unknown male was trying to enter his dorm room with a key. He called back to say the male

subject then entered an adjoining room.

Officers were UTL.

- Officers discovered high school-aged males distributing Papa John's Pizza flyers contrary to campus soliciting policy. They were interviewed and left the area.
- A worried parent called Campus Safety following a conversation with a student who seemed despondent. RA's, deans and counselors were informed and the student was found and counseled.
- Claremont Police called advising that they had been notified directly of a heat stroke emergency at "the soccer field" and didn't know where to direct paramedics. Safety officers checked the fields and found a Whittier College student with heat stroke in a parking lot near a soccer field, and guided emergency responders in. He was transported to a local hospital.
- A student reported a shaggy dog inside of a closed up vehicle on a hot day. Officers identified the vehicle as belonging to a local dog rescue person. In this case the shaggy dog was a stuffed animal and no further service was provided.
- Complaints from off-campus citizens stimulated CPD to, likewise, demand that the live band sound level be lowered. Organizers were advised but more complaints followed just before the last song.
- Safety officers at a party found an under-aged male student with two ID's which he refused to surrender. Alcohol servers were informed and the dean was advised.
- Numerous noise complaints from off-campus residents at 0001 hrs. resulted in CPD officers closing down a party at one dorm. The noise may actually have come from two other nearby dorms with blaring loudspeakers which were then counseled by dorm staff and the sound level was reduced.
- A student found an unconscious male lying in vomit in a dorm restroom. Safety officers and paramedics responded and aroused the subject. Although intoxicated, he did not require medical care and was escorted to his room by an RA.
- An RA reported a male subject throwing and breaking a glass in an absent female student's room. Officers found the fleeing subject who had a verbal altercation with his

girlfriend but no violence was directed to her. The dean was advised.

- At 0157 hrs. officers encountered two male subjects in a verbal confrontation accompanied by two females. All were in various stages of intoxication. Officers separated the males and escorted a very intoxicated female to a friend's dorm. A short time later the intoxicated female was found heading for her car. CPD was called and the subject was arrested for disorderly conduct to prevent her from driving. Residence hall staff and the dean's office were informed.
- At 0226 Officers checked a dorm party on the second floor. Bottles were being thrown from the balcony. With the assistance of an RA, a resident took responsibility for the clean-up and the noise abated.
- A bicycle, improperly locked with a u-lock, was stolen from a dorm rack. The still locked u-lock was left on the ground.
- A student's vehicle sunroof was smashed. CPD responded to take fingerprints and a report was written.
- A student reported that another student had attempted suicide. Officers found the student coherent but distraught. The student was transported to a hospital for treatment of lacerated wrists and for emotional trauma. CPD, LACFD and campus officials responded.
- A student belatedly reported the theft of \$2,000 worth of personal property from a storage container over the summer.
- A cable-locked bike was stolen from a dorm rack.
- Another cable-locked bike was stolen from a dorm rack. The cable was left.
- Four Physical Plant trucks were broken into while parked in the Plant lot. Toolboxes and misc. tools were stolen.
- Two more cable-locked bikes were stolen from a dorm rack.
- A Safety officer reported the theft of a Safety Dept. jacket with a cell phone in the pocket from a social event. The cell phone number was called and a student heard it ringing in the bushes and brought it to the Safety office.
- CPD advised that they arrested a subject known to be a bike thief with bikes in his possession. He had previously been stopped on campus but had been released before the

theft report on one of the bikes in his possession had been filed.

- A cable-locked bike was stolen from a dorm rack. The cable was left on the ground.
- A locked beach cruiser bike along with its lock, was stolen from a dorm rack.
- Staff reported the theft of four LCD classroom projectors, valued at \$5,000 each, from four classrooms in the same academic building. CPD took a report.
- An officer found an off-campus male and female parked in a theater lot at 0217 hrs. They were advised to leave and complied.
- An employee reported a suspicious male loitering on a basketball court at 1221 hrs. Safety officers requested that CPD assist. The subject was in possession of a screwdriver, vice grips, keys and a portable charger and was very nervous. He was identified, interviewed and warned not to return.
- A student reported a suspicious white male subject who routinely jumps a dining hall fence to eat then hangs out near the domes. Officers recognized the description as that of a subject who has been camping out on the campus off and on over the summer and who has been stopped several times.
- At 0007 hrs. a student called the Safety office and reported that he and another student were locked in the library. Officers got them out.
- A custodian reported three male subjects asleep in an academic building at 0519 hrs. when the building should have been secured. They were gone before officers arrived.
- A student reported the theft of a cable-locked bike from a dorm rack.
- A male model, partially nude and posing provocatively, was discovered with a photographer and several other models illicitly using campus facilities. Officers identified them and escorted them from campus.
- An employee reported the theft of a golf cart. Officers found the cart at the bookstore and secured it at the Safety station.
- A cable-locked bike was stolen from a library rack.
- A student's bike was stolen from an academic building rack. The U-lock remained locked to the rack.
- Students reported a suspicious female wandering around in a dorm. Officers

questioned a female who had recently been released from a medical center psychiatric ward and who had come here by bus. Officers and CPD were unable to determine why she was in the dorm but explained that she had to leave. She cooperated and left campus.

- An elderly male campus visitor suffered a possible heart attack at an athletic facility social event. Paramedics responded and he was transported to a local hospital.
- Between 0002 and 0037 hrs. two female students somehow injured themselves (leg and shoulder, respectively) at a social event at a student center, and were transported to PVHMC.
- A student reported four male subjects carrying bats in a dorm parking lot at 0217 hrs. Safety officers determined that the four had some kind of altercation with a different male student. The intoxicated student refused to file a report or provide additional information about the subjects.
- A student reported the theft of over \$1,000 worth of electronic equipment from an unlocked dorm room.
- A female Safety officer checking I.D'S at a party was pushed into a wall and to the ground by a student who had three I.D.s. He fled.
- A female student with four male guests reported that one of her guests was punched in the face and had beer thrown on him by a female student after a verbal altercation. The female batterer and a friend ran but were identified. The male guest did not wish to press charges.
- Three off-campus underage male subjects crashed a party and were intoxicated. They became very uncooperative and belligerent as well. Safety officers called the mothers of two of the juveniles, who came to the station to pick them up.
- An RA reported an unconscious female in a dorm men's restroom with symptoms of alcohol poisoning. Officers found the subject semi-conscious and vomiting. Paramedics responded and the student was transported to a local hospital.
- An officer discovered students covering a broken dorm hallway window with cardboard at 0252 hrs. The cause of the breakage was not disclosed.
- A student reported an unlocked bike stolen from outside of a dorm.
- A student reported that after she had her keys stolen at a party her car disappeared from where it had been parked. Using the vehicle's On Star System locator, CPD found the vehicle blocks away and had it towed to a secure area. A "grand theft" report and a "recovery" report were written.
- A student reported another student passed out with 16 opened packets of sleeping pills nearby. Emergency responders and the dean were notified. The student was taken to a local hospital for treatment.
- Staff reported that Warner Brothers Studios will be setting up and filming at several different locations on a campus over the next three days.
- A professor reported his rear vehicle window broken. The owner and the officer determined that the breakage was caused by a pine cone falling from a tree.
- A dean and an officer entered a dorm construction site where noises had been heard and found 2 cases of malt liquor, and a carry-bag with marijuana, wrapping papers and other substances in it. They confiscated the items then identified a student heading into the area, with a key to the room, as they were leaving. He admitted to owning the bag but said that the contents were not his.
- An RA reported two males in an altercation at 2359 hrs. Officers found the subjects arguing. One subject had spit on the other. Eventually, they agreed to stay away from each other and declined criminal charges.
- A female student reported being annoyed by a male caller who wanted to have phone sex with her.
- A student reported the theft of a wallet, laptop computer, and a paycheck from an unlocked art studio. Someone attempted to cash the paycheck at a check cashing business.
- CPD responded directly to a campus to interview a student who was the victim of credit card fraud. Her "identity" was used to gain a Chevron credit card.
- Facilities staff reported that there is evidence that students, or someone, is sleeping overnight in academic buildings that are supposed to be secured overnight. He found

pillows, blankets and propped doors. Officers were asked to provide extra patrol of the area.

- A Safety officer found an unlocked bike near tennis courts at 2146 hrs. and brought the bike to the Safety station for safekeeping. At 0000 hrs. a student reported the bike missing and was reunited with the bike.
- Officers found a student tearing down a "Hard Hats Only" sign at a construction site. He was identified and admonished about the attempted theft or destruction of private property and released.
- Staff reported vandalism in a student center at 0030 hrs. A stairwell banister had the word "cheaters" scratched into the wood.
- A Physical Plant employee reported a male subject putting flyers on parked vehicles. Officers found two subjects with out-of-state driver's licenses passing out flyers for Christian Ministries. they were advised to leave and complied.
- An officer reported seeing an electric cart with the ignition switch torn out. The campus department owner of the cart retrieved it later.
- The front passenger window of a large SUV was smashed. Nothing was stolen. CPD responded for a report.
- Residence hall staff reported a trash can fire, possibly caused by a cigarette, on the third floor of a dorm. An RA extinguished the fire with an extinguisher. The only thing damaged was the trash can.
- Students and officers reported numerous instances of fireworks being ignited at night. Most of the perpetrators were not identified.
- A professor reported the theft of a briefcase with cash, credit cards and a passport inside, from an academic building.
- Staff reported an abandoned golf cart in a parking lot. The owners in San Bernardino were contacted. They reported that the cart was a "loaner" to one of the other campuses from which it, evidently, had been stolen. The "borrowing" campus thought it had been picked up by the owner.
- An officer reported that Postal Service Express Mail tape was strung from 4<sup>th</sup> St. to Bonita Ave. along College Ave from light standard to light standard, as well as in other nearby locations.

- A student reported seeing somebody rip a short light standard from the ground and then beat it with a baseball bat or something similar. Officers found the damaged light standard ripped out of the ground but the perpetrator was gone.
- A senior staff person reported a serious auto accident on a nearby city street. CPD officers handled the incident in which there was no serious injury but the "under-aged" (for alcohol) driver, a female student, with no driver's license, was arrested for driving under the influence after she was tested. CPD officers found a ½ empty bottle of rum and a 12 pack of Budweiser in the vehicle. The vehicle was "totaled" after a collision with a campus tree. Another student and an off-campus person were passengers in the car.
- Staff reported a window broken with a rock in an academic building.
- A professor reported a broken window in a building adjacent to the building named in the previous entry. The five inch rock was on the floor inside.
- An employee reported the theft of a purse with a wallet inside from an unlocked room in an academic building which also recently had had a rock thrown through a window.
- A dining services employee reported the odor of marijuana in a dining hall elevator. Another employee said that five college-aged subjects, 2 female, had just left the area and something similar had occurred over the past weekend.
- A professor reported that a female who had been banned from campus was back on campus. A family member was notified and took the subject away.
- An RA reported three college-aged, white, male subjects tore down paper decorations at student cottages, gave false names and fled in a black Suburban.
- A student reported four small broken windows in his dorm room. Someone had written incendiary and obscene comments pertaining to campus rivalry on the remaining large windows, with a green marker.
- A Safety officer returned to his golf cart and found a student attempting to get it started with several of his own keys, with one in the ignition. He told the officer that he got tired

while walking and decided to rest when the officer walked up and asked for his ID. There was a witness. The dean was notified.

- A student reported two white males who appeared to be “pretty stoned” walking through the dorm with a broom, banging on doors and emanating a strong odor of marijuana. They claimed to be custodians. Officer stopped and identified two argumentative students fitting the descriptions. One had a broom and an open can of beer and both were intoxicated. The subject with the beer was issued a citation for possessing an open alcohol container.
- Staff found a student’s bike in a storage container. Safety called the “Mom” in New York who said the student graduated and wanted to donate the bike to someone. Staff handled the arrangements.
- A professor reported that some of the contents of the purse she reported stolen from an academic building had been found in a restroom trash can by a custodian.
- A female reported being locked inside of a library elevator. She was released 20 minutes later but another person then entered the elevator and, likewise, was stuck inside. Twenty minutes later that person was released also. The elevator was then repaired.
- A student reported the theft of play station equipment valued at \$563 from an unlocked dorm room.
- At 2250 hrs., a student reported that two males took muscle relaxants and one of them then jumped off of a 2<sup>nd</sup> floor balcony. Officers responded and attempted to get information but were confronted with contentious, uncooperative students who were shielding their off-campus guest, who had jumped from the balcony. LACFD paramedics also responded and were, likewise, subjected to student interference and requested that CPD respond to handle the student intervention. Meanwhile, the “jumper”, who seemed to be under the influence of something, ran from the area without being medically checked.
- A passerby reported damaged vehicles near an administration building. Safety and CPD officers responded and pieced together the accident story when all of the involved parties were finally found: An off-campus female driving south collided with another vehicle, pushing it into another parked vehicle. She was arrested

by CPD for public intoxication and her vehicle was towed away.

- A student found another student at the base of a stairway with a severe cut on his head. Responding paramedics recommended stitches at the local hospital but the intoxicated male subject refused medical treatment caused by his presumed fall down the stairs. The dean was advised.
- At 0153 a student reported a suspicious female rummaging through a dorm lounge refrigerator. Officers found two females from an adjacent campus who said they were “stocking up”, and that the people from this campus do the same on their campus “all the time”. They were escorted back to the refrigerator to replace the items taken.
- After a series of false fire alarms beginning at 0329 hrs., caused by pulled “boxes”, a Safety officer encountered an intoxicated male student coming out of a dorm basement exit covered from head to foot with fire extinguisher powder which had, again, activated the alarm. The subject’s bare feet left the only tracks in the room but he said he had only walked through to go to the bathroom. He was identified and escorted back to his room, next to the pulled boxes from the earlier alarms.
- IT staff reported the theft of a computer and monitor, valued at \$1840, from a computer lab. A custodian found a sliding glass door open upon her arrival.
- At 0510 hrs. a custodian reported a sleeping male in an academic building that was supposed to have been secured. Officers identified a male student who had stayed in the building at closing.
- Staff reported the theft of a pneumatic, fabric chair, valued at \$300, from an academic building basement. The room was locked.
- A student reported that he was supposed to have been the recipient of birthday cards with cash enclosed but he never received them. He was referred to the mail room for follow-up. No report written.
- A \$740 camera and case were stolen from an unlocked dorm room.
- Maywood police asked for assistance locating a student regarding a stripped vehicle in their city. The student said that her husband left the vehicle when it broke down and returned to find it stripped. It had not been reported stolen.

- At 0355 hrs. a Safety officer saw three male subjects lighting fireworks from a dorm balcony. He was able to provide enough identifying information to dorm staff for the dean to handle the situation.
- A hit-and-run accident occurred on adjacent city streets involving at least one student whose vehicle was hit by another, which stopped for seconds, then fled. CPD was advised. No injuries.
- Officers conducting an area check of an on-campus wilderness area encountered 40 or more students and off-campus people with a keg and open containers. Residence hall staff were notified and the subjects and the keg were cleared from the area at 0009 hrs.
- Officers observed fireworks being ignited at 0134 hrs. and found a male student who was responsible. The remainder of the fireworks were confiscated and the student was identified.
- A female passerby reported a male subject passed out in the darkness near a dorm entrance at 0218 hrs. Officers found a tired student lying down with homemade replica nunchaku and a replica Samurai sword. The items were confiscated.
- At 0158 hrs. a dorm smoke detector activated. An RA told officers that an unknown student ignited a piece of notebook paper. The alarm was reset.
- A cable-locked bike was stolen from a dorm rack.
- RA's advised Safety officers of an intoxicated female guest lying in her vomit and unwilling to get up at a campus activity center. The subject was conscious and talking and was escorted to the host's room by RA's.
- At 2249 hrs. students reported two suspicious, intoxicated, off-campus male subjects wandering in a dorm. Officers found the subjects on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor, interviewed them and escorted them off campus.
- An officer working at a campus party reported that a 6<sup>th</sup> keg (unauthorized) had been brought into a party by an alumnus. The party organizer was intoxicated and counterproductive. Officers assisted RA's in confiscating the keg.
- An officer reported that someone threw something at him from a blue Cadillac. CPD was notified. The vehicle fled off campus, running several stop signs.
- A student reported the sounds of gunshots fired from a dorm courtyard. CPD and Safety officers responded, checked the area and interviewed students but were not able to confirm the report.
- A student reported someone outside of his room door at 0403 hrs., possibly spray painting it. Officers found other students had piled furniture against several doors in the area. They returned the furniture to the original settings.
- At 0448 hrs. an officer encountered two intoxicated students riding a golf cart that they claimed to have authorization to use. The on-call dean advised otherwise and the subjects were identified and released and the stolen cart was secured. At 0515 hrs. an officer saw the same subjects with another stolen cart. They fled on foot leaving a set of keys behind. One of the subjects kept reappearing and fleeing until officers finally apprehended him. CPD was notified and the student was arrested for grand theft. Later, CPD also arrested the other involved student at an off-campus residence. Both damaged carts were returned to the department from which they were stolen.
- An employee fell off of a dining hall dock with a resultant severe head laceration. Paramedics responded and transported the victim to a local hospital.
- Two juvenile male subjects with a leashed dog refused to leave an athletic track when asked by a coach. Officers identified the subjects, who had been riding scooters on the track and escorted them and the rottweiler off campus.
- A Ford Expedition, parked in a campus lot, had the driver's side window broken out. Nothing was stolen.
- A student, exhibiting symptoms of a possible heart attack, was transported to PVHMC.
- A student's Honda Civic was stolen from a campus street south of the library. CPD took a report.
- A student reported the despondency of another student who previously attempted suicide. Appropriate staff persons were notified, precautions were taken and counseling was provided.

- Staff reported the theft of \$900 in cash from an office in a campus center.
- A passerby reported a male subject near a campus center playing a horn. People are throwing money into his hat. Officers found a student from an adjacent campus practicing. He will go to a more remote area, but first, went inside for lunch.
- Students reported a male solicitor in a dorm. Officers searched the area and found both a male and female going through dorms. They were identified and escorted off campus.
- A supervisor found campus furniture inside the van of an employee. The items were returned to their respective locations and the incident was going to be handled administratively.
- A student reported a series of physical abuse incidents from an ex-boyfriend but did not follow-up with a crime report.

Often the thieves are repeat offenders who have been “working” the colleges for years. If we stop and identify them before they steal something we can often get an arrest anyway because they so frequently are carrying something illegal, such as stolen property; burglary tools or drugs. Call us ! 7-2000.

## Crime Prevention Strategies / Tips

It should be evident from reading the “blotter” entries that the campuses are porous to both vehicle and pedestrian traffic. Some of the people who visit, do so with the idea of theft in mind and wander around looking for opportunities in their specialty. Most of the losses we experience are the result of providing thieves with good opportunities in the form of open or unlocked dorm room doors, bikes locked with cable locks or not locked at all, or doors to dorms and academic buildings being propped.

- Use a U-lock for your bike. Capture the frame and, at least, one wheel in the loop with the rack.
- Don’t prop any doors.
- Do un-prop all doors found propped.
- Lock your dorm doors.
- Close and lock dorm room windows.
- Report suspicious activity immediately.

## October 2002 Crime Statistics

### Crimes Against Persons

annoying call	0
assault	0
assault w/deadly weapon	0
disturbance	2
hate incident	0
indecent exposure	1
prowling	0
rape	0
robbery	0
sexual assault	0
other	2

### Crimes Against Property

Arson	0
burglary	8
theft (from vehicle)	1
theft (bike)	17
theft (from building)	5
theft (other)	3
grand theft auto	3
trespass	0
vandalism	6

other	0
Arrests	3

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## Published By:

The Dept. of Campus Safety  
The Claremont Colleges