

# The Claremont Colleges

The Department of Campus Safety

October 2004

## October 2004 Crime and Incident Report

### Trends and Analysis

The string of bicycle thefts that began in September has continued at a surprising rate throughout October. Most alarming is the fact that a majority of the bicycles stolen were locked, and more specifically, some were locked with U-locks. While it still remains true that a U-lock is more secure than a cable lock, which is more secure than not locking your bike, it is imperative that we not consider them to be foolproof. One trick that we recently learned could work is to use *two* U-locks. A student reported having seen a bicycle with two U-locks securing it. One lock had been compromised, but, whether the would-be thief was spotted, ran out of time, or just gave up, the second lock kept the bike from being stolen. A recent report in USA Today advised that certain styles of Kryptonite U-locks could be compromised with basic items. Make sure if you're buying a new

lock to do some research into what type is the most secure. U-locks that use a flat key rather than the circular key that is most common, or that have disc-style cylinders instead of tubular cylinders in the lock itself, are most likely to avoid this sort of security breach. If you already own a Kryptonite lock that uses a tubular cylinder, Kryptonite is offering a product exchange for a non-tubular lock through its website.

### October 2004 Selective Incident Summary, October 1—31

- Campus Safety Officers reported a vehicle driving on the interior of a campus. The owner of the car had not given the driver permission to use it. The dean was advised, and the car was removed from the campus interior.
- A student reported that his mountain bike and the Kryptonite lock used to secure it to the bike rack were stolen.
- A male student reported a group of off campus subjects harassing students in a dorm. Campus Safety Officers responded and located two subjects. A student claimed to be their host, but they did not know the student's name, and the stories conflicted. CPD and the hall director responded, and one subject was arrested

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after threatening the hall director and refusing to leave when asked.

- A Campus Safety Officer reported that a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed hit the curb. CPD responded, and the driver was arrested for DUI.
- A female student reported that an unknown male assaulted her at a party. A Campus Safety Officer who witnessed the event reported that the student had approached the male, argued with him, and attempted to knee him in the groin. The male then pushed her away and slapped her. Upon learning that an officer had witnessed the event, the student changed her story. CPD and the dean responded, and both parties chose not to press charges.
- A dean reported a vehicle driving erratically. The vehicle struck and broke off a street sign. Campus Safety Officers responded and discovered the student driver was intoxicated. CPD was advised, and the driver was arrested. The appropriate hall director was on scene, and advised the campus dean.
- A Grounds staff member reported that a glass bong was found in a campus pool enclosure. Campus Safety officers responded, and determined that there was no drug residue in the device, so the staff member destroyed it.
- A student reported his bicycle was stolen from a rack near his dorm. The bike was locked with a cable lock, which was cut.
- A student reported that his bicycle, which was locked with a Kryptonite lock, was stolen.
- A staff member reported electronic equipment was stolen from a locked closet in a dining hall.
- A male student reported that his girlfriend entered an academic area where he was, started yelling and throwing things at him, and tried to tear his shirt off. She then left the area with a remote control. A Campus Safety Officer responded, and reported that the student had marks on his chest and shin. The dean, hall director, and CPD were notified. The student decided he did not want to press charges. When CPD and Campus Safety attempted to make contact with the female student, they saw a bong with marijuana residue in it sitting in the dorm room. The hall director confiscated the bong.
- A student reported that his laptop was stolen from his unlocked room.
- A student reported that his bicycle was stolen from a dorm bike rack, where it was locked with a Kryptonite U-lock.
- A student reported that his unlocked mountain bike was stolen from the exterior of a dorm.
- A student reported that he caught another student from the same dorm stealing from his room. A Campus Safety Officer responded, and various items were returned to their rightful owners.
- A student reported that his motorcycle was stolen from a student parking area. A Campus Safety Officer and CPD responded and took a report. Several days later, the vehicle was located in a different city and returned to the student.
- A student reported that her roommate had two purses stolen from an unlocked dorm room. Another student later found the purses in a trashcan, along with four purses belonging to a third student.

- A student reported his bicycle was stolen from a bike rack in front of his dorm.
- A student reported that his unlocked bicycle was stolen from his dorm porch. He further advised that his friends have reported seeing it at various locations around campus since it was taken.
- A staff member reported that his cell phone was stolen from his locked office.
- A student reported that her bicycle was stolen from a bike rack outside her dorm.
- A student reported that his locked bike was stolen from his dorm.
- A student reported that his skateboard was stolen from outside his dorm.
- A student reported that her bicycle was stolen from outside of a dining hall, along with the club lock she had used to secure the bike.
- An R/A. reported a male subject carrying a sword. Campus Safety Officers responded and located him in a dorm lounge. The dean and CPD responded. A student claimed that the subject was his guest, and the dean banned the guest from campus. The sword was confiscated for safekeeping.
- A student reported that her laptop was stolen from her locked vehicle.
- An R.A. reported that four students had various personal and electronic items stolen from their suite.
- A student reported that his unlocked bicycle was stolen from outside of an academic building.
- A student reported that cash and electronic equipment were stolen from her locked dorm room.
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- A dean reported a vehicle with a broken front driver's side window parked in a student parking lot. A Campus Safety Officer responded, and located the vehicle's owner. The owner advised that the window was broken, but nothing was taken from the car.
- A staff member reported that two boxed chafing dishes were stolen from a locked closet in a dining hall.
- An R.A. reported that several female students were claiming to have been sexually harassed by an off-campus male. The dean and Campus Safety Officers responded. One female student reported that he had physical contact with her, and she wanted to press charges. The subject became combative, and assaulted three Campus Safety Officers. CPD responded and arrested the subject.
- A student reported that she received a phone call from someone impersonating the government. The caller told her that she was owed several thousand dollars, and that if she gave them \$250, they would forward the money to her. She gave the caller her checking account number. Later, she rethought her decision, and cancelled her account. A Campus Safety Officer and CPD responded for a report.
- A pool tech reported that an electric drill was stolen from an open room in one of the pool complexes.
- A female student reported receiving annoying phone calls approximately three times a week. When she answers, the male caller rambles on until she hangs up.
- A male student reported that a female student who wished to remain

anonymous was walking and talking with an off-campus male outside of a student grill, when he pushed her and attempted to take her clothes off. Campus Safety

officers responded to the scene, but were unable to locate the suspect. The dean, hall director, and R.A. were notified and responded. The victim refused to press charges, and she was given the number for Project Sister.

- A student reported various personal items were taken from his room. Access was gained through his unlocked window, and he reported seeing a muddy footprint on his bed.
- A student reported that his cell phone and wallet were taken from his unlocked dorm room. When he attempted to cancel his credit card, he discovered that significant purchases had been made.
- Campus Safety officers responded to a call from an emergency phone at a dorm, and saw two subjects throwing a bicycle into a planter. The subjects advised they were not students, and CPD responded. After CPD's arrival, both subjects admitted to being students. One was arrested for being drunk in public. The hall directors were notified, and the bike was recovered with no damage done to it.
- A staff member reported that her computer was taken from an academic building a few minutes prior. There was a 30-40 year old man seen in the immediate vicinity just before the theft. Campus Safety Officers and CPD officers responded, but were unable to locate the male subject or the computer.
- An unknown male telephoned the Campus Safety Office and said that someone would die that day at one of the administrative buildings. CPD was

advised, and a Campus Safety Officer was posted at the building for extra protection.

- An R/A reported a racial slur written on the sidewalk in chalk. Campus Safety and CPD officers responded and met with the R.A., the hall director, and the dean. After the report was taken, students washed the offending message away.
- A student reported that her wallet was removed from her room. Her suitemate also reported that her camera was taken.
- A Campus Safety Officer reported a vehicle with a cracked passenger side window. The owner of the vehicle responded, and discovered that electronic equipment was stolen from a pried-open glove compartment.
- A student reported that her roommate's laptop computer was stolen from their unsecured dorm room.
- An R/A reported a suspicious looking male in his mid-thirties leaving a dorm. Campus Safety Officers responded and located the subject, who claimed to be a guest of a student. There was no such student listed in the roster, and CPD responded. Upon their arrival, the subject dropped drug paraphernalia on the ground. He was arrested for possession.
- A student reported that her bicycle was stolen from the exterior of a dorm. The bike was later found by another student and returned to the owner.

## Crime Prevention Strategies and Tips

- As in many situations, we as a community must be on guard and watch out for each other. Suspicious activity to watch for includes someone carrying bolt cutters; someone putting bicycles into the back of a pick-up truck, especially if there are several other bikes in the bed of the truck; someone seeming unusually interested in or “casing” the bike racks; someone riding one bike and carrying bicycle parts or another entire bike (strange but true – it happens!) Obviously, none of these activities guarantees that someone is, in fact, stealing or planning to steal a bike. If you see someone exhibiting these behaviors, call Campus Safety at x72000.
- Whenever you are reporting suspicious activity to Campus Safety, be sure to give a complete description of the person (gender, race, hair color, color/type of clothes the person is wearing, and any other identifying or unusual distinguishing factors,) where you saw the person, which direction he or she was headed, and exactly what the activity was that aroused your suspicions. If a vehicle is involved, try to get the license plate number (or at least a partial,) and the color, make and model of the vehicle.
- As always, it is imperative to keep your offices and dorm rooms secured. This includes not only the door, but the window as well.
- Be extremely careful when and if you choose to drink alcohol. Be sure to surround yourself only with close, trusted friends who will protect you should the need arise, both from others and, if necessary, from yourself. Don't accept invitations to go party with strangers, or even casual acquaintances.
- If you ever find yourself in a dangerous, or even just a questionable situation, call Campus Safety at x72000. We are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Whether you need a safety escort or have larger problems that need to be handled, we're here to help.

## October 2004 Statistics

### Crimes Against Persons

Annoying Call	1
Assault	0
Assault w/Deadly Weapon	0
Battery	2
Disturbance	2
Hate Incident	1
Indecent Exposure	0
Prowling	0
Rape	0
Robbery	0
Sexual Assault	1
Other	0

### Crimes Against Property

Arson	0
Burglary	9
Theft (from vehicle)	2
Theft (Bike)	10
Theft (from building)	3

Theft (Other)	1
Grand Theft Auto	1

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Trespass	0
Vandalism	2
Other	0

Arrests	5
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## Published By:

The Dept. of Campus Safety  
The Claremont Colleges  
251 E. 11<sup>th</sup> St.  
Claremont, Ca. 91711

On campus phone: 7-2000  
From off campus: 909 621-8170  
FAX: 909 621-8596  
E-mail: [laurak@cuc.claremont.edu](mailto:laurak@cuc.claremont.edu)  
web page:  
[www.cuc.claremont.edu/cs](http://www.cuc.claremont.edu/cs)