

The Claremont Colleges

The Department of Campus Safety

March 2005

March 2005 Crime and Incident Report

Trends and Analysis

There has been a disturbing increase in the number of vandalisms this month. This increase is even more notable because the majority of the vandalisms involved auto vandalisms, or “keying.” While it may seem like there is little to be done about a random vandalizing of your vehicle, two basic steps toward vehicle protection are useful. First, always park your vehicle in a well-lit parking lot that is monitored by surveillance cameras. Second, invest in a car cover. It requires more effort, and is far more noticeable, to remove a car cover in order to get to the car itself.

Another change this month, though not one as well reflected by the statistics, involves bike thefts. While the theft of bicycles, especially those left unlocked or cable locked, remains a problem, the number has slightly decreased this

month. (The below statistics include the theft of bike parts, such as individual wheels.) In addition, there has been a dramatic decrease in the bike thefts on the southernmost campuses, which in recent months hosted some of the highest numbers. The northern campuses are showing a rise in bike thefts, but those thefts also have a higher rate of having been left unlocked. There has also been an increase in the success rate for recovering stolen bicycles.

March 2005 Selective Incident Summary, March 1—31

- A student reported his unlocked bicycle stolen from outside his dorm.
- A staff member reported that a network port in a classroom was kicked in.
- A student reported that her vehicle was burglarized. Several items were taken and the vehicle sustained damage. CPD was unable to lift any fingerprints.
- A staff member reported his golf cart was stolen. Later in the day, CPD discovered it off-campus, damaged and vandalized.
- A staff member reported that an off-campus subject is still harassing her. CPD and Campus Safety officers took a report, and she obtained a temporary restraining order against the subject.

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- A student reported that her bicycle, locked with a cable combination lock, was taken from a rack outside her dorm.
- A student reported that his unlocked bicycle was stolen from outside his dorm.
- A student reported that several game consoles and accessories and a DVD player were stolen from his unlocked suite.
- A student reported that various electronic equipment and other personal items belonging to his roommate and him were stolen from their unlocked room.
- A student reported her unlocked electric bicycle was stolen from outside an administrative building.
- A staff member reported an off-campus male using a library computer to access hardcore porn. CPD and Campus Safety officers responded, but the library staff did not want to press charges. The subject was arrested for trespassing.
- A student reported his laptop stolen from his open dorm room.
- A student reported that she found her bicycle, which was previously reported stolen, and has reclaimed it. Another student later attempted to file a theft report on the bike, and admitted to having cut the cable lock that was securing the bicycle. The second student said that she thought it was her bicycle, but that she lost the keys to the locks several years ago.
- A dean reported swastikas and the word “die” written on two students’ whiteboards. CPD and Campus Safety responded. CPD later determined that no crime had been committed, and Campus Safety took a bias incident report.
- A staff member reported that the exterior department signs have been damaged, and appear to have been run over with a vehicle.
- A student reported hearing noises outside her residence late at night. She also reported having received a strange email that she found threatening. Campus Safety and CPD officers responded and took a report, and advised her to call immediately if she heard noises again.
- A student reported that his unlocked bike was stolen from a rack outside his dorm.
- A student reported that her bike was stolen from a rack outside her dorm. She had locked the front wheel of her bike to the rack with a cable lock, and when she returned, the locked wheel was still there, but the rest of the bike was stolen.
- A student reported that her bicycle, locked with a Kryptonite U-lock, was stolen from a bike rack outside her dorm.
- A staff member reported that her car was vandalized and scratched.
- A staff member reported that her purse was stolen from a couch in an academic building hallway. The purse was later found in a trash bin in the women’s restroom, but various items had been removed.
- A Campus Safety officer reported seeing a male riding a bike while carrying 2 bike tires and a rim. The subject refused to stop when asked. CPD responded, and the subject admitted to having taken the items from outside of a dorm. The items were confiscated, and CPD advised that a warrant would be issued for the subject when the victim of the theft came forward. A dean later reported a student

as being the victim, and he was put in contact with CPD.

- A student reported his bike, which was locked with a cable lock, stolen from outside of a student center.
- A staff member reported that her wallet was stolen out of her backpack, which was in her unlocked office. She reported seeing a male in the area who kept asking questions. At one point, she allowed him to help her set up, and he went into her office alone to retrieve some items. The staff member later reported that there were fraudulent charges on her credit cards.
- A student reported a male subject wandering around a dorm, looking into rooms. Campus Safety officers responded and located the subject, who told them he was a guest of a student. The student's name given was not in the rosters, and CPD responded. Campus Safety officers discovered a laptop computer, which had just been reported stolen, and the victim's school I.D. in the subject's possession. Subject was arrested for burglary and for drug violations.
- A student reported two longboards stolen from his unlocked dorm room.
- A student reported his camera and camera bag were stolen from a parking lot. He had left the items sitting on the ground next to his car.
- A staff member reported her car was vandalized with scratches.
- Two students reported their vehicles "keyed" while parked in a student lot.
- A student reported that the rear wheel to her bicycle was stolen from her locked bike.
- Two students reported that their vehicle had been "keyed" while parked on a street near their dorm.
- A staff member reported that her parking permit hangtag was stolen out of her locked vehicle.
- A student reported the front wheel of his bike was stolen from outside an academic building. Five off-campus juveniles witnessed the event. Campus Safety officers responded and took a report. The student later discovered that it was a prank by a friend, and the wheel was returned.

Crime Prevention Strategies and Tips

- Never leave personal items in public access areas such as dorm lounges, academic building hallways, or parking lots. This invites "crimes of opportunity." It does not matter how long you intend to leave the item—it can be stolen. Thefts can, and do, occur in less than 5-10 minutes, and the likelihood is even higher if it is a heavily trafficked area.
- Always lock your bicycle. More specifically, with the rise of bike part theft (which often includes wheels,) be sure to lock both one tire—preferably the rear tire—and the frame to the bike rack with a sturdy u-lock. Try to avoid quick-release front wheels or easily removed accessories.
- Buy a car cover and use it. Not only can it protect your vehicle against casual vandalism, it will also prevent prying

eyes from deciding that your sound system looks easily removable.

- Be sure to park your vehicle in well-lit parking lots with surveillance cameras. Your supervisor or dean should be able to give you information about the best lots in which to park for safety.
- Make copies of the contents of your wallet, both front and back, and keep them in a safe place (that is not your wallet!) If your wallet is ever stolen or lost, you will have all of the card and content information handy. Similarly, record the make, model, and serial number of all important or expensive property, from bicycles to computers to iPods.
- Always lock your door when you are leaving your office or dorm, even for a few moments. Likewise, lock your dorm room dorm when you are sleeping. Your presence will not deter a thief, or worse, if you are asleep.

March 2005 Statistics

Crimes Against Persons	
Annoying Call	0
Assault	0
Assault w/Deadly Weapon	0
Battery	0
Disturbance	0
Hate Crime	1*
Indecent Exposure	0
Prowling	0
Rape	0
Robbery	0
Sexual Assault	0
Other	0

Crimes Against Property	
Arson	0
Burglary	5
Theft (from vehicle)	1
Theft (Bike)	11**
Theft (from building)	2
Theft (Other)	1
Grand Theft Auto	2***
Trespass	1
Vandalism	7
Other	0
 Arrests	 2

* Includes bias incidents

** Includes theft of bike parts

*** Includes recovery of vehicle

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