

# The Claremont Colleges

The Department of Campus Safety

November 2005

## November 2005 Crime and Incident Report

### Trends and Analysis

November has seen a decrease in burglaries, with half the number reported in October of 2005. Of those burglaries that occurred in dorms or residences, all but one involved unlocked areas. One burgled apartment had a locked door, but a partially ajar window.

Unfortunately, bike thefts have increased from the four reported in October to ten reported in November, although this is still less than were reported in September. All of the stolen bikes were locked with chain or cable locks, and a majority of them were stolen from south campus dorms or an academic quad. The thefts have been scattered across various days and times, and have resisted efforts to detect a pattern in the times or days in which the bikes are stolen. One problem in resolving this issue is that of wide time frames. If a bicycle is parked near a dorm, it can sometimes be days before the owner returns to check on it, especially when it is a holiday weekend.

The largest safety issue encountered this month was an armed robbery and various attempted robberies fitting a similar modus operandi. The successful robbery, perpetrated against a student and her guest, involved the use of a handgun, and no suspect has been apprehended. An attempted robbery, involving a water balloon thrown at the victim, was unsuccessful, but that perpetrator also was not found. A dean later reported several other similar situations that went unreported to Campus Safety, most of which involved subjects matching the description of the armed robber. Most of the incidents occurred on or near 6<sup>th</sup> Street. The subject has been described as a white male, possibly a teenager, often described as wearing a grey hooded sweatshirt. The subject is sometimes alone, sometimes with a group of other males. He has been on foot, and other times reported as being in, or returning to, a white pickup truck. The incidents have almost always occurred after 8:00 p.m., and have occurred to both male and female students, whether they are alone or in groups. Please remember to walk in groups, preferably not on city streets, especially at night. If at any point you are uncomfortable or concerned for your safety, call Campus Safety immediately at x72000.

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## November 2005 Selective Incident Summary, November 1—30

- An officer reported several slips of paper containing cryptic messages glued to buildings and vehicles. One vehicle owner later filed a crime report regarding the vandalism.
- A dean reported that a student driving a cart was harassed and catcalled by construction workers. The dean spoke with the workers regarding school policy.
- A student reported a group of several males hitting a car with bats. An officer responded, and discovered that the owner of the vehicle had allowed the damage for a project, and had been videotaping the group.
- A groundskeeper reported that someone punctured the rear driver's side tire on his car.
- An R.A. reported two suspicious subjects using a dorm kitchen. Officers responded and determined that the subjects were not affiliated with the colleges. They were warned about campus boundaries, and escorted off-campus.
- A student reported that her unlocked bicycle was stolen from a student center. The bike was later recovered near a dining hall.
- A student reported that three unknown males were sitting in the common area to a friend's suite. One asked to look at the student's binder of movies, and then all three fled with the binder.
- A student reported a hysterical female running around naked and wet in a campus parking lot. A Campus Safety officer responded, and located the female in a dorm. The female student assaulted an officer and a paramedic before she was transported to the hospital. The female student's dean was advised. The dean later reported that the student stole a car from the hospital parking lot and was subsequently arrested on multiple counts.
- A student reported that his laptop was stolen from his unlocked dorm room.
- A student reported that her purse was stolen from a campus party. The purse was later recovered, but the student's cell phone and camera were gone.
- A student reported that her camera was stolen from an exterior bench near her dorm.
- A facilities employee reported that his backflow gauge was stolen from the exterior of a student support building where he was working.
- An officer reported a male hiding in the bushes near a grounds building. He approached the subject, who refused to stop or show I.D. The subject also had a female with him. The male subject gave a false name, and CPD responded. The subject had had a previous citation on campus, and he was arrested for trespassing.
- A student reported a strange male in the lounge area going through their belongings and drinking their alcohol. Campus Safety and CPD officers responded, warned the man about private property boundaries, and escorted him off campus.
- An athletic coach reported that someone had written derogatory comments on a van belonging to the department.

- A staff member reported that various name plates were stolen from office doors. They have been missing for over a year.
- Two staff members reported that their electric flatbed golf cart was taken from a campus parking lot by a male subject. The cart was found near an administrative building on another campus, but the driver jumped a wall and fled the scene.
- A facilities director reported that a propane tank was stolen from inside a padlocked storage yard.
- A student reported that her wallet was stolen from her unlocked dorm room.
- CPD reported that student was a suspect in a hit-and run, and requested that an officer meet her at her room. A Campus Safety officer responded and escorted the student to her vehicle, where she spoke with CPD officers. The student admitted to the hit-and-run, and CPD released her on citation.
- A student reported that two males entered her room, left, and then came back. Campus Safety officers responded and located the subjects, who were guests of another student. The host was contacted and she retrieved her guests.
- CPD requested that Campus Safety officers meet with them inside a dorm lounge for a report of an armed robbery. The victim, a guest of a student, reported that the first suspect was a white male, 6'3", skinny build, light colored eyes possibly hazel, dark goatee, not scruffy, but clean shaven, lower lip piercing, dark hooded pullover sweater, dark sweat type pants and had a western style revolver with brown grips in his left hand. The second suspect was a male approximately 5'6"-5'8" heavy set, wearing a mask like the one on the movie "Scream" but with the tongue sticking out, a dark hooded zip-up sweater and dark jeans. A witness was located who stated that she saw the suspects flee on a city street towards one of the other campuses. The deans and R.A.s of the affected campuses were notified, and officers performed area checks of the campuses and interior checks of the dorms, but were unable to locate anyone matching the descriptions.
- An R.A. reported that a male subject through a rock through a dorm window and then fled. The victim told the responding Campus Safety officer that that a group was yelling outside his room, he said "be quiet" and someone threw a rock through his window.
- A program director reported that one of the students under her care was assaulted at her off-campus apartment. The situation was handled by CPD, and the on-call dean and on-call psychologist were transferred to the program director.
- A student reported that his bike, which was locked with a combination lock and chain, was stolen from outside an academic building.
- A staff member reported three juveniles trying to burn a chair in a wilderness area. Campus Safety officers responded, and located the subjects. Two got into a car and drove away, but two others stopped. A records check indicated that one of the subjects had been stopped on campus before, so CPD officers responded. A dean responded to the scene, and a Campus Safety officer was able to locate the partially burned chair in the wilderness area. The juveniles were warned about private property

boundaries, and were escorted off campus.

- A staff member reported receiving threatening phone calls and emails from a known subject. Campus Safety and CPD officers responded and took a report. The CPD officer then called the suspect and warned her to cease contact with the staff member.
- A dean reported that a student received a counterfeit bill as change from an on-campus restaurant. Campus Safety and CPD officers met with the dean, who turned over the bill to Campus Safety.
- A student reported that her bike, which was locked with a cable lock, was stolen from outside an academic building. She later reported that someone had seen her bike near an athletic building, but responding officers were unable to locate any bikes matching her description.
- A student reported that his laptop was stolen from his unlocked dorm room.
- A staff member struck an off-campus pedestrian with a golf cart. Campus Safety and CPD officers responded along with paramedics, and took a report.
- A student reported a group of males, one carrying a knife, walking through campus. Campus Safety officers responded and located the off-campus subjects. They denied having any weapons, but three of the five had no ID. CPD officers responded, searched the subjects, and confirmed their identities. No weapons were found, and the subjects were warned about the boundaries of the private colleges.
- A student reported that her digital camera was stolen from her unlocked dorm room.
- A student reported that her digital camera was stolen from a campus party.
- A student reported that his vehicle was hit while parked on a city street near an academic building. He was referred to CPD for the report.
- A student reported that her bike, which was locked with a combination cable lock, was stolen from a rack near an academic building.
- A student reported that two radios were stolen from a student service program. A dean later reported that the radios had been returned by an anonymous female.
- A student reported that his locked bicycle was stolen from a rack north of his dorm.
- A student reported that her bicycle was stolen from her dorm.
- An officer reported a confrontation between a male student and an off-campus female at a party, and Campus Safety officers responded. The male was intoxicated and left the area. The officer reported that while in the party, the student rubbed himself up against the female. The female reported that she did not wish to file charges.
- A staff member reported that the bathroom in an athletic facility was vandalized. The dividers between urinals were kicked and pulled out of the wall.
- A student reported that his laptop was stolen from his unlocked dorm room. He later discovered that his jacket, iPod and digital camera were also taken.
- A student reported an older male wandering around campus, asking students where he could buy “crack.” Campus Safety officers responded, and located the intoxicated subject near a dining hall. One officer recognized him

as a subject who was arrested previously this semester for trespassing, while he was looking for marijuana. CPD officers responded, and arrested the subject for trespassing and multiple warrants.

- An officer reported a male subject hitting vehicles with a skateboard. The subject fled, but Campus Safety and CPD officers located him hiding in the bushes near an academic building. The owners of the vehicles were contacted, and the off-campus subject was arrested.
- A facilities director reported that a terracotta planter that had been used as a trash receptacle had been vandalized and destroyed.
- A student reported that his bicycle was stolen from a rack near his south campus dorm. The cable lock that had been securing the bike was severed and left at the scene.
- A student reported that his bicycle, which had been locked with a cable lock, was stolen from a rack outside his south campus dorm.
- A student reported that, while walking between dorms on a city street, a white male in a grey hooded sweatshirt threw a water balloon at her and tried to take her purse, but was unsuccessful. Campus Safety and CPD officers responded and checked the area, but were unable to locate the subject.
- A student reported finding a vehicle broken into in a parking lot. A Campus Safety officer and the registered owner responded, and discovered that the driver's side window had been broken and the stereo stolen.
- CPD Dispatch reported that an off-campus guest called them to report that his vehicle had been burglarized. A CPD

officer responded, and discovered a second vehicle, belonging to a student, also had been burglarized. Both vehicles had broken windows and missing stereos.

- A student reported an off-campus woman camping out in an exterior bathroom. Campus Safety officers responded and located the woman. She was advised of private property and trespassing laws, and was escorted off campus.
- A Campus Safety officer reported finding three off-campus subjects in a tree, stealing fruit. The facilities director was contacted, and advised to give them a warning. They were advised of campus boundaries, warned about trespassing, and escorted off-campus.
- A student reported that his bicycle and the cable lock that was securing it were stolen from the rack north of his south-campus dorm.
- A student reported that his roommate's laptop was stolen from his apartment. The suspect entered through an open window and left through the front door, which was then left open. The victim later reported that a 35 mm camera and a knee-length velvet coat were also missing.
- A student reported receiving e-mailed threats from a professor. A Campus Safety officer met with the student, and determined that the situation involved a mutual exchange of low-level insults and threats. The student was advised to refrain from continuing contact, and the deans were notified.
- A student reported that his locked bicycle was stolen from a rack north of his south-campus dorm. The cable lock that had been securing the bike was cut and left at the scene.

- A female reported that an intoxicated, older male knocked on her door and tried to force his way into her house. A subject fitting the description given was located trying to enter a function at a campus dining hall. Campus Safety officers responded and located the subject in a dorm. The subject had no ID, was belligerent, and gave a false name. CPD responded, and arrested the subject for public intoxication.
- A student reported that his bicycle and the cable lock securing it were stolen from the courtyard of his dorm at one of the northern campuses.
- A student reported that his skateboard was stolen from inside his unlocked dorm room.
- An employee reported that an off-campus male fell and injured himself. Paramedics were notified, and Campus Safety officers responded. Witnesses on scene reported that the subject, who was possibly intoxicated, staggered and fell headfirst into a planter. CPD and LACFD responded, and discovered that they had already had dealings with the subject that day. Paramedics cleared him medically, and he was arrested for public intoxication.
- Two students reported that their purses were stolen from unlocked lockers inside an unlocked locker room.

## Crime Prevention Strategies and Tips

- Never walk alone at night, especially on city streets or through dark areas. With sundown happening earlier each day, it is

important to be aware of the time and when it will become dark. Call Campus Safety or the campus safe escort service if you are uncomfortable walking.

- Call Campus Safety *immediately* if you see a crime in progress or if you are the victim of a crime. If you are away from your residence, use the nearest emergency or on-campus phone, rather than returning to your room first.
- Do not call 9-1-1 directly. 9-1-1 calls from a cell phone are routed to California Highway Patrol, and 9-1-1 calls from on-campus cannot be traced back to your location, so CPD will often have to call Campus Safety to for a physical address. The time lost while your call is transferred to the proper authorities and while officers try to find your location is time that could otherwise be spent finding the culprit.
- Be aware of where your campus has surveillance cameras. Park your vehicle in monitored lots, and be sure that the camera has line of sight to your vehicle. There are few things worse than turning to a surveillance camera for answers, only to find that you were parked behind a tree or too far from the camera.
- Secure your items. This includes locking your door, not propping exterior doors, locking down small, expensive belongings, and using a solid U-lock for your bicycle. Never leave your room unlocked, even just to go down the hall. Buy (and properly use!) a lock for your laptop. Secure small electronics such as iPods, digital cameras, and cell phones in lockboxes. If you bring such items to parties, do not leave them unattended, even just for one dance. Likewise, check your pockets or purse frequently, to be

sure that no one has an opening to steal them while you are distracted.

- Check on your belongings everyday. This includes your bicycle and vehicle. If anything is amiss, such as a lock not being properly secured, or a window being left open, you will have a chance to fix it before the thieves find it. As a bonus, checking your vehicle daily can help prevent a build-up of citations, and a subsequent towing.

## Published By:

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## November 2005 Statistics

### Crimes Against Persons

Annoying Communications	2
Assault	0
Battery	0
Disturbance	2
Hate Crime	0
Indecent Exposure	0
Prowling	0
Rape	0
Robbery	2*
Sexual Assault	0
Other	0

### Crimes Against Property

Arson	0
Burglary	6
Theft (from vehicle)	1
Theft (Bike)	10
Theft (from building)	3
Theft (Other)	4
Grand Theft Auto	0
Hit and Run	2
Trespass	1
Vandalism	5
Other	1

Arrests 5

\* Includes attempted robbery