

The Claremont Colleges

The Department of Campus Safety

September 2005

September 2005 Crime and Incident Report

Trends and Analysis

The campuses suffered a rash of burglaries and encounters with suspicious subjects this past month. Thanks to detailed descriptions from witnesses and victims, the Campus Safety department was able to determine that several of the crimes were related. A safety bulletin was released to the deans on September 14th with regards to two subjects who were arrested for trespassing and subsequently banned from the campuses, although no victims were able to positively identify them as being involved in the burglaries. A list was compiled of the descriptions, and 13 groups or individuals, some possibly related to each other, who are thought to be related to the crimes were highlighted. While the dorm room thefts have not stopped completely, and while there were other thefts, including bike and car thefts, which did not seem related, the number of reports of dorm theft and of suspicious circumstances involving subjects

fitting prior descriptions dropped dramatically after the arrest of the two banned subjects. Of the 17 dorm room thefts, 12 occurred in unlocked rooms, and 3 involved locked doors, but unlocked windows. Only two dorm room thefts involved completely secured rooms, and the victim of one of those rooms reported that maintenance had been working in her room during the time frame, and could have left the area unlocked. The majority of the thefts occurred from unattended dorm rooms, although a number of thefts were reported where the room was unlocked and the victim was asleep in the room. Most of the thefts targeted small, easily concealable electronic equipment, such as laptops, cell phones, and iPods.

There were 15 bicycle thefts reported during September, with 5 of the stolen bikes having been left unlocked. 6 bicycles were locked with cable locks, many of which also were stolen, and 2 were locked with U-locks. Two of the bike thefts reported locked bikes, but did not specify the sort of lock used.

Both of these sets of statistics are consistent with previous studies of on-campus habits. The majority of burglaries, both in dorms and offices, occur in unlocked, unsupervised areas. The time frame on some of this month's thefts and burglaries have been remarkably short, underlining the importance of securing any areas with important items, no matter how long you intend to be gone.

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September 2005 Selective Incident Summary, September 1—30

- A staff member reported that an unknown male entered an administrative office, put a file box on top of a desk, and ran out. Campus Safety and CPD officers responded and evacuated the building. The Bomb Squad and LACFD responded, and cleared the area. The box contained outdated papers and files for a campus club.
- A staff member reported that her vehicle had been vandalized. The clear, plastic cover to the blinker was removed while the vehicle was parked on a nearby street.
- A student reported that a suspicious male entered his room and asked for an unknown person, then left. Campus Safety officers checked the area, but were unable to locate the subject. The student later discovered that his digital camera and mp3 player were stolen.
- A student reported that several unknown males entered her room, asked if anyone had any alcohol, and “made themselves at home.” The student said that she and her friends talked with them for about an hour, but that they were making her uncomfortable. Campus Safety officers responded and stopped the males, who claimed to be visiting a student, but they were not able to give a name that was found in the rosters. The subjects were escorted off campus.
- A student reported that the front passenger side window to her vehicle was broken while it was parked on a street near her dorm. Nothing had been removed from the vehicle.
- A student reported that his vehicle was stolen from a gated parking lot near his residence. He had previously filed a report with CPD.
- A Campus Safety officer reported an intoxicated student lying on the sidewalk. LACFD and CPD responded, and the student was arrested for public intoxication.
- A student reported several people fighting
- A dean reported that a former athletic coach is banned from the campuses for inappropriate conduct.
- An alumna reported that her vehicle was stolen from a campus parking lot. The vehicle was locked, but had no alarm.
- A Campus Safety officer reported three off-campus subjects in a wilderness area, possible smoking marijuana. CPD responded, and cited one subject for possession.
- A student reported that her bicycle was stolen from a bike rack near her dorm. The lock that was locking her bicycle was found intact, still locked to the rack.
- A student reported that his bicycle and the cable lock that was locking it were stolen from a rack near his dorm.
- A student reported that a case of CDs and DVDs, as well as a research notebook, were stolen from her locked dorm room. The student also said that maintenance had been in her room while she was gone, and that several items in her room had been moved.
- An R.A. reported that an older middle-aged man was taking pictures of a college-aged female in a fountain. When approached, both subject left the area.

- A student reported that his bike, which was locked with a cable lock, was stolen from a rack near his dorm.
- A student reported that his debit card was removed from his wallet, which was in his unlocked dorm room.
- A student reported that his bicycle and cable lock were stolen from a bike rack in his dorm courtyard.
- A student reported that her purse was stolen from her unlocked dorm room while she was asleep inside.
- A student reported that her vehicle was hit while parked on a street near an academic building.
- A student reported that her laptop and wallet were stolen from her unlocked dorm room. She had seen three unknown males in the area as she was leaving but she assumed that they were visiting friends.
- CPD reported that a suspect wanted for robbery may have fled onto the campuses. CPD and Campus Safety checked the campuses, but were unable to locate the suspect.
- A student reported that his over-the-shoulder bag containing his laptop, headphones, and textbooks was stolen from an unlocked dorm study room.
- A student reported that a keg was stolen from a quad area. CPD and Campus Safety officers responded, and an unknown female told a Campus Safety officer via telephone the name of a student who participated in stealing the keg. The owner of the keg changed his mind about pressing charges and said he would speak with his dean and then recontact CPD.
- A proctor reported that someone taped a bag of hallucinogenic roots to his door. Campus Safety and CPD responded, and CPD confiscated the drugs.
- A student reported that three unknown males entered her room. She turned on the light and saw them rummaging through her things, and they fled along with a fourth male who was in the hallway. Nothing was taken from the room. Campus Safety officers responded, but were unable to locate the subjects. The subjects were able to gain entry through an adjoining room.
- A student reported that her laptop and DVD player with peripherals were stolen from her locked, 2nd floor dorm room. The student's lock was subsequently changed.
- A proctor reported a middle-aged male wandering around campus, asking students where he could buy marijuana. Campus Safety officers responded, and discovered that the subject had been stopped several times in past years. CPD responded, arrested the subject for trespassing, and escorted him off-campus.
- A student reported an intoxicated older male wandering around near dorms and stopping students to ask questions. Campus Safety officers responded and located the subject, who claimed to be a former employee. CPD responded and arrested the subject for public intoxication.
- A student reported that his vehicle was burglarized while parked in a dorm parking lot. Nothing was stolen, but the compartment under the radio had been pulled out, and there were pry marks and

damage to the driver's side door. CPD responded, but was unable to lift viable fingerprints.

- A student reported that an off-campus male threw a bottle at her. Campus Safety officers responded and located the subject with a group of off-campus males, including one banned subject. The subjects fled. CPD responded to assist in the search, but officers were unable to locate the group.
- A student reported that she entered her unlocked room and encountered a male leaving her room with her computer. She confronted him and wrestled her computer away, and the subject fled. CPD and Campus Safety officers responded, but were unable to locate the subject. CPD lifted fingerprints from the laptop.
- A student reported that her laptop and peripherals were stolen from her unlocked dorm room while she was gone for one half-hour.
- A student reported that his iPod and a bottle of Southern Comfort were stolen from his dorm room. The victim claimed that the suspect(s) must have entered through his bedroom window.
- A student reported that his laptop was stolen from his locked dorm room. The suspect(s) entered through a bathroom window. CPD responded and attempted to lift fingerprints.
- A student reported that his wallet was stolen from his unlocked dorm room while he was asleep. The victim's roommate reported seeing suspicious subjects in the area during the time frame of the theft. Other students from the dorm confirmed that the subjects had been caught trying to steal other items from the dorm courtyard in the past.
- A student reported that her laptop, previously reported stolen, was found on a campus street.
- A student reported two suspicious males in a dorm stairwell. Campus Safety officers responded and located the subjects. One, a subject previously banned from campus, fled into a wilderness area. CPD responded, and both subjects were arrested for trespassing. Both subjects were subsequently banned from all campuses.
- An employee reported that the rear window and the passenger side mirror to a catering cart were broken.
- A student reported that her unlocked bicycle was stolen from a rack near her dorm.
- A student reported that her camera and two accompanying lenses were stolen from her unlocked dorm room.
- A student reported that her bicycle was stolen from a bike rack near her dorm before summer break. The bicycle had been locked with a cable lock and a U-lock, and both locks were also missing.
- A student reported that his wallet was stolen.
- A professor reported that his laptop was stolen from his unlocked office when he left for fifteen minutes.
- A student reported that her bicycle, locked with a U-lock, was stolen from a bike rack near an academic building.
- An R.A. reported that while she was in her room, an unknown male subject leaned into her room from the doorway

and tried to remove her keys. She made eye contact with him, and he left. Campus Safety and CPD officers responded, but were unable to locate the subject.

- A student reported that her bicycle and cable lock were stolen from near her dorm.
 - A student reported that his video game console, controllers, and two video games were stolen from a common lounge area.
 - A staff member reported that the windows to an administrative building were vandalized. Various words were etched into the glass.
 - A student reported that his roommate's vehicle was stolen from a lot near their dorm. Campus Safety and CPD officers responded, checked nearby lots, and took a report. Pomona PD found the car a few days later.
 - A student reported that his digital camera and cell phone were stolen from his unlocked dorm room.
 - A student reported that his unlocked bicycle was stolen from a bike rack by his dorm.
 - Students reported that two off-campus subjects got in a fight with a student. The subjects fled, and Campus Safety officers located them on a different campus. The victim decided to press charges, and both subjects were arrested for battery.
 - A student reports that his unlocked bicycle was stolen from in front of his dorm room. The cable lock on the bicycle was also stolen. The bike was later found at a different campus and returned to the student.
- A staff member reported that a computer monitor was stolen from a professor's unlocked lab. The staff member called back the next day to report that the monitor had been found in the professor's office.
- A staff member reported that three laptops and two accompanying chargers had been stolen from an unlocked science lab over the summer.
 - An R.A. reported that a student had his laptop stolen from an unlocked dorm room. The student's roommate also had an iPod and several DVDs and games stolen.
 - A staff member reported that someone attempted to steal a projector from a classroom. Campus Safety and CPD officers responded, but the CPD officer was unable to lift viable fingerprints. The staff member agreed to check surrounding surveillance cameras in case the suspect(s) were filmed.
 - A student reported that her bicycle and the cable lock securing it were stolen from a rack outside an academic building.
 - A student reported that her unlocked bicycle was stolen from outside her dorm.
 - A student reported that her personal information had been stolen from an internet site, and purchases had been made internationally with the information.
 - A student reported that his iPod was stolen from his locked dorm room. There was indication that the thief entered through the unlocked window.
 - An officer reported seeing two subjects removing a bicycle from a bike rack. The

subjects fled, and one was later located at a different campus and arrested. The bike was recovered and returned to its location. A front bike wheel was also recovered, and the owner later claimed it.

numbers for all bicycles, and a copy of your vehicle registration and insurance for cars. Keep a file box in a secure area, so that the information is on hand in the unfortunate event that it is needed.

Crime Prevention Strategies and Tips

- Lock any and all entrances to your dorm, hallway, or office. This includes windows and balcony entrances as well as the main door. If your window is missing a screen, or if something prevents it from locking properly, contact your maintenance department immediately.
- Do not leave any belongings in common rooms, study areas, or lounges. These areas have a heavy flow of people, and small, easily concealable items are easily stolen and may not be missed for some time.
- Lock your bicycle with a U-lock, and verify that it is fully secured before leaving it.
- If you are in the market for a new bicycle, buy one without a quick-release front wheel. Alternately, if a quick-release wheel is an important option, removed the wheel and lock it to the back wheel and frame whenever you secure your bicycle. Theft of bike parts most frequently involved quick-release wheels or seats.
- Keep any vital information on your belongings in a safe place, away from the belonging itself. This includes serial numbers, makes and models for all electronic equipment, serial and license

September 2005 Statistics

Crimes Against Persons

Annoying Call	0
Assault	0
Battery	1
Disturbance	2
Hate Crime	0
Indecent Exposure	0
Prowling	0
Rape	0
Robbery	0
Sexual Assault	0
Other	0

Crimes Against Property

Arson	0
Burglary	20
Theft (from vehicle)	1
Theft (Bike)	15
Theft (from building)	3
Theft (Other)	0
Grand Theft Auto	3
Forgery	0
Trespass	2
Vandalism	5
Other *	3

Arrests 7

* Includes drug and fraud related crimes

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