

# The Claremont Colleges

The Department of Campus Safety

May 2007

## May 2007 Crime and Incident Report

### Trends and Analysis

As is, sadly, expected at this time of year, the colleges saw a great jump in burglaries during May. A majority of these thefts were from unlocked dorms or dorm common areas, such as hallways, as students moved out at the end of the year. Similarly, a number of classrooms were burglarized and computer equipment stolen from them. Local thieves are aware of the rhythms of campus, and know when areas are likely to be left unattended and unsecured. It is at these times that it is especially important to remain vigilant.

Another unusual event that has come to the attention of the campuses is a newly recognized “Hitman” scam. Thus far, two different faculty members on two different campuses have received emails consistent with the hitman hoax, as recognized by the FBI. The scam consists of an email claiming to be from a hitman hired by a friend, coworker, or acquaintance. The email claims that, in exchange for a large sum of money, the assassin will call off the hit and will turn over incriminating evidence to assist in the arrest of the person who hired him.

These emails do not include any personal information about the person supposedly targeted. More information about this scam can be found at [www.fbi.gov/page2/jan\\_07/threat\\_scam011507.htm](http://www.fbi.gov/page2/jan_07/threat_scam011507.htm). If you receive an email containing similar threats, but with specific personal information that leads you to believe that someone has been watching you or knows personal details about you, contact Campus Safety and the Claremont Police Department immediately.

### May 2007 Selective Incident Summary, May 1—31

- A student reported that his cell phone and a roll of quarters were stolen from his locked vehicle.
- A student reported that his vehicle was stolen from a campus lot. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded, and determined that the vehicle had been dumped off campus and towed by police after it was stolen. The victim was given information about how to recover his vehicle.
- A dean reported having received a death threat. The letter matched a potential “phishing” email sent to a professor last month. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded.

#### In this issue: (Table of Contents)

Trends and Analysis.....	1
Selective Incident Summary, March 1-31.....	1
Crime Prevention Strategies and Tips.....	5
March 2007 Stats.....	6
Published By.....	7

- A student reported that a cooler belonging to a dining hall was stolen from a bench in a dorm courtyard.
- A staff member reported that her vehicle was stolen from a lot near an academic building. She said that she had left her keys in her unlocked office, and they had been stolen.
- A student reported that her bicycle, which was locked to itself with a cable lock, was stolen from a garden near her dorm. A bicycle matching the description was later found near an academic building.
- A student reported that her vehicle was keyed. The scratch extended from the passenger side front door to the rear taillight.
- A student reported that her purse, containing a cell phone, wallet, shawl, and pocket dictionary, was stolen from a party in an amphitheater.
- Two students reported that a group of students from a different campus took 5 Xbox games, a digital camera, and a calculator from a friend's dorm room. The victim reported that they claimed to have been looking for an iPod that was stolen. Campus Safety and Claremont Police responded, but the victim declined to press charges at this time. Due to an ethnic slur being used during the incident, it is being handled as a hate crime.
- A student reported that a CD case containing 50 CDs was stolen from his unsecured car.
- An employee reported that the car stereo was stolen from her locked vehicle.
- An employee reported that the car stereo was stolen from her vehicle.
- A Campus Safety officer reported that a guard from an outside security company handcuffed an intoxicated student, who was running through a party in the nude, threatening to rape the female students. It should be noted that the student was drunk at the time he made the threatening statement and he took no action to harm or cause injury to anyone; his threat was verbal only. The deans were contacted, and the student was escorted back to his own campus.
- A student reported that a video game system was stolen from her dorm room. She said that another student had been known to steal items and then turn them in to the lost and found. The victim declined to file a report.
- A facilities employee reported thirty roses cut from a garden near a library.
- A student reported that a white male, approximately 65 years old, heavy set with long, flowing white hair and wearing a light blue button-down shirt, driving an older model, light blue, older model Volvo 4-door, shouted an obscene comment at her as she was crossing a city street that runs through campus.
- An employee reported that a black Dell desktop computer was stolen from a professor's office. The reporting party said that room was locked upon arrival, but the main entry door to the room was propped open the day before for approximately 2 hours.
- A student reported that his cell phone was stolen from a student eatery.
- A student reported that her bicycle was stolen from near a dorm. She claimed that she would call back to file a report, but never did.

- A staff member reported that a window on an administrative building was shot with a BB gun.

- A student reported that his laptop was stolen from his unlocked dorm room.

- An employee reported a theft from the I.T. department. A Campus Safety officer responded and determined that due to the value of the items stolen, a Claremont Police officer would need to respond. The reporting party was not able to wait, and claimed he would call back to file the next day. He never did.
- A staff member reported a white male in his 40's, 5'6, with dark hair, wearing a green shirt, tan pants, and tan sweater, was ripping pages out of books in a library and putting them in a black bag. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded, but the subject fled the area.
- A student reported that her Dell Inspiron laptop, a silver Luxor flash drive and \$25.00 cash were stolen from her unlocked dorm room.
- A student reported that her unlocked bicycle was stolen from near her dorm. The bicycle was later recovered and returned to the student.
- A student reported that her unlocked bicycle was stolen from the exterior hallway of her dorm near her room.
- A student reported that someone kicked in the hallway door leading to his room, shattering the locking mechanism.
- A student reported that his camcorder and carrying case were stolen from a dorm lounge.
- A student reported that a crate of tools was stolen from the dorm hallway outside her room.
- A student reported a large fire near some dorms. Campus Safety officers responded, and discovered several couches and pieces of furniture on fire. Claremont Police officers and L.A. County fire fighters responded, and doused the fire.
- An alumnus reported that the windshield of his vehicle was broken by a thrown beer bottle.
- A maintenance employee reported that the padlock for a donation truck was cut. He was unable to determine if anything had been taken.
- A student reported that a Nintendo Wii game system was stolen from his room. He said that his room was locked at all times except when he was in the shower.
- A student reported that her laptop was stolen from her unlocked room while she was in the laundry room.
- A facilities director reported that two storage sheds in an open air yard were burglarized. The locks on both sheds were cut, but only items from one shed, including a generator and accessories, were stolen. Three suspects were filmed by surveillance cameras committing the burglaries.
- Two students reported that their room was burglarized. Taken were a laptop computer with power supply, iPod, Canon digital camera with computer chip & cash. A different power supply was left in place of the stolen items.

- A student reported that her fridge was stolen. She declined to file a report.

- An employee reported that her vehicle was vandalized. A Campus Safety officer responded and discovered a 6"x6" scratch/dent on the left rear bumper and a 2"x3" scratch/dent on the right side front bumper.

- A student reported that his laptop, video game console with games, an iPod and a compatible speaker system were stolen from his possibly unsecured dorm room. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded at the victim's request, but the responding Claremont Police officer declined to take the report.
- A student reported that his laptop and a Western Digital "My Book" hard drive were stolen from his unlocked room.
- A student reported that a short white male with dark hair, possible facial hair, opened the door to her dorm room while she was asleep. When the subjects saw that she was awake he apologized and left the area. The student reported that her door was locked when she went to bed and her door has two locks on it. Campus Safety officers responded to the area and discovered damage to the area around the deadbolt.
- A student reported that several items, including a laptop, hard drive, an Xbox 360 with games, and roller blades were stolen from an unsecured dorm room and the hallway immediately outside.
- A parent reported that, while helping a student move out of the dorms, a ring was stolen from a bag of jewelry inside her purse. The other jewelry in the bag was untouched.
- An employee reported that a co-worker's bicycle, which was locked with a cable lock, was stolen from a rack near an administrative building.
- A student reported that his bicycle, which was locked with a cable lock, was stolen from near a student center.
- A contractor reported two bronze plaques stolen from a construction site.
- A student reported that his bicycle, which was locked to itself, was stolen from inside a dorm hallway. The bike was later determined to have been confiscated and stored by maintenance.
- A student reported that her friend's bicycle, which was locked with a U-lock, was stolen from outside a college owned rental property. She declined to file a report.
- An employee reported eight computer monitors stolen from an academic building.
- A contractor reported that a 100' power cable was stolen from an exterior stairwell of an academic building.
- A Campus Safety officer reported the noise of something breaking. Two off-campus male subjects were found trying to leave the area and a broken plaster and wood art piece was found broken. Claremont Police officers arrived and took the subjects' information.
- An alumnus reported that his car was stolen from an on-campus apartment parking lot. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded. The car was recovered, off-campus, later that evening.

- An employee reported that his laptop and printer were stolen from his office, which was ransacked. The perpetrator(s) entered via the window.
- A Campus Safety officer reported finding a bong during an extra patrol. It was

turned over to the Dean of Student's  
2 Department of Campus Safety  
office.

the two subjects and they returned the items and cleaned up the area.

- A contractor reported that several construction tools, copper piping, wiring, and other materials were stolen. The phone lines and electrical ground wires

were also cut, destroying them.

April 2007

- An employee reported a large amount of wiring materials stolen from near a facilities office. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded and reviewed surveillance footage of the theft.
- A student reported that the seat to his bicycle was stolen from his bike while it was near an academic building. He declined to file a report.
- A student reported her bicycle stolen from her home.
- A student reported that a fiberglass attachment was removed from his vehicle's door handle. He declined to file a report.
- An employee reported that a threatening note was left in a dorm lounge area, and the door to the lounge was kicked in.
- Claremont Police officers reported that they took a theft report for a pipe threader and a pipe cutter stolen from a construction site.
- A student reported that his bicycle, which was locked with a cable lock, was stolen from near an academic building.
- A facilities director reported that chairs and wall partitions were stolen from a fenced yard. Surveillance cameras recorded two males throwing the items over the fence. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded. Claremont Police officers later identified

- Claremont Police officers reported a black male, 17 years old, 5'8", black hair, slender build, leaving a construction site with an assortment of tools, piping, and equipment. A Campus Safety officer responded, and the subject was arrested. He claimed that a friend, a white male, 5'8", 17-18 years old, brown hair, brown eyes, had also been in the site, but had fled.
- A student reported that an AM/FM CD player and rollerblades were stolen from her locked Honda.
- An employee reported that a MacPro laptop computer was stolen from a classroom.

## Crime Prevention Strategies and Tips

- Whether you are remaining on campus for all, part, or none of the summer months, think seriously about if you want to leave your bicycle outside. If you are leaving campus, even just for a short time, be sure to store it in a secure storage area, or take it home with you. If you intend to stay on campus, check on it every day. While U-locks always provide more security than cable or combination locks, the lack of foot traffic during the summer can make it easier for

a thief to take the time to cut through a U-lock.

[http://www.cuc.claremont.edu/cs/silent\\_witness\\_program.htm](http://www.cuc.claremont.edu/cs/silent_witness_program.htm).

- Remain aware of your surroundings. If you see someone in your dorm or office building and do not recognize them, notify Campus Safety. Especially during the summer, when most campus-affiliated people are not on campus, it is crucial to pay attention to who is passing through your area.
- Do not sneak into the pools when they are closed, even if the weather is particularly nice. A pool without a lifeguard is a dangerous area, and there is no reason to risk your life for a swim.
- Be sure to carry your campus ID with you at all times. Not only is it school policy, but it helps to easily identify you as an affiliate of the campuses. Especially during the summer months when thieves are a concern, and when off-campus conference attendees are being hosted, a campus ID is the fastest and easiest way to confirm that you have legitimate business on campus.
- If you receive any threatening correspondence, via telephone, mail, or email, contact Campus Safety immediately. This is especially urgent if the correspondence indicates that the sender has some personal, immediate knowledge of you or your whereabouts.
- As always, Campus Safety provides an anonymous “Silent Witness” program available through the website at

## May 2007 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	1*
Sexual Assault	0
Other	0
Crimes Against Property	
Arson	0
Burglary	17
Theft (from vehicle)	5
Theft (Bike)	7
Theft (from building)	4
Theft (Other)	5
Grand Theft Auto	3
Trespass	1
Vandalism	7
Other	0
Arrests	1

\* Same event

## 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: [mollyr@cuc.claremont.edu](mailto:mollyr@cuc.claremont.edu)  
Web page:  
[www.cuc.claremont.edu/cs](http://www.cuc.claremont.edu/cs)