

The Claremont Colleges

The Department of Campus Safety

October 2007

October 2007 Crime and Incident Report

Trends and Analysis

October showed an unfortunately return to higher crime numbers than this year has seen. The number of bike thefts is on par with years past, and appears to be related to an increase in bad habits that had decreased campus wide. Of the 10 bike thefts reported this month, 7 were locked with cable locks that were either stolen along with the bike, or cut and left at the scene, and two were not locked in any fashion. While dorm burglaries are still unusually low, all four that were reported involved rooms that were left unlocked. One trend towards high report numbers this month that is noticeably unusual is the increased number of vandalisms. In addition to the seven vandalisms reported, there were a number of other vandalisms involving broken vehicle windows where the victim declined to file a crime report.

October and the beginning of November have also presented a number of unsavory off-campus subjects causing problems on the campuses.

Unlike the physical altercations that dominated the reports in September, the subjects seem to be targeting female students. One subject,

described as a Latino male, age 23 or 24, 5'11", 175-180 lbs, with a wide face, rectangular glasses, and spiked black hair, sexually battered a female student after stopping her for directions. He then exposed himself and masturbated in front of her. He was reported to be driving a white, 1980s-early 90s American 2-door sedan with a long, square front and rust on the body. A second subject sexually battered a female student after responding to a vehicle service call on campus. The victim declined to press charges.

At the beginning of November, a female student was the victim of an armed robbery when two subjects with a gun entered her unlocked dorm room, bound her, and ransacked the room. These subjects are described as:

Male, white, 5'6", age 30's – 40's, medium build, light brown hair – not long, no beard but unshaven, wearing dark jeans and jacket.

Female, light skinned black, 5'8" – 5'9", older than "average" college age but younger than the male, possibly with green eyes or green contacts, slender (taller than the male,) dark colored bandana or head covering, wearing dark clothing a "flowing" garment, not pants.

Both subjects were described in various secondary reports as unhygienic, with "bad teeth."

In this issue: (Table of Contents)

Trends and Analysis.....	1
Selective Incident Summary, October 1-31.....	2
Crime Prevention Strategies and Tips.....	6
October 2007 Stats.....	7
Published By.....	7

October 2007 Selective Incident Summary, October 1—31

- A student reported that his bicycle was stolen from near an academic building. He claimed he would file a report later in the day, but never did so.
- A staff member reported graffiti on an entry door to an academic building.
- A staff member reported that a poster in a silver frame was taken from the entry hall to an academic building.
- A student reported that her bike, which was locked with a cable lock, was stolen from near a dining hall. Shortly after filing the report, the student called back and said she located her bike.
- The Claremont Police Department reported that they stopped a subject off campus who claimed to work on the campuses. The dean was contacted, and it was determined that the subject was a current student. Claremont Police Department was notified, and they advised that they would be obtaining a search warrant for the dorm room. Claremont Police officers responded and searched the room. The dean on-call was notified, and advised that the student in question was banned from campus.
- A student reported an off campus white male subject on a dorm bridge trying to enter the dorm via a window. She advised this same subject groped her a few weeks prior. Campus Safety officers responded but were not able to locate the subject. The school administration proceeded to ban the subject from campus. A student reported that her laptop and speakers were stolen from an unlocked dorm room.
- A student reported that a Latino male, age 23/24, height 5'11", weight 175/180, rectangular glasses, wide face, spiked black (gelled) hair, wearing plaid pajamas and a white T-shirt, in an older model white sedan, stopped her for directions. As she was giving them, he grabbed her buttocks. She told him not to touch her, and he exited the car, exposed himself, and masturbated. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded.
- A student reported that a light-skinned male, 20 YOA, 5'10", average build, possibly curly brown hair, no facial hair or glasses, wearing white T-shirt, blue jeans and black backpack, opened the sliding window screen to his dorm room and tried to steal his laptop. The subject fled off campus, and the Claremont Police Department was notified. The responding Claremont Police officer determined that no crime was committed, and declined to take a report.
- A student reported that, while at a party on campus, a subject matching the description of the sexual battery suspect approached her and began making loud sexual comments.
- An anonymous party reported a white male in his 40's, with long hair, swearing to himself and urinating in a tree area near an athletic center. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded, and the subject was warned of private property rights. He appeared to be either intoxicated or mentally unstable.
- An R.A. reported three off campus subjects smoking marijuana near a dorm. The subjects fled off campus upon Campus Safety officers' arrival.

- An R.A. reported a physical confrontation near a dorm. Campus Safety officers responded and located a subject who claimed to be a student at one of the other campuses. When the subject's name was not in the roster, he claimed to be a friend of a student. The student was contacted and denied knowing the subject. Claremont Police officers responded and arrested the subject on an outstanding warrant.
- A Campus Safety officer reported students in a physical confrontation with off-campus subjects. All subjects fled the area upon the arrival of Campus Safety officers.
- A professor reported that her vehicle was vandalized, with a scratch to the passenger side.
- An employee reported that a female student was robbed near a student center by a driver who took cash and her student ID. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded and determined that the driver of the college shuttle was collecting the fare. The on-call dean was notified and agreed to handle.
- A student reported three off-campus male subjects, between 30-40 years old, on the second floor of a dorm. Campus Safety officers responded, warned the subjects of private property rights, and escorted them off campus.
- A Campus Safety officer reported two off campus subjects in a vehicle with marijuana and drug paraphernalia. The subjects claimed to be guests of a student. Claremont Police officers responded, and the subjects were released to their host.
- A student reported that her front license plate was stolen and her vehicle was damaged in a hit-and-run while parked on a campus street.
- A mother reported that her daughter's room keys, credit cards and various ID cards were stolen. A Campus Safety officer responded, and discovered that the items were stolen from a campus dining area, and that several fraudulent charges were made on the credit cards. A Claremont Police officer responded, but determined that he did not have jurisdiction due to the charges being made in Mexico.
- A Campus Safety officer reported that a student tried to steal food from a student eatery twice in one evening.
- An employee reported that a louver door in a dorm common area was vandalized.
- Several dining halls reported on-going problems with an older off-campus male who was sneaking into the dining hall to eat.
- A student reported that her laptop was stolen from her unlocked dorm room.
- An anonymous subject reported that he would place a bomb in a campus dining hall if the hall was not closed for the day. Campus Safety, Claremont Police, and LA Sheriff officers responded to the scene. The dining hall was checked with bomb dogs, who did not register any unusual substances. The deans were notified, and campus administration determined to close the dining hall for the day. A few days later, the subject contacted the dean and requested a meeting near a parking lot. The subject continued to call the campus administrators, at one point threatening to bring a gun to the campus because he was not being taken seriously. A suspect was eventually arrested, but charges were not pursued due to a lack of evidence.

- A student reported that suitemates have been harassing her by placing dirty laundry in her room and banging on her door.
- A student reported that she found her bike, which had been stolen earlier in the day, in a different part of campus with a new lock on it. A school administrator responded with an additional lock and secured the bike.
- A student reported an off-campus male subject granted himself access to a student social area. Campus Safety officers responded and the subject refused to give any personal information. Claremont Police officers responded, and determined that the subject was the same male who had been reported entering dining halls. The subject was warned of private property rights, and was escorted off campus.
- A student reported that her ex-boyfriend was harassing her with multiple phone calls, and was attempting to manipulate her. She expressed concern that he may come to campus. An incident report was filed.
- A student reported that her unlocked bicycle and the U-lock that was sitting in her bike basket were stolen from near a dorm.
- A student reported that a monument was defaced. Maintenance was advised, but declined to file a report.
- A student reported that a technician who had responded to the campuses to assist her with vehicle problems tried to pull her into his vehicle and kissed her. She declined to press charges. She contacted the assistance company, who claimed the technician was terminated.
- A student reported that his bicycle was stolen from near a dorm. The cable lock that was securing it was cut and left at the scene.
- An employee reported that a large window to an academic building was shattered.
- A student reported someone apparently hanging himself from a tree. Campus Safety officers responded to the area, but did not find any rope or anyone hanging from a tree. They did discover a student in medical distress in the general area, and emergency response services responded for him. It was undetermined if he was the subject seen hanging himself.
- A student reported receiving multiple annoying phone calls from a blocked number. The caller told her that her toes are really cute, and asked what color toe nail polish she was wearing.
- A student requested to speak with the on-call medical personnel. The doctor on-call later reported that the student reported having been sexually assaulted, and he advised her to go to the hospital. The deans were advised. The student never filed a report with Campus Safety.
- A student reported that his bicycle was removed from the stairwell where it was locked. He advised he would file a report if the bike was not stored by maintenance.
- An employee reported that a campus owned vehicle was burglarized. The passenger side window was broken with a rock and the glove compartment ransacked.
- A student reported that her locked bicycle was stolen from near an academic building.

- A student reported that his guitar and skateboard were stolen from his room. He reported that he had locked his door, but that his roommate may have unlocked it.
- A student reported that her bicycle was stolen from near a dorm along with the cable lock that was securing it.
- An R.A. confiscated two bottles of hard liquor, a pipe and a baggie of marijuana from assorted students in a dorm.
- A student reported that his unsecured skateboard was stolen from outside a dining hall.
- An employee reported a flat panel monitor stolen from a student common area. He later reported that the monitor had been found.
- A student reported that his bicycle was stolen from a rack near a dorm. The cable lock that was securing it was severed and left at the scene. Campus Safety officers responded and located the bicycle on a pathway near the dorm.
- An anonymous party reported a potentially vandalized vehicle. A Campus Safety officer responded and located a student-owned vehicle with a broken driver's side window. The student was notified and filed a report.
- A facilities employee reported that the driver's side window of a college owned car was broken.
- A student reported that her bicycle was stolen from near a dorm. The cable lock that was securing it was cut.
- A student reported that his bicycle was stolen from near a dorm.
- A student reported that her bicycle was stolen from near a dining hall.
- A student reported that both her bicycle and the cable lock that was securing it were stolen from near a dining hall.
- An employee reported a mentally unstable female refused to leave the dean's office. A Campus Safety officer responded and escorted her off campus. She was subsequently banned. She later returned to campus, and a Campus Safety officer notified her of the ban and escorted her off campus.
- A student reported a subject passed out on a sidewalk. Campus Safety officers responded and located an intoxicated and uncooperative subject. A Claremont Police Officer responded, and the subject was arrested for public intoxication.
- A student reported several pictures and newspaper clippings, along with candy and a permanent marker, were removed from an office door in a dorm. The perpetrator also drew several peace signs on a wall in the area.
- A student reported that the front passenger side window to her car was broken and the trunk ransacked, although nothing was stolen.
- An employee reported gang-related graffiti painted on a storage shed.
- An employee reported that a golf cart was stolen from a dining hall loading dock.
- A student reported that her purse and cell phone were stolen from a party.
- A student reports that her unlocked bicycle was stolen from near her dorm.
- A dean reported that a student was receiving harassing and vulgar text messages, emails and voicemails from an ex-boyfriend. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded and met with the victim.

Crime Prevention Strategies and Tips

- Keep your doors locked at all times. This includes when you have only left the room for a brief period—such as going to the restroom or to pick up laundry—as well as when you are inside the room. Use your peephole if your dorm room has one. If not, require verbal confirmation that you know the person trying to gain access to your room prior to unlocking the door for them.
- Report any solicitors on campus immediately. Soliciting is against campus policy, and can serve as a cover for more insidious aims.
- Be socially aware, both at parties and during everyday interactions. Never let anyone that you do not know, or who makes you uncomfortable, get physically close to your person. Be sure to have a safety net of friends at parties – go in groups, leave in groups, and remain aware of people’s locations at all times.
- Use the Safety Escort program provided by the colleges. When the student-run Safe Escort program is not in service, Campus Safety provides safety escorts on all campuses, at all hours, on all days.
- If you are the victim of a crime, particularly a crime against your person, always report the incident. You always have the option to decline to press charges at the time—for certain crimes, the statutes of limitations can stretch for years, and having a report and evidence collected will make a later decision to file charges easier to prosecute.
- Buy a solid U-lock and routinely use it. Cable locks are easily, and frequently, cut through, and a lock is of no use if it is sitting in a basket or on the handlebars, but not actually securing the bike.
- Do not ever allow “follow-throughs” into dorms or other locked areas. If a person has a legitimate claim to being in the area, they will have some way to access it, or can contact a roommate or coworker to grant them access. Professional criminals frequently study the patterns of students, copying their forms of dress or manner in order to better blend in.
- Only host off-campus subjects that you know well (i.e., several years of close friendship, not three or four casual interactions) and can rely on to behave properly while on campus. Keep in mind that you are responsible for your guests’ actions while they are on campus. Check your specific campus’ guidelines for guests to make sure that all applicable rules are followed.
- Campus Safety provides an anonymous “Silent Witness” program available through the website at http://www.cuc.claremont.edu/cs/silent_witness_program.htm. If you have seen or have information about any sort of criminal or inappropriate behavior, please contact Campus Safety. If for whatever reason you are uncomfortable reporting the situation in person, use the Silent Witness reporting form, which is not traced or tracked.

October 2007 Statistics*

Crimes Against Persons

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

Crimes Against Property

Arson	0
Burglary	4
Theft (from vehicle)	1
Theft (Bike)	10
Theft (from building)	3
Theft (Other)	1
Grand Theft Auto	0
Trespass	0
Vandalism	7
Other	1

Arrests	2
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Published By:

The Dept. of Campus Safety
The Claremont Colleges
251 E. 11th 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
Web page:
www.cuc.claremont.edu/cs

* These numbers reflect crime reports filed by the victims. In some cases, serious crimes reported in the above incident blotter will not be reflected in these statistics due to the victim's decision to not file a crime report.