

The Claremont Colleges

The Department of Campus Safety

October 2008

October 2008 Crime and Incident Report

Trends and Analysis

October continued the troubling trend seen in September, with exceptionally high bicycle and bicycle parts thefts. There were 46 bicycles or bicycle parts reported stolen this month, compared to an average of between 10 to 12 reports for this time of year over the past few years. Almost half of the thefts occurred on a single campus, with areas bordering city streets most vulnerable. Every campus, including those not typically affected by heavy crime on campus, saw an increase in thefts, with most campuses suffering between four to five bicycle thefts. In over 80% of the bicycle thefts—38 of the 46 reports—the bicycle was locked with a cable lock. In most of those cases, the lock was cut and left at the scene, although a small handful of locks were stolen along with the bicycle. Of the remaining reports, five bicycles were unlocked and three were locked with U-locks. One of the bicycles locked with a U-lock was locked only to itself. Overwhelmingly, though, it is clear that cable-locked bicycles are a high security risk,

and are favored by thieves due to the ease of cutting the lock.

October 2008 Selective Incident Summary, October 1—31

- A student reported that he awoke in the middle of the night to see a hand reach into his room via an unlocked window and remove his iPod. The incident was not reported until about 6 ½ hours after it took place.
- A student reported that his unlocked bicycle was stolen from a student center.
- An employee reported that two desktop computers were stolen from an unlocked academic building.
- A student reported that his bicycle was stolen from near a dorm. He declined to file a report.
- A student reported that his bike, which was locked with a U-lock, was stolen from near a student center.
- A student reported that her bike, which was locked with a cable lock, was stolen from near her dorm.
- A student reported that her bike was stolen from near her dorm. The cable lock that was securing it was cut and left at the scene.

In this issue: (Table of Contents)

Trends and Analysis.....	1
Selective Incident Summary, October 1-31.....	1
Crime Prevention Strategies and Tips.....	7
October 2008 Stats.....	8
Published By.....	8

- A student reported that his unlocked bicycle was stolen from a open bike cage. The student later cancelled his report because his friend had located bike with juveniles who thought the bikes in the cage were available to be checked out, and who returned the bicycle.
- An employee reported that a laptop, power cables, and a cooling plate were stolen from a locked office in an academic building.
- An employee reported a suspicious male subject prowling near the rear entrance to a dining hall.
- An employee reported that an overhead projector was stolen from an unlocked classroom.
- An R.A. reported an older Asian male in a dorm hallway. Campus Safety officers responded, and reported that the subject was in a female student's room, but she does not know him. Claremont Police officers were unable to respond, so the subject was warned regarding private property rights and was escorted off campus. The same subject was located on campus several days later, claiming to be looking for one of the students he met in the dorm. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded and the subject was arrested for trespassing.
- An employee reported two subjects possibly trying to steal a bike. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded, and both subjects were arrested. The first subject was arrested for possession of burglary tools and outstanding warrants, and the second was arrested for possession of burglary tools, warrants, possession of drug paraphernalia and being under the influence of a controlled substance.
- An employee reported that a student's email account was hacked and used to send obscene hate mail to several hundred people. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded.
- A student reported that his cable-locked bicycle was stolen from near his dorm.
- A student reported that she left her purse on a chair in a dorm lounge. A few minutes later, her purse was gone. She was able to locate her purse elsewhere in the dorm lounge, but her wallet had been removed. The credit card in the wallet had fraudulent charges at two local gas stations.
- An R.A. reported intoxicated students from another Claremont College starting a fight near a dorm. The students involved engaged in pushing, shoving, and exchanging words, but no injuries were sustained.
- A student reported that, while she was jogging off campus, an Asian or Hispanic male, medium build, approximately 170 lbs, jumped out of a bush and exposed himself to her. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded.
- An employee reported unauthorized subjects fishing on campus property. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded, and three off-campus subjects were arrested for trespassing.
- A student reported that his cable-locked bike was stolen from near a dorm.
- A student reported that his skateboard was stolen from outside a dining hall. He declined to file a report.
- An employee reported that a student was jogging on a city street bordering the campus when a passing car threw a cup of water at her.

- An anonymous party reported 2 black males in their 20's, 5'9-5'10", wearing baggy pants, hooded sweatshirts, and carrying backpacks or bags, stole several bicycles from a dorm bike rack. Campus Safety officers responded, but the subjects had already fled off campus.
- A student reported that his laptop and desktop computers were stolen from his unlocked dorm room.
- A student reported that her 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 an unknown subject was caught on surveillance trying to strip and steal copper wire from a facilities yard.
- A student reported that her bicycle was stolen from near a dorm. The cable lock that was securing it was cut and left at the scene.
- A student reported that her bicycle was stolen from near a dorm. The cable lock that was securing it was cut and left at the scene.
- A student reported that her unlocked bicycle was stolen from an academic building.
- 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 several thousand dollars worth of audio-visual equipment was stolen from a classroom. It is unknown if the classroom was secured.
- An employee reported that her digital camera was stolen from an unsecured desk in an unsecured office.
- An employee reported that her wallet was stolen from her purse, which had been left in an unsecured office.
- An employee reported that his laptop was stolen from his office. It is unknown if the office was secured.
- A student reported that his cable-locked bicycle was stolen from near a dorm.
- A student reported that his cable-locked bicycle was stolen from near a dorm.
- A student reported that her backpack, cell phone, and keys were stolen from the hallway of an academic building.
- A student reported that the rear bumper and trunk to his car were keyed.
- A student reported a suspicious white male with dark hair and a dark beard, wearing black clothing, entered a dorm lounge. Campus Safety officers responded, and the subject fled off campus with a second subject. Claremont Police officers responded and located the subjects. They were both arrested for attempted burglary. One subject also had outstanding warrants.
- A local delivery driver reported that a group of four to five students stole food from the bed of his truck. He declined to file a report.
- A student reported that her bicycle was stolen from near her dorm. The cable lock that was securing the bike was cut and left at the scene.
- A student reported that her bicycle and the cable lock that was securing it were stolen from near a dorm.
- A student reported that her unlocked bicycle was stolen from a footpath.
- A student reported that his bike, which was locked with a cable lock, was stolen from near a dorm.

- A student reported that her bicycle was stolen from near her dorm. Her cable combination lock was partially cut then opened with a combination.
- A student reported that his bicycle was stolen from near his dorm. The cable lock that was securing his bicycle was cut and left at the scene.
- An employee reported that a student assaulted another due to a dispute. The student was arrested for battery.
- A staff member reported that a scanner was stolen from an unsecured classroom.
- A student reported that her cable-locked bicycle was stolen from near an athletic field.
- A student reported that her car stereo and a sweater were stolen from her locked car. There were no signs of forced entry.
- A student reported that her bike, which was locked with a cable lock, was stolen from near her dorm.
- A student reported that his unsecured laptop was stolen from the exterior of a dorm.
- A staff member reported that her backpack and contents were stolen from her unsecured office.
- A student reported that his car CD/stereo was stolen from his locked vehicle. There were no signs of forced entry.
- A student reported that her unsecured bicycle was stolen from near her dorm.
- An employee reported that cash was stolen from an unlocked cash box in an unsecured office.
- An employee reported that the driver's side window of an off-campus guest's vehicle was shattered. Nothing was reported stolen.
- An R.A. reported three suspicious off-campus subjects near a dorm. Campus Safety officers responded and located the subjects, who confirmed they had no campus affiliation. The subjects refused to identify themselves or their purpose on campus, so Claremont Police officers responded. The subjects were identified as local residents, and they admitted that they were seeking campus parties. They were warned of private property boundaries and escorted off campus.
- A Campus Safety officer made contact with three students hiding behind an administrative building. Two students fled, and the third was identified. A black jacket they had been holding was located, and had two containers filled with marijuana and a pipe.
- An employee reported a subject sleeping in a sleeping bag on the exterior of an academic building. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded, and the subject was warned of private property boundaries.
- A student reported that a group of four subjects stole wooden pallets from an athletic field and fled on a city street. Campus Safety officers responded to the area, but were unable to locate the subjects.
- A student reported that her bicycle, which was locked with a cable lock, was stolen from near a student eatery.
- A Campus Safety officer reported that Claremont Police officers were on campus to take a report of a stolen license plate. The victim was an off-campus guest of a student.
- A student reported that her bicycle was stolen from near her dorm while parked overnight. She declined to file a report.

- A Campus Safety officer located the vehicle of a former student who had previously been known as a “person of interest” to the Claremont Police Department. The owner was not located at the time, but he was located the next night when he returned to campus. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded, and the subject attempted to flee in his vehicle. He was arrested for outstanding warrants and possession for sale.
- A student reported that his bicycle and the combination cable lock that was securing it were stolen from near a student center.
- A student reported that his bicycle, which was locked with a cable lock, was stolen from near an administrative building.
- A student reported that her bicycle and the cable lock that was securing it were stolen from near a library.
- A student reported that two laptops, an iPod, and two pairs of designer sunglasses were stolen from a campus apartment. The window screen was removed to gain access.
- An employee reported that his laptop was stolen from a secured classroom.
- A student reported that her bicycle, which was locked with a cable lock, was stolen from near her dorm.
- A faculty member reported that his bicycle, which was locked with a cable lock, was stolen from near an academic building.
- A student reported that an electric saw and an electric drill belonging to a student club were stolen from a locked garden shed. The hasp to the shed’s lock was cut.
- A student reported that his long board was stolen from the exterior of his dorm.
- A student reported that his bicycle was stolen from a city street near an academic building. The cable lock that was securing the bike was cut and left at the scene.
- A student reported that his bicycle and the cable lock that was securing it were stolen from near a dorm.
- A student reported that his wallet and cell phone were stolen from a sidewalk by a dorm.
- A student reported that her bicycle, which was locked with a U-lock, was stolen from near a dorm.
- A faculty member reported that his cable-locked bicycle was stolen from near an academic building.
- A facilities employee reported a Hispanic male in his late teens or twenties, wearing a white shirt and blue shorts, was interrupted while cutting the cable lock of a bike near an academic building. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded, but the subject had already fled off campus.
- A dean reported that his bicycle, which was locked with a cable lock, was stolen.
- A student reported that his cable-locked bicycle was stolen from near an academic building.
- A Campus Safety officer reported a Hispanic male wearing a white t-shirt, riding a dark bike with 2 wheels in his left hand. When he attempted to make contact, the subject fled off campus. Claremont Police officers responded, but were unable to locate the subject. Shortly thereafter, a student reported that both the front and rear wheels were stolen off of his bike, in the same area.

- A student reported that his cable-locked bicycle was stolen from near a dorm.
- A student reported that his bicycle and the cable lock that was securing it were stolen from near an academic building.
- An employee reported that the tail lights on her vehicle were broken.
- An employee reported that cash was stolen from two cash boxes located in a locked office.
- A student reported that his bicycle, which was locked with a cable lock, was stolen from near a student support building.
- A Campus Safety officer reported a white male, wearing a blue shirt and green pants, riding a skateboard and carrying a bicycle. The subject fled, and was last seen by a student entering a building with a clock on it, unknown what building.
- A student reported that her cable-locked bicycle was stolen from near an athletic facility.
- A student reported that his cable-locked bicycle was stolen from near a library.
- A student reported that her vehicle was damaged during a confrontation between off-campus subjects at a party.
- A student reported that his cable-locked bicycle was stolen from near a library.
- An employee reported that an exit sign was pulled out of the ceiling in a dorm, damaging the ceiling tiles.
- An employee reported that cash was stolen from an unsecured drawer in an unsecured administrative office.
- A staff member reported that cash was stolen from a cabinet drawer in a secured office.
- A Campus Safety officer located a bicycle with a cut cable lock, and stored it for safekeeping.
- A student reported that her bicycle, which was locked to itself with a U-lock, was stolen from near a student center.
- An employee reported that several items belonging to several students were stolen from an unsecured locker room during an athletic event.
- A student reported that his bicycle was stolen from near a dorm. The cable lock that was securing the bicycle was left at the scene.
- A student reported that his bicycle was stolen from near an academic building. The cable lock that was securing the bike was cut and left at the scene.
- An R.A. reported that two subjects stole a golf cart. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded and located the two off-campus subjects, who were arrested for grand theft auto.
- A student reported that his unsecured bicycle and U-lock were stolen from near an academic building. The student later found his bicycle and cancelled the report.
- A student reported that two laptops and a cell phone were stolen from her unsecured dorm. A male subject called from the cell phone and gave a name and location, but when Campus Safety officers responded, they were unable to locate anyone by the name given.
- A student reported that two cell phones were stolen from students' desktops, and a suspect was known. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded. The suspect was arrested for public intoxication. The victims declined to prosecute, preferring to just have their phones returned.

- A student reported that the rear passenger side window on her vehicle was broken. Nothing was reported stolen.
- A student reported that the rear wheel and gear brake were stolen from a locked bicycle near an academic building.

Crime Prevention Strategies and Tips

- Always lock your bike! Use a sturdy U-lock, not a cable lock, which can be cut through in less than 30 seconds. Lock the frame and at least one wheel to an immovable object—a bike rack, railing, etc.—instead of locking it to itself, an easily breakable object such as a sapling, or something over which the bike and lock can be lifted. If your front wheel is quick-release, remove it and lock it to the back wheel for extra security.
- Do not attach your ID and your keys. ID cards grant access to dorms and office buildings, and once inside the building, your keys can grant access to your belongings.
- Record the make, model, and serial numbers on all expensive or important equipment, including bicycles, laptops, cell phones, iPods, etc. Having a record of this information can greatly increase the chances of locating and recovering your belongings if they are stolen.
- Likewise, engrave your last name or driver's license—but never your Social Security number!—on your valuables. These engravings can help identify your belongings, and may deter crafty thieves. Campus Safety has an engraver available for use at the station on 11th Street and Columbia Avenue.
- Report any and all crimes to Campus Safety immediately. If you are unsure if a crime has occurred, contact Campus Safety and request an officer respond to assess the situation.
- We are open 24 hours a day, so do not delay reporting until business hours. This can prevent locating possible suspects, and could allow active criminals to victimize more campus members.
- Learn the locations of emergency phones along routes that you travel frequently. Always call Campus Safety if you feel uncomfortable or unsafe. We provide safety escorts anywhere on campus, 24 hours a day.
- Always carry your campus ID while on campus. This ID must be provided to campus representatives, including Campus Safety officers, when requested, and proves campus affiliation.
- 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. For those who have utilized this program, we appreciate your assistance. The information provided is being investigated, and the department is working in conjunction with school administrators to resolve the issues brought to our attention.

October 2008 Statistics*

Crimes Against Persons

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

Crimes Against Property

Arson	0
Burglary	16
Theft (from vehicle)	3
Theft (Bike)	46**
Theft (from building)	7
Theft (Other)	3
Grand Theft Auto	1
Trespass	5
Vandalism	4
Other	0

Arrests	14
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Published By:

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* These numbers reflect crime reports filed by the victims. In some cases, 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.

** Includes theft of bicycle parts