

The Claremont Colleges

The Department of Campus Safety

September 2008

September 2008 Crime and Incident Report

Trends and Analysis

This school year has seen a dramatic increase in thefts, particularly of bikes and in unlocked offices and classrooms or common areas (such as lounges) of academic buildings. This rise in theft reminds us yet again that we are targets for local professional thieves who rely on poor personal security measures. Of the ten bicycles reported stolen during September, eight of them were locked with cable locks, which were all cut. Two of the bicycles were locked with U-locks, but one of those two was locked only to itself, with no exterior securing brace, such as a bike rack. The second bike locked with a U-lock was removed without unlocking or damaging the U-lock, indicating that the lock was not properly secured initially.

These trends of increased bike thefts—mostly involving cable locked bikes—and non-residential burglaries—mostly involving unlocked classrooms and lounges of academic buildings—has continued into October at an alarming rate. The southern regions of the

campuses, as well as areas immediately adjacent to city streets, seem to be most vulnerable.

September 2008 Selective Incident Summary, September 1—30

- A student reported that her bicycle and the cable lock that was securing it were stolen from near her dorm.
- A student reported that her bicycle and the cable lock that secured it were stolen over the summer break.
- A student reported witnessing five subjects vandalize a parking structure. Campus Safety officers responded and located subjects, identified as students at one of the other colleges, fitting the description. The campus administrators were notified and are handling this matter internally.
- A student reported witnessing two subjects vandalize a dorm window. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded and located subjects, identified as off-campus subjects, fitting the description. The on-call dean responded and declined to press charges; the two subjects agreed to pay for the damages.

In this issue: (Table of Contents)

Trends and Analysis.....	1
Selective Incident Summary, September 1-30....	1
Crime Prevention Strategies and Tips.....	3
September 2008 Stats.....	4
Published By.....	5

- A student reported being harassed by an alumnus from one of the other campuses. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded, along with the deans of both campuses.
- A student reported that her bicycle was stolen from near a dorm. The U-lock that was securing the bike was left at the scene.
- A student reported that his laptop and an iPod were stolen from his room. The window was broken to gain access. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded. The responding Claremont Police officer was able to recover viable fingerprints from the scene.
- An employee reported that a computer tower was stolen from an unlocked office. The security wires were cut.
- A student reported that his drum was stolen from an unlocked social room. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded. A maintenance worker in the area reported having seen two females carrying a drum from the area.
- An employee reported that a ring turned in at a dining hall was removed from the register.
- A student reported that the rear windshield wiper on her vehicle was bent and various phallic symbols were drawn on the windshield in dust.
- A student reported that a portable navigation system and \$5 in change were stolen from her locked vehicle. The perpetrator apparently was able to push the driver's side window down to gain entry.
- A student reported that her laptop was stolen from an unsecured dorm library.
- An employee reported that an unknown male subject called a dining hall and said "Get ready to die, there is a bomb." Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded and evacuated the building, but did not find any devices. The on-call dean was advised.
- Two students reported being pepper sprayed during a protest rally. They declined transport to the hospital, and declined to file reports. Paramedics treated them on scene.
- A student reported that his bike was stolen from near an academic building. The bike was locked to itself with a U-lock, but was not secured to a bike rack or any fixed object.
- A staff member reported that his vehicle was struck while parked on a campus street, leaving a stripe of white paint. He declined to file a crime report with the Claremont Police Department.
- A student reported that an "L" shape was slashed into the window screen to her dorm room. The window was partially ajar, but nothing was discovered missing.
- A student reported that his vehicle was stolen from a gated lot on campus. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded. The vehicle was later recovered.
- A staff member reported a subject looking in vehicle windows near a dorm. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded, and the subject was warned about private property boundaries.
- A student reported the door to his suite was forcibly broken off the hinges.

- A student reported that two laptops were stolen from her dorm room. The perpetrator entered via an unlocked window.
- A student reported that the driver's side of her vehicle was scratched with a sharp implement.
- A student reported that her bike, which was locked with a cable lock, was stolen from near her dorm.
- A student reported that his vehicle was struck while parked in a campus lot. Claremont Police and Campus Safety officers responded.
- A student reported that his bicycle, which was locked with a cable lock, was stolen from near his dorm.
- A student reported that his wallet and cell phone were stolen from a dining hall.
- A student reported that her boyfriend shook her violently and acted in an intimidating fashion over the course of several months. Claremont Police and Campus Safety officers responded. The student was later granted a protective order.
- An employee reported that 3 crosswalk signs and 1 sidewalk sign were stolen from a campus street.
- A student reported that a bicycle, which was locked with a cable lock, was stolen from near a dining hall.
- An employee reported that a laptop and flash sensor were stolen from his unlocked, propped open office over the course of fifteen minutes.
- An employee reported that the glass to an auditorium was shattered.
- A student reported that the vinyl window on his vehicle's convertible roof was vandalized with a 2" and a 4" incision.
- An anonymous party reported an off-campus subject selling marijuana on the campuses.
- A student reported that another student was transported to the hospital after being punched in the face. Claremont Police officers responded for a battery report. Several witnesses reported seeing a subject chase and attack the student.
- A student reported several students on a maintenance cart. Campus Safety officers responded and the students claimed to have permission. The director of facilities was contacted, and denied any permission.
- A student reports that his bicycle was stolen from near his dorm. The cable lock that was securing it was cut and left at the scene.
- A student reported that his laptop was stolen from the lobby area of an academic building.
- An employee reported that several pieces of equipment were stolen from secured facilities containers. The padlocks that had secured the containers were cut and left at the scene.
- A student reported that the driver's side of her car was scratched from the front door to the rear panel.

Crime Prevention Strategies and Tips

- Do not leave bicycles unlocked or locked with cable or combination locks. Use a U-lock, preferably with a flat key rather than a barrel key. Lock at least the frame **and** one wheel to a sturdy base (a bike rack, not a tree, a chain link fence, etc.)

- Report any suspicious activity to Campus Safety immediately. Persons “casing” bike racks (moving bikes a little to see if they’re challenged, examining bikes to find unlocked bikes, etc), vehicles circling vulnerable areas multiple times, particularly late at night, and people riding bikes while carrying other bikes all should be reported immediately. Do not confront the subjects, but give a full description, including the last known direction of travel, and discreetly maintain a visual on the subjects if possible.
- Be sure to always close and lock all doors and windows to dorms, offices, and classrooms, regardless of how long you will be gone.
- Do not leave petty cash or other valuables in obvious places (the top desk drawer, a filing cabinet, etc.) Never leave it unlocked, and frequently move the storing place so that no one will be able to easily determine it and then return to steal it.
- 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.

- Do not leave belongings unattended in any common areas. This includes lounges (both dorm and academic building), dining halls, and libraries.

September 2008 Statistics*

Crimes Against Persons

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

Crimes Against Property

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

Arrests 0

* 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 bias related incidents

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