Car stereos, bicycles easy targets for thieves

By Alison Sherrill

Students are often easy targets for small-time burglary. Several steps could decrease the chances of student theft or increase the chances of recovering stolen property.

Stephen Seybold, crime prevention coordinator for the San Luis Obispo Police Department, said the most common victims of auto burglary and bicycle theft in San Luis Obispo are students. He attributes this to several factors.

"Students are often oblivious to their own security," he said. Many thefts are the result of car doors left unlocked, windows rolled down or bikes left unlocked, he said.

Seybold said there was an increase in the number of auto burglaries in San Luis Obispo in October as compared to most months. He said that usually five to 10 auto burglaries a month occur in the area, but in October there were 24 car break-ins.

Seventeen of these burglaries involved car stereo theft, Seybold said. Ten of the stolen stereos were removable "pull-out" stereos collectively worth $3,224, he said.

Ironically, the purpose of buying a pull-out stereo is to prevent stereo theft. However, if the stereo is left in the dashboard or simply sitting in the car then the burglary is made much easier.

Seybold recommends that people take their car stereos with them when they leave their cars.

John Ramirez, a business junior, had his pull-out stereo stolen from his car in downtown.

Firefighters use pedal power

New bikes to make downtown calls efficient

By Kelly Hagerty

Firefighters probably will not be responding to calls with them, but the San Luis Obispo Fire Department has added bicycles to its modes of transportation.

Earlier this year, three fully equipped mountain bikes were purchased by the department to be used by fire inspectors.

Fire Marshall Bob Neumann said the primary use of these bikes would be for appointments within the five-mile radius of City Hall, which is where the inspectors' offices are.

Neumann said that with the congestion and traffic in downtown, it is much more time and energy efficient to make calls on bikes. The problem of finding a place to park is also eliminated with the bikes, Neumann said.

Fire Inspector Spencer Myer said he can leave his office on bike, make an inspection downtown and be back in his office before he could have even found a parking spot if he were in a car.

He referred to a European study that showed bikers can cover an area of five miles or less just as fast as a car could. He said the study was true. It saves on money, gas and pollution, too. Even if that's all a push, the time economy is astronomical," Myer said.

"The bikes are efficient, and they allow us to offer a better service," Neumann said.

Firefighter Richard Orcutt shows one of the new mountain bikes the department will be using for in-town appointments.

Local firm may get contract for addition

By Scott Abbott

A Santa Maria firm may be contracted for the remodeling and addition to the Business Administration and Education building.

A.J. Diani Construction Co. is the apparent low bidder for the project. Its bid of $13.54 million is $836,000 more than the project architect's estimated cost.

Cal Poly Executive Dean of Facilities Administration Douglas Gerard said the administration is analyzing the bids before making a final decision.

"The advantages of the building are that the School of Business will be in one building," said Walter Perlick, dean of the School of Business.

"These classrooms are state-of-the-art with tiered, curved rooms, audio visual services and they're hardwired for computers. (The addition) meets all of our needs. Of course, our needs are constantly changing," Perlick said.

ASI Highlights:

Board of Directors meeting tonight at 7 p.m. in U.U. 220. The meeting is open to the public. Discussion item: Resolution 91-05 - Authorization of Licensing of Children's Center Site. Business items: Resolution 91-03 - Reallocation of Monies to the CSI System and Resolution 91-04 - Grassroots Campaign.

Today's weather ...

Sunny. High: 77 Low: 35 N.W. winds 20 rph 4 ft. seas, 7 ft. n.w. swells
Situations are different in Israel

It all began early in the conflict between Iraq and Kuwait in 1990 and between Israel and Kuwait, while not relinquishing his country's "just claim" to Kuwait, offered to return his invasion to the status quo, of, otherwise, many things, involving withdrawal from Jodres, Samaria, Gaza, the Golan Heights and the security zone in the Sinai desert. Saddam's demands, which also included the removal of American forces from Saudi Arabia, was designed to galvanize the Arab masses and unite them solidly behind him. By invoking the "Jerusalem" equation, he would make opposition to him seem tantamount to siding with the super power the "Zionist enemy."

This initiative was immediately heralded by the PLO and Yasser Arafat, as "an objective approach to find a settlement of the present crisis in the Gulf area."

Then, the theme took on a new twist as King Hussein and Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan followed suit by blaming Israel's "occupation of Arab lands" as setting an irresistible example for settling disputes by force.

Even Egypt's Minister of State, Dr. Butros-Ghali, outspokenly anti-Saddam Hussein, blamed Israel for having created an "atmosphere of aggression" in the region.

And so, the "let's blame Israel" voice began to be heard.

The French government supported Saddam's proposal that Israel withdraw from "occupied territories" in exchange for an offer to reassess his role. The Soviets, who have refused to withdraw thousands of "experts" from the Iraqi federation, are increasingly concerned that the Arab Khadim is serving as military advisor to Saddam, are pushing the idea of a comprehensive international conference at which all the outstanding Middle East problems can be addressed.

Iraq's bid is plainly to trade Israeli withdrawal for a Saddam concession and is frankly a naive exercise in cold war rhetoric. He could not resist the temptation to build on the Arab world's "let's blame Israel" voice and to contribute to the Arab masses to gain concessions from Israel, while doing nothing on this level to amass a multinational force and imposing sanctions on Iraq, while doing nothing on this level to relieve the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza by imposing sanctions and confronting Israeli military aggression.

With the ability of a ventriloquist, they talk out of both sides of their mouths, and some in Western governments and media who are continuing their campaign to truncate Israeli territory don't seem to notice.

Some may say this is old history. Yet, those who forgot history are doomed to repeat it.

Before everyone jumps on the bandwagon of territorial concessions by Israel, the following facts should cause thinking people to rethink this approach to Middle East politics.

1. The history of the Arab-Israel conflict is one of Arab aggression against Israel. There are no peace treaties with the Arab countries except Egypt.

2. Saddam Hussein threatened Kuwait and carried out his threat. Hussein has repeatedly threatened to attack and destroy Israel, and there is no reason not to believe him.

3. Overwhelming Palestinian support for Saddam Hussein, who see as a savior who knocked out the Middle East balance and may help them reclaim their aspirations against Israel by overthrowing the Soviet Union, which has cornered Israel's left-wing political constituency. The PLO is no longer a viable negotiating partner.

4. While many problems in the Middle East need to be solved including a resolution for the Palestinians, the regional tension that the occupation of Kuwait by Iraq, with the occupation of the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan Heights by Israel, is one of the most important. While there may be some linkage between the two, it is more an attempt by both parties to divert attention from their own problems.

5. The French government supported Saddam's proposal that Israel withdraw from "occupied territories" in exchange for an offer to reassess his role. The Soviets, who have refused to withdraw thousands of "experts" from the Iraqi federation, are increasingly concerned that the Arab Khadim is serving as military advisor to Saddam, are pushing the idea of a comprehensive international conference at which all the outstanding Middle East problems can be addressed.

We encourage all who would consider applying for a job with the Central Intelligence Agency to read all they can and talk to as many people as they can to learn about Israel before they actually jump into the company.

CIA is not what it claims to be.
Gorbachev, Yeltsin schedule peace talks

MOSCOW (AP) — In a move toward peace on the eve of the anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution, Boris N. Yeltsin and Mikhail S. Gorbachev have agreed to discuss their differences.

Yeltsin, the Russian president, would not say who proposed the meeting for this Sunday, but it was the Soviet president who approached Yeltsin to shake his hand after a holiday ceremony at the Kremlin.

"We just agreed with Gorbachev to meet on the 11th one-on-one," Yeltsin said. "There will be very many issues and it will be an important meeting."

The meeting will be the first between the rival politicians since their attempt at reconciliation over economic reform broke down in late summer. The rift put Yeltsin's Russian Federation, the largest Soviet republic, at odds with the central government.

Troops train to keep edge in Saudi desert

In EASTERN SAUDI ARABIA (AP) — Despite rumblings of impatience in some quarters, soldiers of the U.S. Army's 82nd Airborne Division said Tuesday they remain sharp three months after the first ground force arrived in Saudi Arabia.

"The only way you lose your edge is if you sit on your butt and don't train," said Sgt. Maj. J. R. Randall.

"We keep from getting bored by training every day, but it was the Soviet president who approached Yeltsin to shake his hand after a holiday ceremony at the Kremlin.

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"We keep from getting bored by training every day, but it was the Soviet president who approached Yeltsin to shake his hand after a holiday ceremony at the Kremlin.

Man held in Arizona for California slaying

KINGMAN, Ariz. (AP) — A man accused of a slaying in California was arrested and held following a traffic accident.

Michael Combe, 24, hit a van at a gas station Friday while driving the slaying victim's car, police Capt. Larry Butler said.

While a police officer was investigating the accident, a dispatcher sent a radio message asking officers to be on the lookout for Combe, who was wanted in the Oct. 24 slaying of Janice Lee, of Yermo, Calif.

Also held in connection with the death was Combe's girlfriend, Cynthia Purcell, 20, who was arrested by Mohave County sheriff's deputies Friday, authorities said.

Marine Corps orders 630 reservists to Gulf

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Marine Corps said Tuesday it was ordering to active duty 630 reservists — including six units from California and Nevada — for combat roles in the Persian Gulf. It is the first use of American combat reserves in the crisis.

Also, the Pentagon announced that more than 230,000 U.S. forces are deployed in the gulf, and deployments are continuing. The total is 20,000 more than the Pentagon's official estimate issued last month.

The Marine Corps decision, while not significantly increasing U.S. combat capability in the gulf, marks an important departure for the Pentagon. It opens the way to possible use of major Army combat units in Operation Desert Shield and signals a growing U.S. military and political commitment to existing Iraq from Kuwait.

The more than 34,000 reserves called to active duty over the past 10 weeks have been used only in non-combat roles.

Skeleton found, man jailed for wife's death

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A man arrested for investigation of killing his wife and burying her body in their backyard five years ago appeared on Geraldo Rivera's talk show this year as a purported hit man, authorities said.

Michael J. Hardy, 46, was arrested Friday after police, tipped by his son, dug up a skeleton in the yard of a Canoga Park home he once rented. Authorities believe the bones are those of Hardy's wife, Delores Lynn Hardy.

He remained jailed Tuesday for investigation of murder.

Robert Hardy, Michael Hardy's son from a previous marriage, told police where to find the skeleton, said Detective Rick Swanston.

"It had been bothering him for years," Swanston said. "He did not witness the killing, but he took part in burying the body."

Earlier this year, Hardy appeared on Rivera's "Geraldo" syndicated TV show. He was described as a former hit man.

Hardy declined to confirm or deny participating in contract slayings when Rivera asked him about 14 murders he allegedly was linked to by New York magazine.

Hardy did boost to the magazine of committing 800 car thefts and 250 robberies and having connections to organized crime.

We have no official confirmation of this," Swanston said. "If he has served role as a contract killer. We are finding that he is the source of most of these things that are being said. But we are still very early in our investigation into this."

In 1983, he allegedly kidnapped his 5-year-old daughter from a county facility for abused children, according to police. He was arrested two months later in New York and charged with child abduction as well as a deadly weapon and interfering with a public official.

Police were unable to immediately determine what became of the case.

The question you should be asking yourself.
THEFT

From page 1

San Luis Obispo three weeks ago.

Ramirez said he had left his car in front of his house when he left for a weekend, and when he returned the stereo had been pulled from the dashboard.

The car door had been locked but a hole had been put in the door to open it. Ramirez said this was the third pull-out car stereo stolen from him, although it was the first one stolen from him in San Luis Obispo.

Seybold said there also has been an increase in the number of bicycle thefts recently.

In October there were 23 reports of stolen bicycles, which were collectively worth $7,290. Seybold said usually there are only 10 to 15 cases every month.

Students are often an easy target for bicycle theft because they don’t lock up their bicycles when they are at home, he said.

In 15 of October’s cases, the bikes were left outside and unlocked.

An unlocked bicycle left outside is an open invitation to any would-be burglar, Seybold said. More bicycles are stolen off-campus than on-campus because students usually lock up their bicycles when they are at school, Seybold said.

Officer Scott Pearl of Public Safety said he has not noticed any increase in the number of bicycle thefts or auto burglaries on campus. He did say, however, that it is an on-going problem.

“One step we are taking for the problem is making ourselves more visible, especially during the graveyard hours of the night,” Pearl said. “We will get out of cars and walk around to let possible burglars know we are around.”

Seybold said an effective method for safeguarding property is to record the serial numbers of the property and to engrave the owner’s driver’s license number on the item.

This deterred them, Seybold said, because if burglars see the engraved license number on the item they know it could mean an automatic sentence for possession of stolen property.

Seybold said that recording the serial number increases the chances of recovering stolen property considerably.

“Without the serial number,” Seybold said, “recovery is nearly impossible.”

Seybold also said bike owners should register their bicycles with the police and Public Safety. By law, Seybold said, all bikes need to be registered with the police.

Officers have begun issuing citations for unregistered bikes when bicycles are stopped for traffic violations.

Only five of the bikes stolen in October had been registered with the city or had their serial numbers written down by the owner, Seybold said.

Most of the crime against students, Seybold said, is because students are lackadaisical about writing down the serial numbers of their property and leaving doors, windows and bikes unlocked.

Prevention, as always, is to be the first line of defense, Seybold said.

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Working in the heat of battle

Poly students spend summer as wildland fire fighters

By

Mike McMillan

On the morning of August 31, 1990, the eight-man helicopter rumbled high above the treetops on its way to a forest fire in a remote section of the Yosemite National Forest.

The six Cal Poly students and one Cal Poly graduate sat quietly as conversation aboard the noisy Bell 212 was difficult.

These seven firefighters were part of Los Padres Crew 3, a seasonal firefighting crew activated by the U.S. Forest Service.

The pilot abruptly turned the craft around and headed back to the Crane Flat's Helibase for an emergency landing. A sudden loss of oil pressure made the return mandatory as the ship's instrument panel flashed brightly.

The anxious passengers were not told of the malfunction as the helicopter began losing altitude.

With the helibase in sight, the pilot maneuvered the ship over its final obstacle, a group of tall pines near the helibase.

The last push drained the craft of all power 20 feet above the helibase. With only the momentum of its spinning rotors, the ship slammed into the pavement, spinning rotors, the ship slammed into the pavement.

The last push drained the craft of all power 20 feet above the helibase. With only the momentum of its spinning rotors, the ship slammed into the pavement, spinning rotors, the ship slammed into the pavement.

Despite a sprained back, a sprained neck and a broken nose, Crew 3 members wearily walked away.

In groups of eight, Crew 3 made its next helicopter flight the following day. The 300-acre fire at Laurel Lake was burning and there was work to do.

Three flights went smoothly, but many were nervous. "I was white-knuckling it," said crewman Ed Merrill, a Cal Poly natural resource management junior who was involved in the crash.

Wildland firefighters accept certain risks the job entails, from falling helicopters to falling trees. But the sure of good pay (depending on the number of fires) and the unpredictable nature of the job attracts about 20 Cal Poly students each summer.

From July to September since 1972, the U.S. Forest Service has equipped and mobilized Crew 3, a seasonal category-two fire crew based in San Luis Obispo. Traveling nationwide and outfitted mostly by Cal Poly students, Los Padres Crew 3 has an operating budget of about $30,000. The budget amount is only one-sixth the amount of a category-one fire crew, a more experienced team with many permanent members.

Despite such financial limitations, Crew 3 has continued to perform on a level comparable to "Hot-Shot" category-one crews.

Crew 3 supervisor Doug Aversano is largely responsible for that.

The 17-year firefighting veteran has been with Crew 3 for the past four summers, seasons with dedicated and accomplished firefighting squads considered by crew advisors to be their history's best.

"This crew has done some amazing things," said Aversano, who spends most of the year in Pozo as a fire-prevention technician.

The brunt of wildland firefighting involves "cutting line." As one crew or in squads of 11, the crewmen cut paths of clean dirt through often dense vegetation to deprive the oncoming flames of "fuel" needed to burn.

Led by chainsaws, crewmen swing special pick-axess called "polaskis" and heavy-duty rakes called "macleaks" to chip and scrape the remaining bushes and duff. Burdened by smoke, heat and fatigue, cutting line aggressively is a test of firefighters' physical and mental endurance.

"Back-firing" is another option implemented by wildland firefighters. After a line is cut underneath an oncoming fire, crewmen ignite ground-fuel (grass and shrubs) with flames or drip-torches. The resulting flames meet the approaching fire head-on, and the blaze's progress is stopped before it has a chance to "jump" the fire-line previously cut. Crewman regard back-firing as dangerous yet exciting, an engineered balance between pyrophobia and pyromania.

In 1989 the town of Lowman, Idaho, was being threatened by a 55,000-acre forest-fire that had already destroyed 25 structures. Led by Aversano, Crew 3 completed a 3,000-acre "blackline" burning operation credited with saving many homes.

While working on the same fire, Crew 3 was chosen to work with fire-line explosives, a prototype method of cutting line. Crewmen carried 80 55-pound spoons of explosive tubing across three miles of timberland.

"The Lowman fire was definitely one of this crew's highlights," said Aversano.

"That fire gave us the feeling of having truly been tested," said Crew Foreman Kevin Chambers, a 1988 Cal Poly natural resource management graduate who has organized Crew 3 personnel for the past 11 seasons.

One of Crew 3's lowlights was the death of a crewman...
**BIKES**

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**SCIENCE**

From page 3

**SCIENCE**

From page 1

**SCIENCE**

From page 3

**SCIENCE**

From page 1

**SCIENCE**

From page 1

**SCIENCE**

From page 3
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— Doug Aversano