

Crime Reports

Compiled by Evan Ortega

STOLEN LAUNDRY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

Somebody is most likely walking the streets of the South Bay wearing stolen underwear and other clothing items, crime reports indicate. Police were dispatched to a residence in the 1100 block of Tennyson Street last week regarding a bizarre laundry room burglary that occurred in October. On Thursday, October 22, around 9 p.m. a man put three loads of his and another woman's laundry into three separate dryers in his apartment's community laundry room. He returned to his apartment and returned to the laundry room the next day to find the clothing missing, despite searching the area for a brief time. A woman of unknown relation to the man said she waited several days to report the crime because she wanted to compile the laundry list of stolen items. The woman told police she was requesting a crime report because she was going to file a claim with her insurance company for the loss. The stolen items include: Victoria's Secret underwear, Nordstrom Bras, Ikea hand towels and wash cloths, Levis "Skinny Boy Jeans," Dickie shorts and pants, Target spandex pants, Bebe shorts and a black fitted dress from American Apparel. The victims said the gates to their apartment complex have been broken sometime and are often unlocked. They said other people have had their laundry stolen from the same location.

BURGLARIZED BUSINESS MONDAY, OCTOBER 25

The owner of a laundromat located in the 300 block of North Sepulveda Boulevard locked his business around 6 p.m. on Saturday, October 24. The man briefly returned on Sunday but did not notice anything wrong until he showed up on Monday and noticed papers on the floor and front counter drawers ajar. He then noticed the cash register was open and \$100 was gone and later in the morning noticed the top drawer of his metal file cabinet was open and that \$500 in petty cash was missing. The victim said the only people who worked at the business were family members. The responding officer found a fresh pry mark on the rear door jam and chipped paint. He also checked the area for nearby surveillance cameras and found none.

STOLEN HANDICAPPED PLACARD SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

An 82-year-old man parked and locked his truck in the driveway of his residence, located in the 3500 block of Palm Avenue on Halloween around 2:30 p.m. The next day around 11 a.m., the victim discovered his cane and handicapped placard were missing from the vehicle. He also noticed that somebody had punched his passenger door lock.

BURGLARIZED CAR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Around 3 p.m., a man drove his friend to Redondo Beach to visit with friends, parking

in the 600 block of Aviation Way. The driver left his 2009 Dodge vehicle of unknown model unlocked. The pair returned ten minutes later to find several items missing. The crime report stated the driver lost his "iTouch organizer" and wallet containing \$160 cash, while the passenger lost his "iTouch phone" which had a cracked face. Police contacted the victim's wireless phone provider to attempt to locate the area the phone was being used but found it was turned off. The victim said his phone was plugged into the charger and that the suspect would have had to remove the phone from the charger in order to steal it. Police took two fingerprints into evidence along with a phone charger to be examined for fingerprints.

RESTAURANT SWINDLER MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2

Police responded to a restaurant located in the 1100 block of Highland Avenue regarding an annoying phone calls report around 5:30 p.m. The restaurant manager explained that over the past six months, a man identifying himself as "Eric" has called the business several hundred times, often calling several times a day to place food orders which he never picks up. The suspect will almost always order a Denver omelet with tomatoes. The manager lamented that although most of the restaurant staff is aware of "Eric" and his costly pranks, the orders are sometimes made, wasting time and money. The suspect has cost the restaurant at least \$500 so far, the manager said. An employee once saw a person he believed to be the suspect outside the business describing on the phone the types of clothing the employees inside were wearing. One of the employees noticed a newer model Ford Mustang parked in front of the restaurant, looking inside while talking on the phone. The manager told police the suspect calls using a blocked number and often uses racial slurs toward the employees. Officers believe the suspect committed the crime of 653m PC, annoying phone calls, and also believes he committed the crime of 537(a) (2), defrauding innkeeper with more than \$400 in food lost.

VANDALIZED VEHICLE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

A man parked and locked his vehicle in the driveway of his residence located in the 1300 block of Manhattan Beach Boulevard around 5:30 p.m. He also remembered to arm the vehicle's alarm. The man returned the next day around 3:30 a.m. to find the front passenger side window had been smashed and the front passenger side door had been dented. The victim said whoever vandalized the vehicle did not take a black backpack in the back seat and that he requested the crime report for insurance purposes. Officers could not determine what object was used to damage the vehicle and noticed no additional vandalized vehicles in the area. •

Frankly Plank

By Duane Plank

Told ya'll before that I love the running. And while some things in my life may start to go a little off-kilter, the run is always there. Left the mansion the other day, not necessarily fired up about the next six or so miles, but immediately ran by a guy 'bout half my age in his pajamas, standing outside, smoking a cig. So I guess, as a barely 50-something, hitting the pavement smoke-free is a little better than standing outside, smoking a cancer stick.

Ran by a column supporter that morning, apparently. She honked at me, but I was way too engulfed in the iPod and Springsteen musica to notice. So I trotted by without acknowledging the friendly honk. Rude, self-absorbed guy that I can sometimes be. But she did take a shot at me when I saw her later, her saying something akin to "nice red headband." As I ran by, guess I looked like some character out of the movie *Xanadu*. Or some misfit from a corny, early '80s Olivia Newton John video "Physical." Cuz I was sporting a red headband to keep my buzz-cut in place. What, that's not cool anymore?

Remember the flick? Movie about dancing. I believe the at-the-time hottie Olivia Newton-John wore a headband in the parts of the movie, when she did whatever she did in the 1980 film. And one of her big-time music hits was "Physical." She must have sported the headware in the video. Have to ask my friend SW. I am sure that his vast, pirated video library would include *Xanadu* as well as any and all ONJ music videos. Or maybe he never pirated anything?

Anyway, was thinking about the running thing and wanted to thank all of you locals who hail me as I pass by. Some of you honk, some wave a hand, some of you just wave the middle finger. Totally understand. I shouldn't be dodging in and out of the city streets, avoiding your vehicles as you drive across the street to grab a cup of \$5 coffee. I should be jogging on the decrepit, dusty track at the local high school. Hear that we will be getting turf on the track in Mayberry sometime before I move on to the old folks home and the dynamic sport of shuffleboard. But thanks for not running me down, drivers. Yet. California stop and all. And remember, speaking on that cell phone while you drive still is illegal.

May have told the faithful that I was signing up for Bookface, or Facebook, in a must-read column a few months ago. Guess I half-ass signed up for the all-important social networking site, but must not have completed all of the required info before I jumped to something else. Seems that I am easily distracted, jumping from one thing to another before I finish the first endeavor. Or even get close to finishing the first thing.

Wife has long said that I can't multi-task. Maybe she's correct. If she reads this column, maybe she will be happy to have received the props. You *may* be right, dear.

Great timing. Watching the boob tube the other night, and shockingly, not sports. Channel goes on the screen and they are promo-ing one of their allegedly funny sitcoms, *Gary, Unmarried*, starring the not-so-funny Jay "The Bore" Mohr. His ex-wife is bitching him out, per usual, when she notes that he seems a little frazzled. She says, and I paraphrase, "Gary, you are trying to do 10 things at the same time. And when you try

to do only one thing at a time, you are, at best, average." Typical nice shot taken at a guy from a freeloading ex-wife. Guess Gary is not a multi-tasker, either. My wife had a chuckle at that exchange. I cringed.

But maybe I suffer from ADD, the affliction a lot of parents seem to say that their kid has when their kid comes home with a crummy report card. Don't know about this ADD. I do know how to add, but...see, did it again. Jumping around, no focus.

Okay, back to Facebook. I finished giving them the info that they needed, and then one of my grammar school classmates wanted to hook up with me. Don't they all? Specially the ladies. She wanted to add me as a friend. Great, we all need friends, some of us more than others. But in order to be added as a friend, I had to type in my password. Now, I am stupid enough to screw around with my passwords at times, trying to be "cute." I think smart folks would use the same password each time. Easy to remember, right? Not me. So of course, I have no clue which password I used when starting my Facebook account.

And another thing, I guess that I am supposed to somehow put my mug on the Book page. Good chance of that happening. Even if I had a startlingly handsome picture of myself to upload, download, uplink, whatever, how the heck would I figure out the way to do it? Big-time work in progress, yes I am.

Well, the North American Baseball Series was captured by the dreaded Yanks, who won the title for the 27th time. New York born and raised wife was very happy, so that makes *Plank* very happy. Say what you will, but the Yankees were the best team in MLB from May 1 and were able to roll over just three starting pitchers in their postseason games. So they surely got their money's worth, about \$425 mil, from their offseason acquisitions of free agents CC Sabathia, Mark Teixeira, and A.J. Burnett.

And we fans better get used to the Evil Empire restocking each and every offseason. Doubt that they are going to quit throwing greenbacks at any free agent who they think will help them win championship number 28. And they aren't shy about it.

Said Teixeira, who was a flameout at the dish in his first postseason but played masterfully on defense: "To the rich go the spoils. George Steinbrenner built an [evil] empire. He really did. He deserves to build a great stadium. He deserves to have the best team that money can buy."

Not sure if old man Steinbrenner, who has been hidden from public view in the past few years as the ravages of growing old take their toll, "deserves" to win. After all, he is a convicted felon, having pleaded guilty to obstruction of justice charges some 35 years ago when Steinbrenner was associating with one Richard Milhouse Nixon. Remember him, amigos?

But that was then, this is now. And the Yankees, and their sometimes insufferable fanatics, aren't going anywhere. So the rest of us baseball fans need to get over it and just hope that our team of choice sacks up and opens the checkbook to acquire the players necessary.

And Dodger fans, once Jamie McCourt extracts her cash from the team coffers, your team may look a lot like the Washington Nationals. Sorry. We Halo fans feel your pain. •

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