Bike thefts rile students

Students report dozens of bike thefts to DPS each year

By Blaise Hart Schmidt

Junior John Messina woke up one morning last summer to find his Trek mountain bike missing. He had left his bike unlocked on the north side of campus near the corner of Harrison and Francisco Streets.

This was the second bike Messina has had stolen while at college.

"The first bike I had stolen was from a friend’s house off campus... and it was just a silver Puch road bike, and it was stolen off the ride of the house," Messina said. "It’s not a very secure bike, and it was locked in the box and sitting out in the box. It wasn’t locked up at all." Messina has had several bikes and leaves them on his house off campus, "I mean I know I steal bikes, I steal through the Kirksville Police Department and I’ve stolen because that naturally gives me a sense of security when you’re home, so I would say be pretty good about locking your bikes when you’re at home. Always lock them!"

"I’ve had two bikes stolen from private property, so I would say be pretty good about locking your bikes when you’re at home. Always lock them!"

Messina isn’t alone. According to the 2008 Campus Crime Report, there were a total of 81 thefts on campus last year.

"On Fridays and weekends,盗窃 statistics for 2009 have not been published, but the Sheriff’s Office was at the 2009 Campus Crime Report, which comes out in September," she said.

Shears said recovered bikes are auctioned off through the Recycling Center in the basement of Green High School. If bikes are located outside of the Student Recreation Center after classes the morning of March 25, before a majority of them were.

Worcester said the Recycling Center is a good place to list bikes.

"We have sales about four to five times a year. There isn’t really a set date, just when we get enough surplus," Worcester said. "The most recent will probably be in the latter part of April.

The surplus sales take place at the surplus recycling center on Wednesday of 5 p.m., he said. "Worcester said the items for sale aren’t limited to bikes, and you name it—computers, printers, furniture, you’ve even had a hot tub once, vehicles once or twice—"he said. "We’ve a variety of different things that we have. Whatever the University property [has] donated, we sell it at a reasonable price, and we get it in and we sell it."

Worcester said he has seen bikes sell for anything from $2 to $80.

"Surplus sales really are a good place for students to pick up inexpensive items for computers and furniture, and they’re really a reasonable price," Worcester said. "Students can always check us out looking for bikes."

Intuitively, it would seem to make sense to lock your bikes on campus, and their theft statistics are a sense of security when you’re at home. Always lock them!"

Messina is still looking for his bike, stolen almost two years ago.

"If anyone sees a [silver] Puch road bike, please return it to me," he said.