

Locks: Students need to use their locks correctly

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alleged problem was from Paul Nicholson, a Eugene bicycle shop owner, at the trade show. MacDaid was so concerned that someone had developed a lock pick or some other device that could penetrate the Kryptonite locks, he made plans to visit Eugene in order to investigate.

Nicholson, who spoke to the Eugene City Council about the bike theft problems Sept. 18, said he has had large numbers of customers complain about stolen bicycles that had been secured by Krypto Locks, the least expensive of the Kryptonite brand locks.

"Bicycles locked with relatively secure locking systems have been stolen in broad daylight," Nicholson said. "I'm convinced that this is an organized theft."

Thieves can penetrate the Krypto Locks with a crow bar that fits over the end of the lock and bends the locking mechanism, which disables it. The more expensive lock in the Kryptonite line, the Evolution 2000, has the lock in a different place preventing the disabling of the lock. This lock seems to be the most secure, Nicholson said. He has not heard of anyone penetrating this lock with a pick.

MacDaid had also not heard of anyone penetrating the Evolution 2000, at least not until the trade show. When he arrived in Eugene, he found that only one lock had been reported picked, but that number is still cause for concern, he said.

MacDaid was very surprised to hear about the alleged problem because the U-lock is almost impossible for Kryptonite employees to pick.

If a customer loses the key to the U-lock it is hard for Kryptonite to replace it. There are no master keys.

"It is very hard for us to pick our own locks," MacDaid said.

To test the rumor, MacDaid put a \$2,000 bike on a rack somewhere on the University campus locked with the Kryptonite lock. Over a 36-hour period, a few people tried to break the lock but could not. However, he did have a seat post and seat stolen, he said.

After two days of investigation MacDaid did not find other locks had been picked. MacDaid took the lock back to the Kryptonite office in Boston where he will conduct tests to see how it was penetrated, he said.

However it is only a matter of time before a lock is penetrated, he said.

"Bike thieves are creative people," MacDaid said. "But if there is a problem with the locks we will fix it," he said.

Police and public safety officers have experienced an increase in the number of bicycle thefts already this year. At least two or three a day are being stolen on campus, said Judy Rodenhuis, an officer from Eugene police department who works out of the University's Office of Public Safety.

"We are really in a swing period here," Rodenhuis said. "It is almost overwhelming."

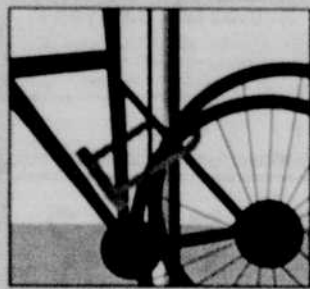
Rodenhuis, who spoke with MacDaid during his visit, recommends that people buy heavy airplane cable where there are no cylinder type locks.

The Kryptonite style locks were first made 25 years ago, since then the company "has been ripped off," MacDaid said. The Kryptonite locks are the only ones that are made with a special steel that is shatterproof.

More important than what type of lock to use, MacDaid said, is how a lock is used.

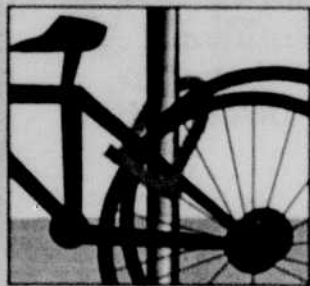
"Our biggest problem has always been getting people to

BIKE LOCKING THE RIGHT WAY



Road Bikes:

- Remove front wheel and place next to rear wheel.
- Place U-lock around fixed object, both wheels and frame.
- Lock as much of bike frame as possible.



Mountain Bikes:

- Remove front wheel and place next to rear wheel.
- Place U-lock around fixed object, both wheels and frame.
- If front wheel is unremovable, secure to frame with secondary lock.

SOURCE: Kryptonite

DENNIS BOLT/Emerald

use the locks right," he said.

The company gives out brochures with diagrams that explain the proper way to secure a bicycle. However, it is not always successful.

"I could walk around the [University] campus and bring back thirty bikes to your door," he said. Students do not take care to lock their bikes safely, he said.



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