



**BIAS**  
**MOTIVATED**  
**INCIDENTS**  
**REPORT**

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Spring/Summer 2003

Prepared by  
Erik L. Malewski

# **BIAS MOTIVATED INCIDENTS REPORT**

## **The Pennsylvania State University**

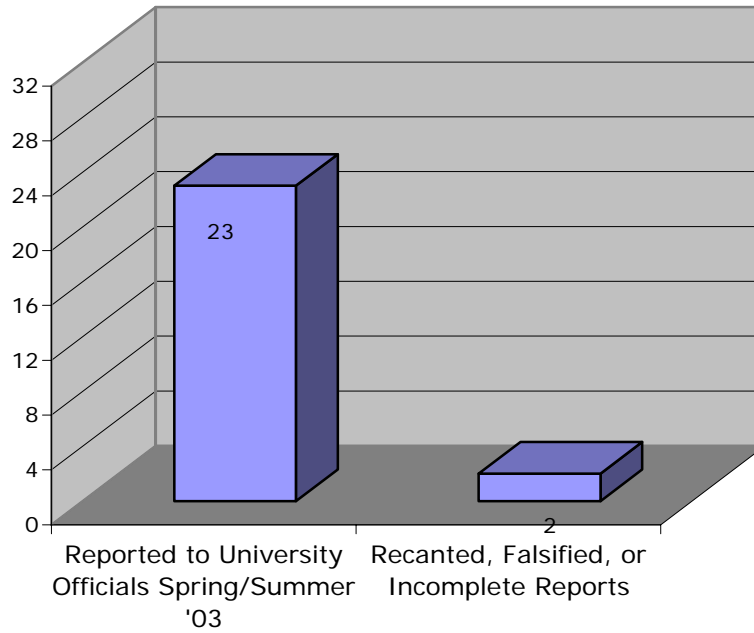
**Spring/Summer 2003**

### **SUMMARY OF INCIDENTS**

- The majority of reports were indirect (individuals were not targeted) nonlife threatening bias activity (Tier I) followed in frequency by direct (individuals were targeted) nonlife threatening bias activity (Tier II). There was one reported incident of direct life threats (Tier III). In this report the life threat took the form of a verbal and physical assault.
- Residence Life was the most common source of reports followed by the Report Hate Web site, Police Services, and other Student Affairs offices.
- Twenty reports originated from the University Park campus and one from a non-University Park campus location. Two reports were incomplete, falsified, or recanted by the submitter and/or target.
- Students were the most commonly reported targets (11) followed in frequency by staff (1). There were no reports of faculty targets. A staff member was targeted when she intervened in an incident that occurred between students.
- In reports where race was identified, the most common targets were Caucasian/Caucasian Americans and African/African Americans, followed by Asian Pacific Islander/Asian Pacific Americans. When Caucasian/Caucasian American males were targeted, it was most likely due to their perceived or actual sexual orientation.
- The most frequently reported motivation for bias incidents was real or perceived sexual orientation, followed in frequency by race/ethnicity and religious beliefs/spirituality.
- Verbal harassment was the most commonly reported type of offense followed equally by vandalism/graffiti and general intolerance (offensive behaviors). The most infrequent types of offenses were harassment by mediated communication, harassment by stalking, and aggravated assault.
- The majority of incidents were reported to have taken place in residence halls and dining commons followed in equal number by campus grounds, University buildings, and athletic facilities.
- February was the most common month for reported incidents followed equally by March and April. June and July were the least common months for reported incidents.
- More incidents were reported on Mondays followed in frequency by Wednesdays and Sundays. Fridays were the least common day for reported incidents.
- The most common time of day for reported incidents was evening (5:00 – 11:00 p.m.), followed in frequency by day (10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.), and lastly, night (11:00 p.m. – 4:00 a.m.).
- Alcohol usage was not determined to be a contributing factor in the majority of reported incidents. There was one confirmed report of alcohol usage.
- Of the twenty-one reports made to the University, two were incomplete, falsified, or recanted by the submitter and/or target and, as a result, were not included in this summary. In cases where follow-up was possible, the University provided support and resources for targets, investigated the incidents and, where appropriate, established educational sanctions and/or civil penalties equivalent to the actions of the perpetrators.

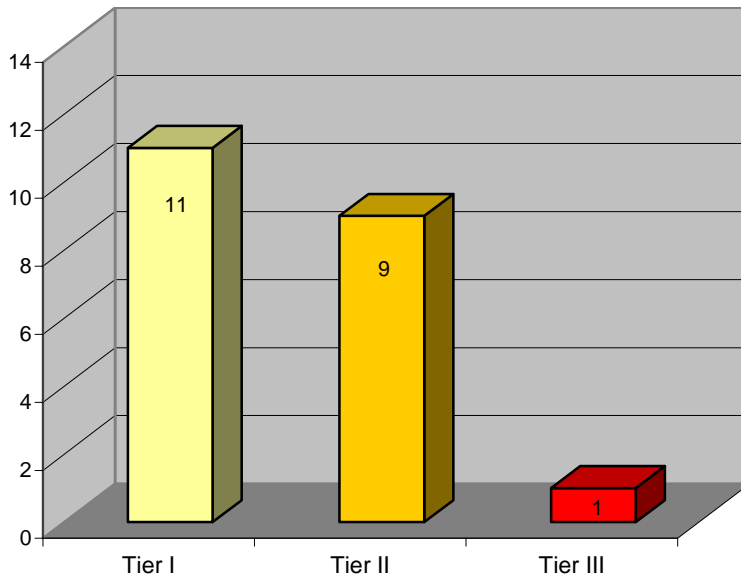
### Number of Reports

The number of reports submitted to the University, as well as those that were incomplete, falsified, or recanted by submitters and/or targets.



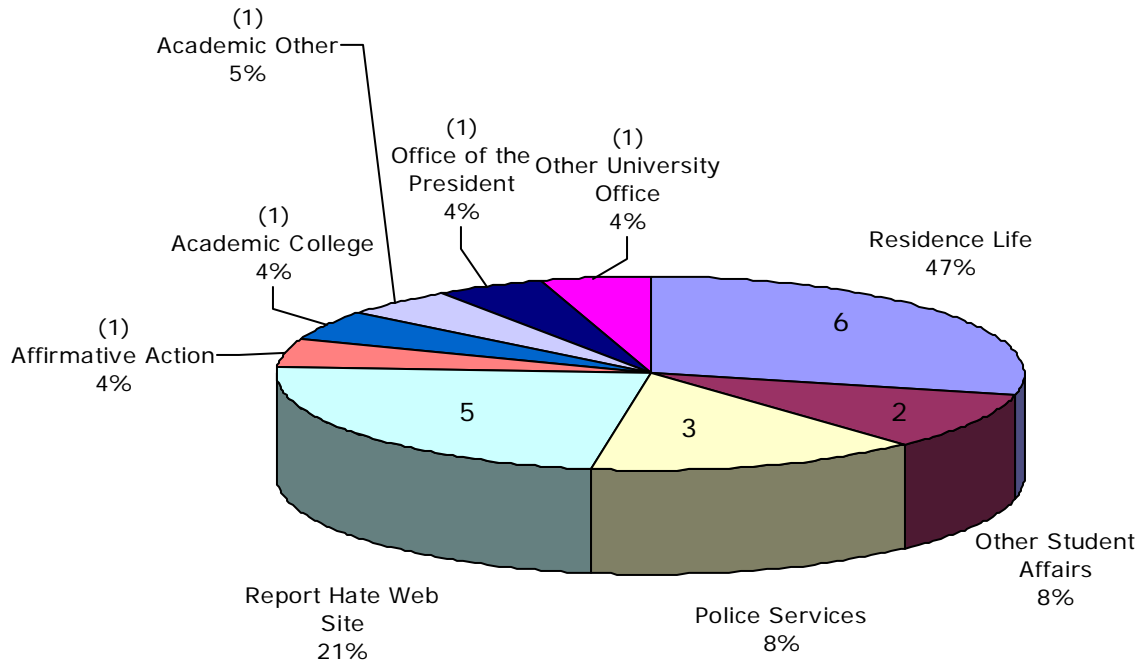
### Severity of Reports

We are using a three-tier classification of reported incidents based on whether individuals were targeted, there were perceived or actual life threats, and the behavior of the perpetrators was active or passive in nature. Tier I includes indirect and nonlife threatening (typically offensive behaviors) activities, Tier II includes direct (involve a specific target) and nonlife threatening activities, and Tier III includes direct activities that involved threat of or actual life threatening behaviors.



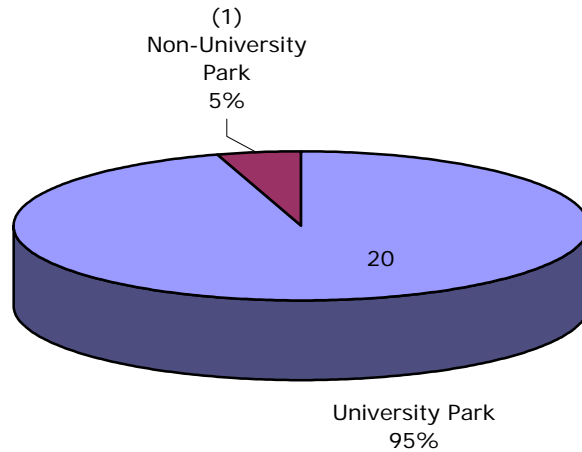
### Reporting Official

The unit to which incidents were first reported.



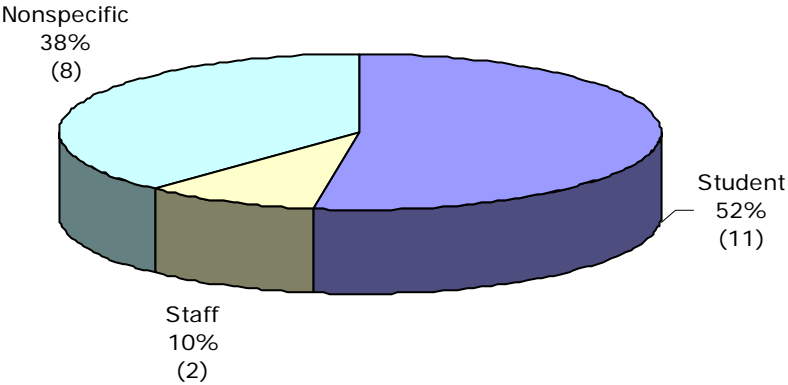
### Campus Location

The individual campuses within the multicampus system where targets and/or submitters reported incidents occurred.



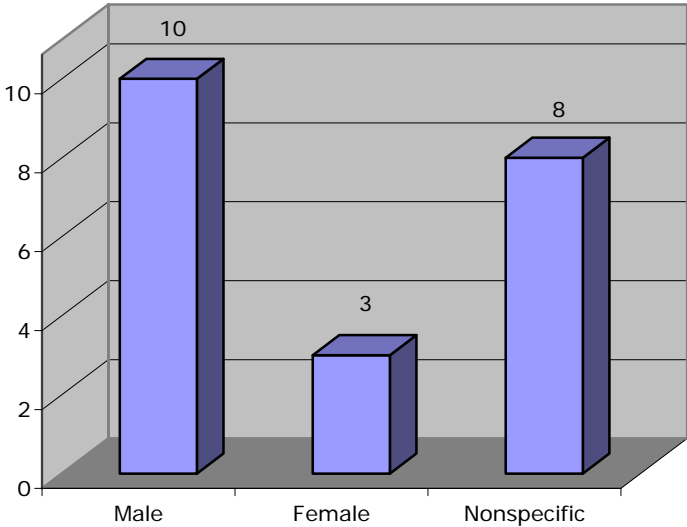
### Faculty, Staff, or Student Status

The reported standing or relationship of the targets with the University.



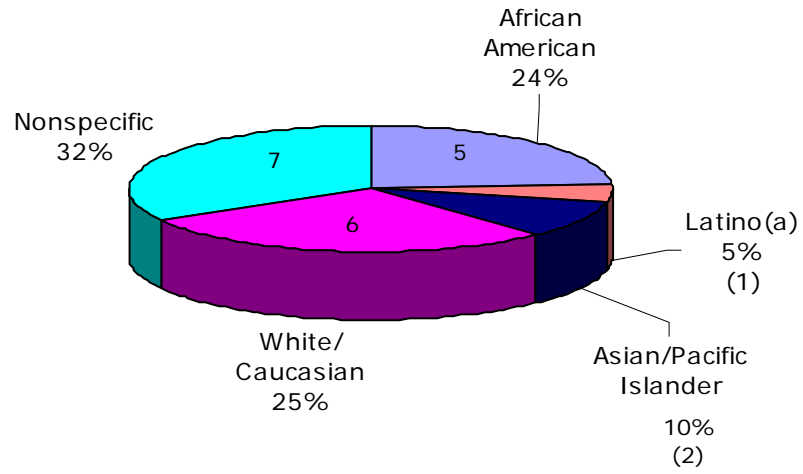
### Gender of Target

The reported gender or gender identity of the targets.



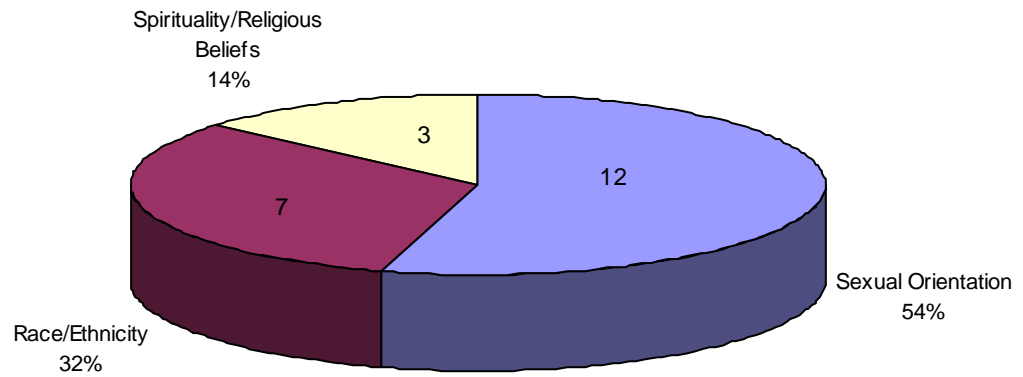
### Race of Target

The reported racial identity of the targets.



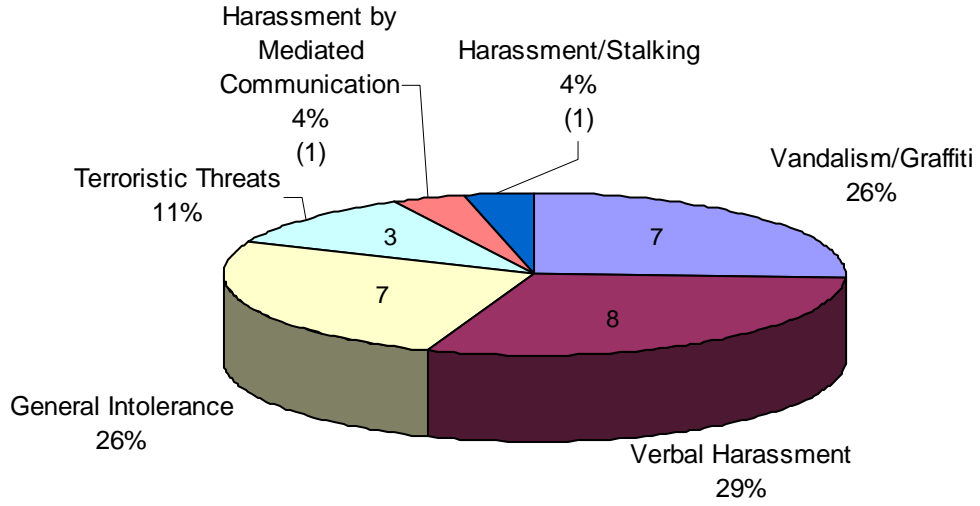
### Targeted Issue

The perceived motivation for the incidents.



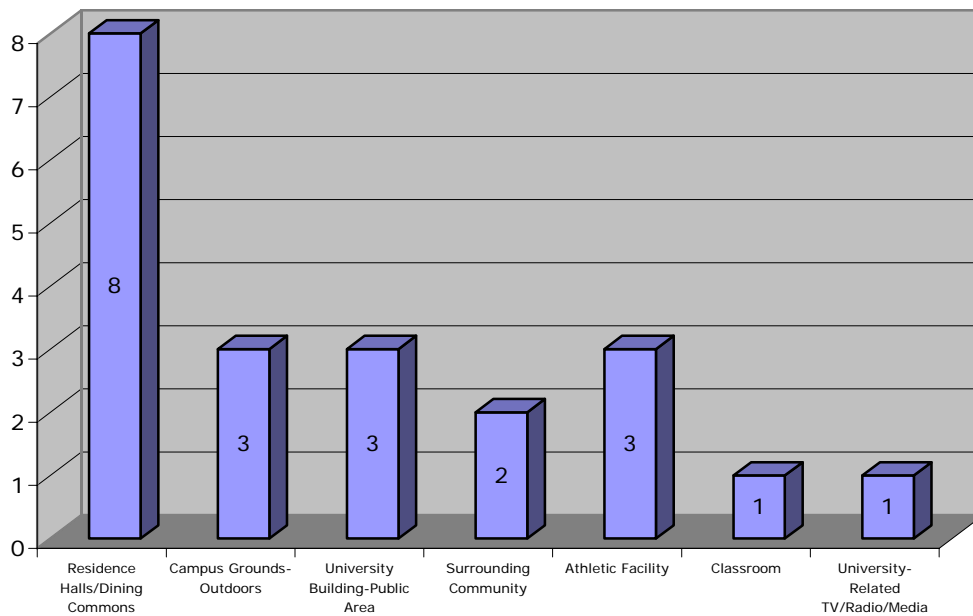
### Type of Offense

The reported types of wrongdoing perpetrated against the targets.



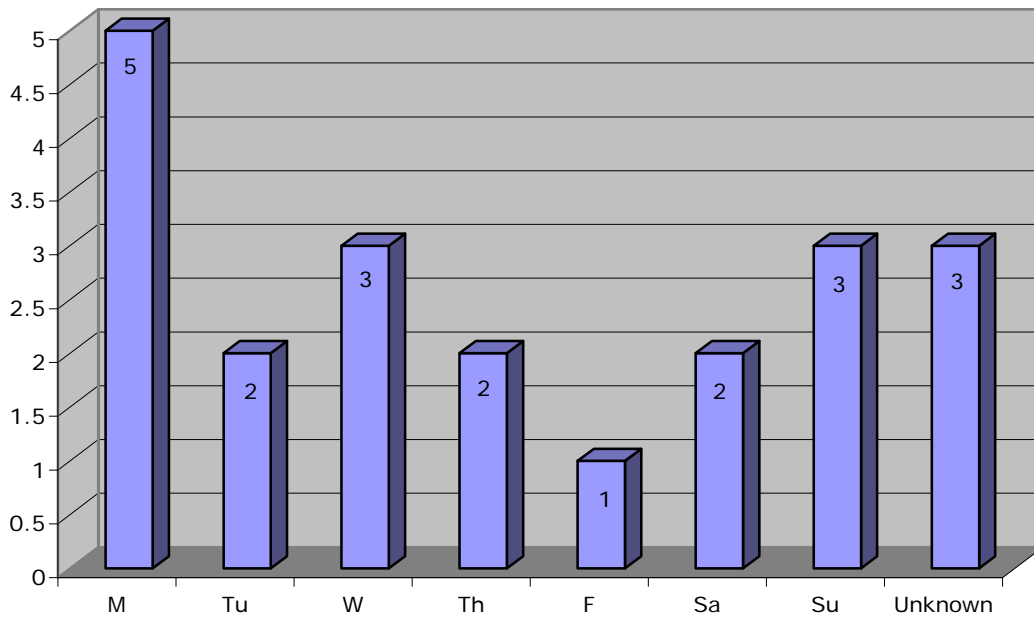
### Geographic Location

The physical sites on campus or in the surrounding community where incidents allegedly occurred.



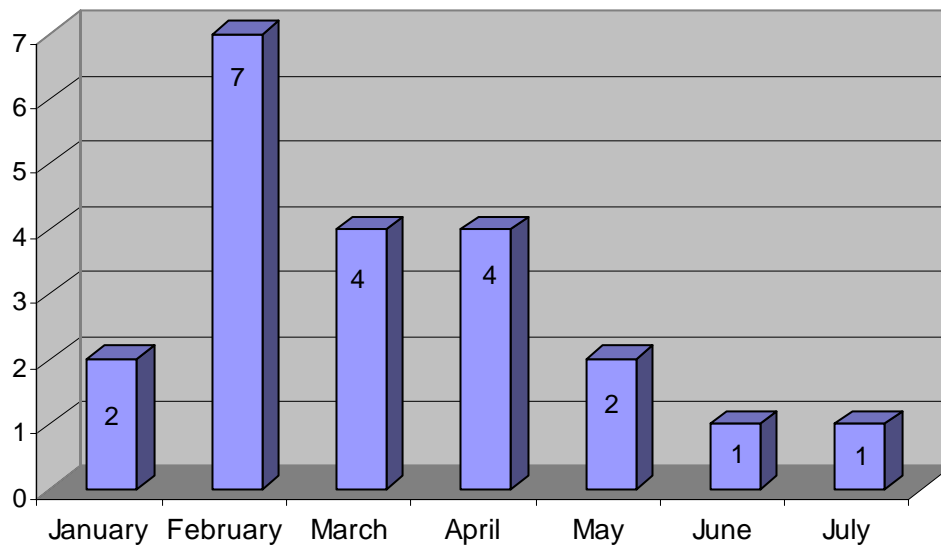
### Day of Incident

The days the incidents were reported to have taken place.



### Month of Incident

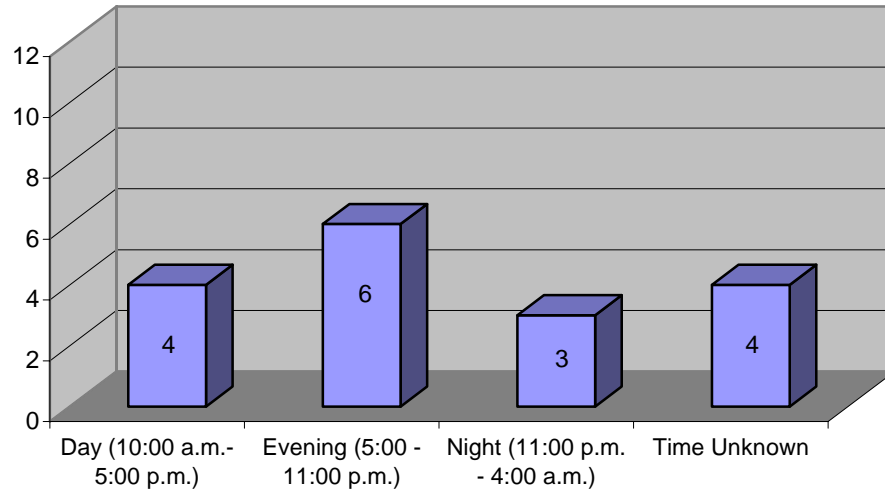
The months the incidents were reported to have taken place.





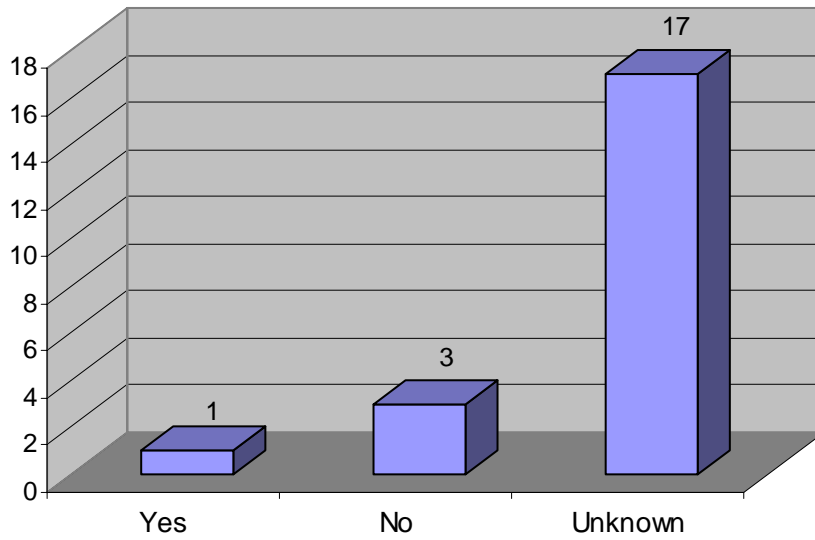
### Time of Incident

The times the incidents were reported to have taken place.



### Alcohol Involved

Incidents where alcohol was reported to be a contributing factor.



For more information regarding this incident summary please contact:

Multicultural Resource Center  
122 Grange Building  
University Park, PA 16802

Phone: 814-865-1773