Safety Resource Guide

A Supplement to Almanac

Produced by the Department of Public Safety and the Penn Women's Center

Introduction and Background

When the doors of College Hall first opened in 1872, goats still romped through sparse vegetation and chickens strutted amidst the weeds. Proud of its new location, the University boasted, in its catalogue, of "The quietness, the absence of excitement, and the pure air which greatly tend to preserve health."

But with the expansion of the University and the growing urban problems of the West Philadelphia community, preserving our health has become more complicated these days, requiring one or two things not thought of in those simpler times. Personal safety, for instance.

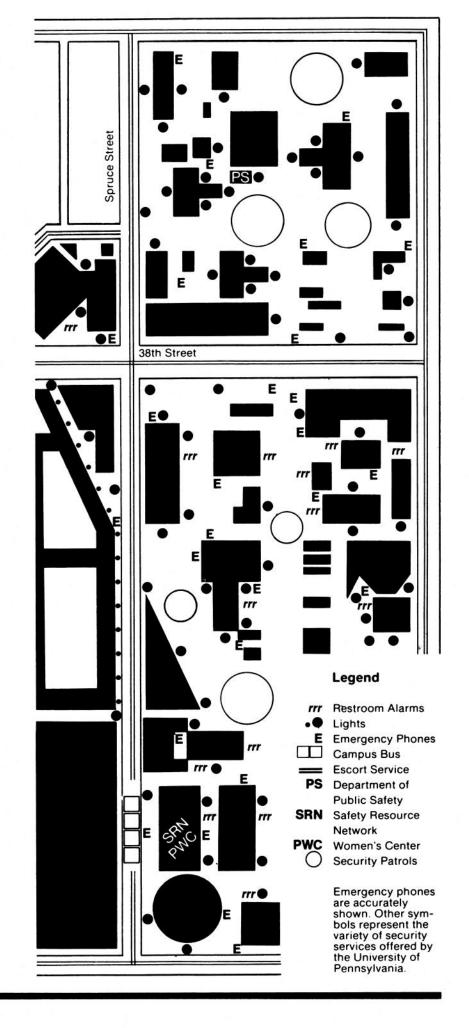
For years, public safety efforts emphasized protection of property. In the early seventies, when violent crimes against people increased, the emphasis shifted to personal security. In particular, the treatment of rape victims roused public anger.

After two student nurses became the victims of a gang rape on the Penn campus in 1973, women on campus banded together to stage what was perhaps the most successful College Hall sit-in in University history. They demanded security be beefed up where they found it lax and called for preventative and cautionary measures in areas where none existed.

Responding quickly and effectively, the University installed high-intensity lighting throughout the campus, hired a crime prevention specialist to develop crime prevention programs, and formed a women's center, to help respond to the needs of, among other things, security for women on campus. And the campus bus and the escort service made their debuts.

Bus and Escort Services

"You'll never walk alone," the song says. At Penn, after 5 p.m. you don't have to. If you need one of the 20 escorts (the program is supervised by the Department of Public Safety) just dial 243-7297. An escort will accompany you from one campus location to another, to the Houston Hall terminal of the campus bus, to a SEPTA stop, 30th Street Station, or to your door, if it's within a mile of campus. Guidelines are available from the Department of Public Safety. The escort service has a new station wagon this year to further facilitate the service. Because the service is heavily used, callers may have to wait



Hall. Anyone concerned about safety around Penn or West Philadelphia is invited to attend or call the Women's Center, 243-8611, about the security issue you would like discussed at the next meeting.

Crime Prevention Specialist

Promoting awareness of possible dangers is the *raison d'etre* of a crime prevention specialist at the University. Ruth Wells, who currently and capably fills that role, cannot stress enough the importance of knowing what *might* happen so that it *won't* happen. She's something like a missionary spreading the word.

At the beginning of the academic year she is particularly busy—instructing, talking, explaining, training. There are, among other things, presentations for freshman orientation and transfer students, a safety awareness and instructional program for the some 140 resident advisors, and 4-hour training sessions for 300 work-study students who will fan out into all University buildings as monitors, guards and security marshalls. She goes to dormitories, meetings, anyplace anyone wants to know how to improve safety standards, on campus and off. She stresses that officers of the campus police are not the only ones responsible for campus security: safety is everybody's business.

Department of Public Safety

Ruth Wells' professionalism and concern is typical of the Department of Public Safety, directed by David Johnston. "We don't have security guards," Mr. Johnston explains. "They are commissioned police officers, trained at the Philadelphia Police Academy." On staff are 33 uniformed officers, one sergeant and four detectives. (Five officers and one detective are women.) Thirteen more officers are being hired. Applicants are carefully screened, and their backgrounds and stress levels are investigated.

Mr. Johnston cannot emphasize enough the need for awareness. As he puts it, "The overriding need is that the community realizes that it plays the most important part in crime prevention." He and Ms. Wells bounced precautions off one another—take the time to take normal everyday precautions...report all intruders...don't leave purses in unlocked desks...notice strangers...lock doors, bicycles...don't open doors to strangers....

In short, use your head, your wits, your common sense.

Dozens of aids for personal and property safety are available through this department—stickers, pamphlets, posters, newspaper clippings, papers and films. Newly updated crime prevention material has been distributed to all incoming freshmen as well as to students off campus and all building administrators and deans; dropped off at certain key spots on campus and at every program or discussion in which a department member participates; and put in paychecks. Simply by calling the public safety department, any aid or tip is yours for the asking.

Publications...

Here are some of the booklets available: Attention U of P Bicycle Owners tells you how to be 10 speeds ahead of thieves, and 50 ways to improve personal and mechanical safety while

Need a Ride?

For those who live in West Philadelphia, the Office of Transportation and Communications provides a campus bus as a courtesy service. Buses depart from Houston Hall at the following times (unless noted, buses operate seven days a week):

4:50 p.m. (weekdays only)		9:20 p.m.
5:10 p.m.		10:00 p.m.
5:50 p.m.		10:40 p.m.
6:40 p.m.	(weekdays only)	11:10 p.m.
7:20 p.m.	The second secon	11:50 p.m.
8:00 p.m.		12:30 a.m.
8:40 p.m.		1:10 a.m.

Buses stop at the following locations. Stops for 33rd & Market, 30th Street Station and 32nd & Market are on request only starting at 6:40 p.m.

3417 Spruce	44 & Walnut
Raydin	44 & Pine
33 & Walnut	47 & Pine
33 & Market	47 & Baltimore
30th Street Station	48th & Chester
32 & Market	42 & Chester
33 & Powelton	42 & Spruce
38 & Powelton	3417 Spruce
38 & Walnut	

Passengers wanting to return to campus after 6:30 p.m. may call Public Safety (243-7297), who will notify the bus driver that passengers will be waiting on a particular corner at an appointed time. Outbound passengers may ask the driver to take them to their nearest corner from 6:30 p.m. on.



Women's Self Defense Classes 12 weeks

Monday 4:30—6:00 p.m. Weightman Hall Dance Studio Fall term begins September 18th Registration:

Hutchinson Gym

Tuesday September 12, 4:00—7:00 Wednesday September 13, 4:00—7:00

Fee:

students—\$10.00; faculty, staff, alumnae, dependents—\$15.00; community residents—\$20.00

For further information contact Department of Recreation, 243-8387

up to 30 minutes for an escort. So plan your calls

and departure times accordingly.

Escorts may also be reached through the yellow emergency phones. Strategically placed, 174 such phones can be found in elevators, subways, parking garages, walls of buildings and many other areas on campus. These phones are hooked up directly to the central security system. Just by removing the receiver the dispatcher knows the location of the call and a University officer will respond.

Forewarned is Forearmed

Forewarned is forearmed. Recognition of the possibility of personal danger prompts women to be alert, exercise greater caution, carry safety devices such as a Freon horn (a safe non-violent sound alarm to startle assailants and call for help), learn self defense, and generally be prepared. The Department of Public Safety and the Philadelphia Police Department circulate descriptions of assailants in order to expose them to wide public view, and thus help police officers to identify and apprehend them.

...If It Happens to You

If you become a victim, call Ruth Wells, the University crime prevention specialist, 243-6600, available 24 hours a day to assist victims and to provide supportive service. Those services include someone to go with you to the hospital, the police administration building and court. If you need any social or therapeutic help, she can direct you to the best source, including our own University Counseling Service.

If you decide not to notify police of the rape, you should still call the W.O.A.R. (Women Organized Against Rape) hotline, 922-3434, the Penn Women's Center, 243-8611, or talk to the crime prevention specialist, 243-4481, so that you can be directed to proper medical and emotional support. Detailed information on W.O.A.R. and the Center for Rape Concern is available from the Penn Women's Center, located on the second floor of Houston Hall, and the Department of Public Safety, 3914 Locust Walk.

Safety Resource Network

Last fall, after a series of assaults against University women, on and off campus, concerned individuals from various offices and organizations drew together to form the Safety Resource Network—a network that, working with appropriate University officials, has been instrumental in developing creative solutions to difficult problems.

Central to the network's ability to solve problems is the variety of the group, gleaned from diverse University offices and organizations. The group includes representatives from WEOUP (Women for Equal Opportunity at the University of Pennsylvania), the Women's Faculty Club, Student Life Office, Undergraduate Assembly, School of Social Work, Penn Consumer's Board, Office of Residential Life, School of Veterinary Medicine, University Counseling Service and the Vice-Provost's office. The network is co-chaired by Carol Tracy, director of the Penn Women's Center, and Ruth Wells, Department of Public Safety.

The network meets on Mondays at 11:00 a.m. in the Women's Center, second floor, Houston





There's Safety In Numbers

(All University numbers have a "243" exchange)

Emergency Numbers:

Fire/Police/Medical

On Campus—University Police 243-7333

(General Business 243-7297)

Off Campus—Philadelphia Police 911

(General Business 231-3131)

Rape/Assault

Crime Prevention Specialist

Rape/Sensitive Crimes (24-hours) 243-6600

W.O.A.R. (Women Organized Against Rape

24-hour hot-line) 922-3434 Center for Rape Concern 568-6627

Counseling/Psychiatric Service/Crisis Intervention

University Counseling Service 243-7021 Chaplain's Office 243-8456 Peer Counseling Hotline 243-6568 Psychiatric Clinic (HUP) 662-2800 Suicide & Crisis Intervention (HUP) 662-2350 Suicide & Crisis Intervention (City) 686-4420

Medical

HUP Emergency Room 662-2350 Student Health 662-2850 Children's Hospital 387-6000 Poison Control Center 922-5523

General University Services

Bicycle Registration 243-7297 Campus Bus Information 243-8667 **Escort Service** 243-7297

Operation Identification 243-7297

Physical Plant Emergencies 243-7207 Safety Hazards (falling bricks, potholes) 243-6921

Service for Emergency Telephones 243-7297 **Burned Out Lights** 243-7207

U of P Weather Number School Code 102 riding. (New burglar-proof bicycle racks are scheduled to be installed on campus this fall.) Moving and parking regulations are listed. There are even some points on how to have fun on your bike.

I never thought it would happen to me is an excellent compact guide to personal safety at home, in the dorm, in the office, while walking or driving. It tells you what to do if you're being followed, if you are attacked and where to go for help. Names and numbers are included. A list of important phone numbers to keep on hand is also listed.

The Campus Emergency Procedures Guide tells you everything you never thought to ask about emergencies. Hazardous gas leaks, electric shock, utility interruption, bomb or assassination threats, mass casualties and more common emergencies such as fire and rape: most of these will never happen, but if they do, you will be glad you know the quickest, safest and most helpful procedures to follow.

Crime Prevention Program from the Philadelphia Police Department is a concise illustrated guide of safety tips. The last page urges you to "Join Operation Identification Now" and engrave all your valuables with a distinctive identifying number which will deter burglars and help return stolen property.

You can also learn about legal agencies to help you, compensation for innocent victims of violent crimes, a federal crime insurance program, and much more.

Alarmmmmmms

New programs, procedures and devices are constantly being discussed, promoted and installed throughout the University. Something new this year is an alarm system in women's restrooms on campus—all 600 of them.

One of the most popular settings for purse snatching, mugging and rape is a public restroom. In each one of them on campus this month, the new alarm system is being installed to turn the tables on intruders, blasting them with surprise and terror. The alarm sets off an ear-splitting, bone-jarring noise. It can be triggered anywhere, including from within the stalls. Once activated, the noise resounds for a full three minutes, usually enough time for help to arrive.

If you hear an alarm sound, dial extension 7333 immediately and report the location. Then run to provide assistance.

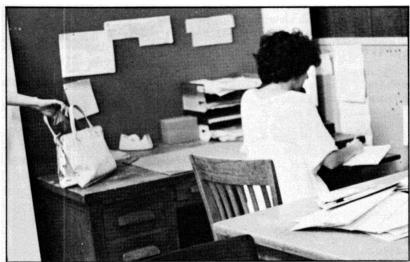
In Conclusion

Short of a fortified castle surrounded by an alligator-filled moat, there is no way on earth to make the University—or any place for that matter—100 percent safe. But our goal is to make the University community as safe as possible. The involvement of every person is vital. After all, there are more than 35,000 of us. What chance does one criminal have against odds like that?

A supplement to Almanac

Carol Tracy for the Women's Center; David L. Johnston and Ruth Wells for the Department of Public Safety Written & Photographed by: Jeanne McCleary Designed by: Deborah Levinson





Safety in the Dorm

Keep your doors locked, even if you are out of your apartment for a few minutes. An unlocked door, during the day and particularly at night, is an invitation for trouble. Security is in the eye of the beholder. There are peepholes in your apartment doors. Use them before opening the door. If the peephole in your apartment is broken or missing, notify the desk receptionist and fill out a request for service.

Keep an inventory of your possessions. Engraving tools are available at the Department of Public Safety for you to inscribe your social security number on your property.

If you return to your residence and think it has been illegally entered, call University Police. Keep keys in your possession. Don't place them under mats, over doors, or in any obvious place. When someone calls up to your apartment for permission to enter, if you don't know him or her, say so.

If you see a suspicious person in the corridors or lounges, or if someone knocks on your door soliciting, call the front desk or University Police. You need not confront a stranger, but don't ignore him/her either.

The rooftop lounges, the elevators, and the front desk are all equipped with emergency phones. These are direct lines to the Department of Public Safety. Simply removing the receiver from the cradle connects the caller with University Police and identifies the location of the call. If you can, give a description of your circumstances, but if you cannot, TAKE THE RECEIVER OFF THE HOOK

In am emergency, yell loudly and specifically words like, "POLICE," "HELP," "RAPE," or "FIRE."