At approximately 3:45 p.m. on Wednesday, October 19th, 2011, CSU, Chico Police Officers were dispatched to a report of an attempted bicycle theft from the bike racks on the north side of Taylor Hall. A male student witnessed two 16 year-old juveniles attempting to cut the bike’s cable lock with bolt cutters. When the juveniles saw the witness watching them, they put the bolt cutters into a backpack and walked off campus, heading east. The witness followed the suspects at a safe distance while providing descriptive information and their direction of travel to CSU, Chico Police Dispatch.

Based on the information provided by the witness, officers located the suspects in the parking lot at 35 Main Street. Both juveniles were arrested for attempted petty theft of a bicycle and additional charges. The juveniles were also given an advisement to stay off the CSU, Chico campus for seven days, pursuant to California Penal Code Section 626.6(a).

The witness provided invaluable information in this case, even returning to the bicycle rack to assist officers in locating the involved bicycle. The bicycle’s cable lock had been partially cut.

The CSU, Chico Police Department would like to commend the actions of the student who witnessed this crime and notified police. He informed officers he had been the victim of theft in the past and did not want to simply stand by and watch a crime occur. His decision to notify the CSU, Chico Police Department and provide descriptive information undoubtedly prevented the theft of the bicycle and led to the apprehension of the suspects.

The CSU, Chico Police Department would also like to point out that the ability to identify the bike’s owner was a key factor in this case. The owner had registered his bicycle, which allowed officers to quickly determine his identity, contact him, determine the damage to the cable lock was new damage, and make an arrest for attempted theft.

For more information on bicycle registration, please visit the CSU, Chico Police Department’s website at www.csuchico.edu/up and click on the “Bike Registration” quick link.