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# News in Brief: Investigation Into Patriot Theft Continues

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Editors of The California Patriot said yesterday that they would reprint the February issue of their magazine after the first press run was stolen.

Patriot Editor Kelly Thomas said she had received calls of support from around the country with many supporters offering to pay for the replacement of the 3,000 stolen copies of the publication.

Chancellor Robert Berdahl also made a statement yesterday from his on-campus home where he is recovering from surgery. He condemned the theft as an "unconscionable" interference with the freedom of expression of ideas.

"Such actions are completely antithetical to the values that form the foundation of our democracy, and such actions are particularly egregious in an educational setting," he said.

He vowed the university would try to identify the perpetrators and bring criminal and student charges against them.

UC police Capt. Bill Cooper had little information about the investigation into the theft, which occurred Monday night when the Patriot office on campus was broken into. Members of the publication's staff were also allegedly harassed as they distributed the magazine on Sproul Plaza Tuesday.

Thomas said she has heard Berdahl make similar remarks after other instances when campus publications were stolen and campus speeches were cut short by unruly audience members.

"This is becoming a repetition," Thomas said. "It is concerning that it keeps repeating itself and there is never a resolution."

Capt. Cooper said, "Hopefully we can narrow it down and close the case this time."

The copies of the conservative magazine were likely stolen in response to a controversial story that appeared in the issue.

Thomas admitted the content of the magazine is controversial, but said they are open to debate and will not be deterred from printing politically-charged material.

—Steve Sexton

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Berkeley, California  
Email: [dailycal@dailycal.org](mailto:dailycal@dailycal.org)