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NEWS RELEASE

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MAN SENTENCED IN SERIES OF AURARIA BREAK-INS

A man accused in a summer-long series of break-ins on the Auraria college campus last summer has pleaded guilty and been sentenced in connection with the crime spree.

Cassidy Vandermeulen (dob: 04-11-81) pleaded guilty to multiple counts of *burglary, theft and possession of a controlled substance* last Friday. He went to immediate sentencing and was sentenced to 10 years in the Colorado Department of Corrections, with a reconsideration of that sentence scheduled for July 2, 2012 at which time the Court will consider a 10 year sentence to Community Corrections.

Vandermeulen broke into a campus office last July and stole numerous items including a master key to Auraria campus buildings and offices. This started a series of burglaries in which there was no forced entry and item such as laptops, textbooks and other electronics were stolen. Vandermeulen was eventually identified as a suspect and was arrested without incident on September 24, 2011.

He has also been ordered to pay \$40,332.16 in restitution.

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