January 13, 2014

Students, Faculty, Staff,

Welcome back!

As we begin the new semester a few, quick, friendly reminders.

* Please remember to lock your doors whenever you leave your room. By far, most thefts from student rooms occur through unlocked doors.
* Lock your car, remove valuables from sight, and park in the correct designated lots.
* Avoid walking or jogging alone, especially at night.
* Stay in well lighted, well-traveled areas. Be aware of your surroundings.
* Utilize Cat-Tran. We had almost 400,000 riders last year and we see a steady increase in ridership each year. It is a good option for getting around campus.
* Be discreet. Avoid advertising personal information and your social life through social media.
* If you regularly call your parents, family, or friends, and will be out of contact with them for an unusual period of time, please remember to let them know. A quick phone call can alleviate some pretty significant concern for people who care about you.
* We have a lot of pedestrian traffic on campus. Please use the crosswalks, follow the pedestrian indicators at the traffic lights, and when driving be mindful of our 20 mph speed limit. The chances of serious injury or death are almost 8 times more likely for every additional 10 mph a car is traveling.
* If you are a victim of a crime please report the incident to University Police at 828-227-8911 as soon as possible. Our chances of a successful investigation are greatly improved the sooner we are made aware of an incident.
* Lastly, if you see something, say something. We often receive calls regarding suspicious activity that turn out to be completely legitimate. Please do not hesitate to call if something doesn’t seem right. If it turns out to be something legitimate, no harm done. If not, we may have prevented a member of our community from becoming a victim. We are grateful for having a very safe campus. To keep it that way, we have to depend on each other.

Sooner than we think the weather will break and “Spring” will be here. It’s a great time of year to be in the mountains, to be going to college, and to have a lot of interesting things to do. Be safe and enjoy the semester!

Thanks.

Ernie Hudson Chief of Police