

Students and faculty urged to lock doors after recent break-ins



Photos by Brian Vu - Staff Photographer

UNCA students driving in and out of the parking lot near Founder's Hall near the location of six car burglaries that occurred this month. Left: 20-year-old senior Drew Benbow walks to class after parking in a commuter lot on campus.

Campus crime update

Campus police said they have no leads in their investigation of six car break-ins that took place in lots P1, P2 and the Sherrill Center parking deck on Jan. 18.

Police responded to one victim's call and promptly found several other cars with smashed windows and valuables removed. They could not provide information about the items taken, according to **Eric Boyce, chief of police**.

Lots P1 and P2, located near Broadway Street, and the Sherrill Center parking deck all service residential and non-residential students. Campus police said victims are reportedly all students.

Police said they have no information about the perpetrator. There were no witnesses. Currently, no parking lots have video surveillance, despite cameras being stationed outside of each building.

Through coordination with the Asheville Police Department, Boyce connected the on-campus incidents with similar occurrences at the Grove Apartments and in east Asheville reported around the same time.

Boyce said the most recent theft from a vehicle on campus happened in the Sherrill Center parking deck in June 2013. Windows were not broken and no arrests were made.

Report contributed by Valerie McMurray

