

THE VOICE

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FOR STUDENTS, BY STUDENTS

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Are you feeling safe?

Despite two high-profile incidents, campus crime is down, security is up

By Charnell Harris
Voice Features Editor

Today is just the first day of fall, and already this fall semester, the Fayetteville State University community has experienced a number of violent incidents.

This has left many administrators, staff and students shocked to hear about such violence on campus.

The first incident was an alleged assault that occurred on August 22, outside of the University Place Apartments.

According to an FSU Campus Police report, early that morning an FSU student said that as he was walking, he came across two black males he thought were going to rob him. As he started to walk away he heard gun shots and soon after realized that he had been wounded.

The victim, according to the report, was unsure if the wound was caused by the two suspects or by his own weapon that he admitted to carrying in his back pocket.

Although the incident is still under investigation the student is expected to be charged with possession of a weapon on campus.

The second major incident happened in the parking lot of New Residence Hall which became a crime scene when a car was intentionally burned on August 28.

According to campus police reports, around 9 p.m., a black male was seen throwing a burning article into the vehicle.

The witness told campus police that the alleged perpetrator fled in a light blue or silver pickup truck.

Campus police don't believe that



Voice photo by Nathaniel Stevenson

Walking outside of University Place Apartments, FSU officers, Barrie Robinson, at left, and Matthew Jacobs patrol last week during school hours.

the two incidents are related. They are both currently under investigation.

Nevertheless, these incidents have caused some students to feel a little uneasy about their safety on campus.

"I try to do everything during the day because you don't know what is out there," said FSU student Sandra McSwain.

"They have the call boxes, but as far as seeing the police, I hardly ever see them. If something was to happen how are they [Campus Police] going to get to me on time?" said freshman Brooke Vann.

Others have shared the complaint that they rarely see campus security at what is believed to be the peak

See SAFETY, page 5

What do you think?

The Voice is only as strong as yours. Join the conversation online at www.fsuvoice.com or send us your letter to the editor (see page 10).

Protect your most valuable asset – yourself

By Tiffinei Lee
Voice Staff Writer

Since the Virginia Tech shooting, safety on college campuses has become a high priority. With the recent shooting at University Place Apartments fresh in students' minds, they may be wondering how to protect themselves while on campus.

Fayetteville State University Police officials and students have several suggestions to keep you safe.

"Walk in numbers, walk proudly and be aware of everything around you," advises FSU Police Chief Travis Bryant.

The university, Chief Bryant said, is "promoting enhanced safety patrols with more officers, educat-

See TIPS, page 3

4 tips to be safe

- Be fully aware of "tail-gaters", or people who follow you into your residence area.
- Always close the door quickly and ensure it locks behind you.
- Never give out your keys to anyone.
- If you are leaving on a break or vacation, take your valuables with you.

~ FSU Police Chief Bryant



WHAT'S NEXT FOR BRONCO FOOTBALL? page 11



FSU TAKES ON WALL STREET page 7

INDEX

News pages 2-8
Features page 9
Opinion page 10
Sports page 11-12