

Fayette PD to students: "It's all about you"

By: Meghan Powers, News writer

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Chief Dusty D. Dunn of the Fayette Police Department in cooperation with Upper Iowa University held a program last week for incoming freshmen on safety and prevention of domestic and sexual abuse.

The program was presented to approximately 175 freshmen enrolled in a Wellness Strategy class at Upper Iowa University. The topic centered on identifying domestic abuse, recognizing personal shortcomings and preventing abuse or stopping current abuse. The sexual abuse section centered on working with other people to prevent sexual abuse from occurring and what to do if the student falls victim to sexual abuse.

This is the second year UIU students heard a presentation on the topic of sexual abuse and sexual assault at the beginning of the school year. In 2006, Chief Dunn and Peggy Shea from the Domestic and Sexual Abuse Resource Center, both active members of the Fayette County Domestic and Sexual Assault Response Team (DASART) presented information to students living in the residence halls at Upper Iowa University.

Dunn said he saw the positive impact the presentation made on student knowledge of domestic and sexual abuse. His department and UIU decided to host the training for all incoming freshmen.

"As the presenter, I felt that the students were engaged in learning about this matter and left with a better understanding on how UIU and the Fayette Police Department are taking an active role in their health and safety both at school and in life," said Dunn.

Chief Dunn told the students that domestic abuse isn't always about assault but about control and can include roommates, significant others and family. He spoke frankly about the consequences for both the victim and perpetrator and gave personal experiences for the field.



Fayette Police Chief Dusty Dunn spoke to UIU freshmen last week about domestic violence and sexual assault. This is the second year the class has been given to educate the new students about the dangers abusive relationships and date rape and to help prevent them from happening.

The main goal of the class was so students can prevent domestic and sexual abuse.

"This is all about you," Dunn told the students, "by the time I get involved it's usually too late, the damage is already done."

Chief Dunn is a 10-year veteran of law enforcement, with experience working in both smaller communities and bigger cities. He came to Fayette from Springfield, Mo. where he worked as a patrolman for the City of Springfield. When entered the law enforcement field in 1997 he said he took an immediate interest in domestic abuse-related crimes.

In 2006, he joined the Fayette County DASART Team, dedicated to preventing and prosecuting crimes of domestic and sexual abuse. Chief Dunn was the valedictorian of his Iowa Law Enforcement Academy class and the Springfield Police Department was given the ILEA Woodard Award for his excellence in academics. He has a 95-98% success arrest rate in cases of domestic abuse, he said.