Tips for THANKSGIVING BREAK
November 22-30, 2008

BEFORE you take off on Thanksgiving break, PLEASE:

1. **Don’t shut off the heat in your apartment!** Thanksgiving break can get cold in Central Illinois, which can lead to frozen pipes and major destruction. Check your lease or with your landlord for what temperature you should maintain; leave the thermostat at least 2° higher than what the landlord recommends. Tenants in the past have been billed as much as $14,000 for frozen pipes and the resulting damage!

2. **Lock all doors and windows.** Double check before you leave! Using a pass key is a common means of breaking in, but locked doors keep some honest.

3. **Get renter’s insurance and/or take your valuables with you.** Fall break is a prime time for burglars. If you can’t afford insurance, take your valuables with you! Do not leave your laptop, I-pod, camera, X-box 360, etc. in your apartment!

4. **Inventory your personal items which have a quick sale value.** Keep a written list of serial numbers of TVs, stereos, CD player, etc. If a theft takes place, this information can help police investigate. Brand your CDs!

5. **Don’t leave your car on the street while you’re on break.** Streets are routinely plowed/cleaned during breaks. Your car will be towed and/or ticketed and unavailable when you return to campus. You can expect a minimum charge of $100 to rescue your vehicle, plus daily storage fees.