

the Seahawk

Serving UNC-Wilmington Since 1948

VOLUME LIII, NUMBER 6

WWW.THESEAHAWK.ORG

OCTOBER 4, 2001

Inside This Issue...

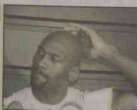
Steps taken towards Diversity Commission

SGA passed motion to improve diversity on campus / 3

New art center located off of Racine Dr.

Racine Center for the Arts has artwork from local and national artists on display / 9

MJ comes home



Michael Jordan along with the Washington Wizards are at UNCW for their training camp / 13

News.....	3
OP.ED.....	7
Classifieds.....	9
UNCW Life.....	9
The Scene.....	10
Sports.....	13

Downtown Wilmington leads list in occurrences of violent crime

ERICA PITTELKOW

STAFF WRITER

As midterms loom, students are looking for a way to unwind, and for many students relaxation involves a few drinks.

However, if drinking compromises the judgment of the student, a great night out could turn into anything but.

Defined as murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault, violent crimes are more likely to occur when either the perpetrator or the victim is intoxicated, according to information provided by the Wilmington Police Department.

"The traditional downtown area, from 17th Street to the river, is the num-

ber one area for violent crime in Wilmington," Wilmington patrol officer Lance Reeves said.

For college students, the majority of crime scenes—both

violent and nonviolent—are linked closely with alcohol use. Therefore, with the number of bars available downtown, it is essential for students to use caution when drinking.

About 43 violent acts were reported in Wilmington from January 1 to August 31 of this year, according to the Wilmington police department, with 40 percent of these crimes

being committed in the downtown area.

Assaults and robberies rank at the top of the list of crimes reported.

The downtown area is slated to see an increase in violent crime from September through December as well, according to information provided by the Wilmington Police Department.

To account for the crime potential in the area, about 10 to 15 police officers patrol the downtown area on foot or in plain clothes Thursday through

Fall air fills Brooks Field



Students use Brooks field for intramurals and club sports practice year round.

How to stay safe Downtown

Stay in well-lit areas and away from alleys, bushes and alleyways.

•Walk confidently.

•Don't hitchhike.

•If you are in trouble, attract attention. Yell fire, yell help or break something.

•Check inside your vehicle before entering.

•Keep a space in between cars when you park.

•Keep your drink with you at all times, and never accept a drink from someone you do not know.

•Be careful about giving out personal information. It is easier and safer to give out your email address instead of your telephone number or home address.

•Keep your PIN numbers out of your wallet.

•Tell a trusted friend when you are going out, with whom, and when you think you will return.

•Avoid isolate roads and short cuts.

Candidate forum held

ANDY BADER

STAFF WRITER

A candidate's forum held at King Hall is bringing city politics into campus life.

The forum, held by the Council of Neighborhood Associations (CONA), gave candidates running for Wilmington city council and mayor a chance to voice their platforms, and speak directly to citizens in a panel-style discussion.

SEE SAFETY, PAGE 4

The evening opened with a welcome from Curtis J. Wright, CONA president, and Chancellor James Leutze. Wright then took the opportunity to remind the crowd of their fortune in having the ability to choose their own leaders. Leutze echoed Wright's comments, calling the evening "an exercise in democracy."

Donn Ansell of WAAV radio moderated the event. He began WAAV's broadcast by urging the audience "...to vote in every election, at every opportunity."

SEE FORUM, PAGE 5