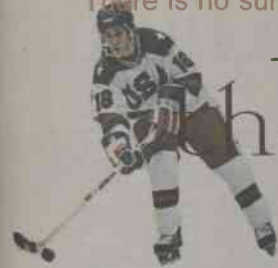


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# The Seahawk



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## Film industry brings income to area

SHANA BALDWIN

CORRESPONDENT

"Show me the money" is said in the film industry more than one would think.

In the past the film industry has brought an economic boom to the Wilmington community. Recently films have gone elsewhere due to tax incentives that make filming cheaper for production companies.

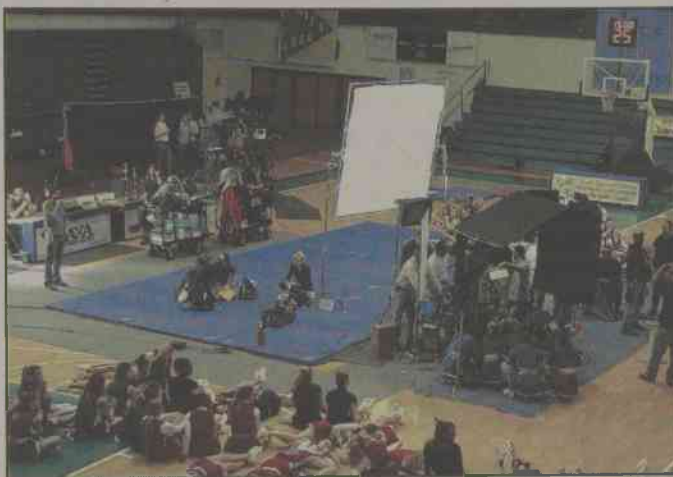
From 1993-1995, the film revenue to the Wilmington area was over \$720 million. For over 800 local crew members and 100 actors in the area more jobs were available during this time.

When production is low, a number of these individuals go on unemployment or do some sort of side work.

Screen Gems president Frank Capra Jr. said, "Over the years quite a strong infrastructure has been built up of people, of equipment, of companies that are dependent on film and television production for a living. It is very important to us as a community and as a studio to encourage production as much as possible here in Wilmington."

The money ingested into the community is a major benefit from these productions. Pat Sweeney, stage manager of "One Tree Hill," a fresh new WB series, said "Anything we use has to be paid for: housing, restaurants, rental cars. While not working we go to restaurants and other establishments."

Approximately \$1 million is



Dan Hacker/the Seahawk

"One Tree Hill," which was filmed in Trask this week, brings millions of dollars to the area.

spent in the local community for each "One Tree Hill" episode. Multiplied by 22 episodes, a lot of money is going toward local businesses.

Capra recently went to California with Wilmington film commissioner Johnny Griffin to recruit productions to the Wilmington area.

"We do that probably two or three times a year. We usually see anywhere between 15 to 20 individuals or core groups," Capra said.

A production company's decision on where to film is often based on incentive programs.

Capra said, "We've been told by so many producers in Los Angeles and New York that if we had an incentive program they would not go to Canada, they would come to North Carolina

and more specifically Wilmington," Capra said.

"In Louisiana you get 15 percent of your money spent there back as a tax credit, and then the tax credit is transferable. You end up with about 10 percent savings," Capra said. "Johnny and I and a number of people in our industry here are pushing to get a state tax incentive in North Carolina which may be equivalent to about a 10 percent savings. The legislature goes back into session in May. They will want to hear what the public has to say about this. So, I think that every letter and telephone call and so forth, on behalf of the incentive program, would be very useful."



Dan Hacker/the Seahawk

Screen Gems Studios brings in jobs as well -- to over 100 actors and 800 local crew members.

## Nursing Department organizes new health center

KIARA JONES

ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Chancellor Rosemary DePaolo and Congressman Mike McIntyre commemorated the opening of the Bolton Health and Wellness Center on Feb. 7.

Located in Southeastern North Carolina, Bolton holds the highest number of prostate cancer patients in the nation and the highest rate of high blood pressure, diabetes and heart disease in the state among African-Americans.

UNCW's nursing department organized the health project, providing an alternative to the population's minimal access to health care.

"Under the leadership of the UNC-Wilmington School of Nursing and with the help of Congressman Mike McIntyre, a wonderful health partnership has been formed to bring access to primary health care to a previously underserved community," DePaolo said in the press release.

The center began accepting patients in January. Existing services include primary care, depression screening, blood pressure and glucose screening, counseling, health and empowerment education and community problem solving. The center is managed by nurses and is a "service-learning

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