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Department if they think they may have been photographed or recorded," UNCW Chief of Police David Donaldson said. "I and my staff are acutely aware of the sensitive nature of these cases and are treating this investigation with as much sensitivity and confidentiality as is legally permissible."

The University Police encourage students, especially female students, to practice safety tips to protect themselves from voyeurs. When using public restrooms or dressing rooms, authorities advise individuals to, above all, trust their instincts. If the atmosphere is uncomfortable or unsafe, it is best to leave immediately. Authorities also advise individuals to first look around the restroom before entering it. Be sure to monitor lighting, the opening and closing of doors, and other people in and around the restroom.

Check open stalls, mirrors, and behind doors in public restrooms for reflections, movements and shadows. Keep all personal belongings, like backpacks and purses, close by. If the safety level of a public restroom is questionable, using an employee/faculty restroom is a better alternative. It is also wise to be accompanied by someone while visiting a public restroom. Anything out of the ordinary, such as the smell of men's cologne/aftershave or the presence of items that would not be associated with a particular gender's restroom is usually a sign that something is not right.

In recent years, voyeurs have been plac-



Photo illustration by Andrew Baker | THE SEAHAWK

Marwan Albataineh was arrested Aug. 22 and has been charged with one misdemeanor count of voyeurism. Albataineh has been trespassed from the UNCW campus until his case is reviewed by authorities. It is believed that he had videotaped women across the campus for the last two months before being caught.

ing secret video cameras in public restrooms, hotels, or even private residences. Many of these cameras are very small, and can easily be placed in holes in walls, near toilets, on showerheads and other places. Also be aware of two-way mirrors. This false mirror allows voyeurs to spy on unsuspecting individuals,

particularly women. If a mirror appears to be loose from the wall, has a large space between it and the wall, or is in anyway unusual, it may be a two-way mirror. One two-way mirror detection test involves pressing the eyes up to a mirror and cupping the hands around them. If there is an open area behind it, it may

be a two-way mirror. Voyeurs have also been known to carry around video cameras in book bags or duffel bags. They then position these cameras in ways that allow them to videotape under women's dresses and skirts. Cellular phones that have cameras on them can also be used by voyeurs to take pictures under women's clothing. It is best to take mental notes of anything that seems unusual.

Voyeurism can also occur in the home, apartment, or residence hall. To lessen the chances of being the target of a voyeur, safety officials advise that the most important way to protect privacy is to never leave doors and windows unlocked and unattended. Other safety tips include keeping drapes closed, installing drapery with a heavy backing to prevent silhouetting, keeping outside lights in working order, installing a peephole in entrance doors, keeping bushes trimmed and owning a telephone with a lighted keypad that can be read without turning on lights. If anything is missing, out of place, or moved in the home or room, it is best to contact authorities. Any suspicious activity can be reported to the University Police at 962-3184 or anonymously at 962-TIPS (8477). In cases of an emergency, call 4911, 911, or use the nearest emergency call box.

Editor's note: This is the second installment of our series on campus safety, designed to raise awareness and to provide safety tips for UNCW and the surrounding community.

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**Campus
safety walk
planned**

On September 8, 2004, a Campus Safety Walk will be held at 8:30 p.m. In cooperation with the Dean of Students Office, a subcommittee of the Task Force on Campus Violence Prevention scheduled the walk. The format of the walk will be similar to the annual safety walk that is sponsored by the Dean of Students Office. Participants should meet in front of Randall Library and will follow an organized course through residential and academic areas. Anyone who wants specific locations included in the walk should forward that information to Police Chief David Donaldson at donaldson@uncw.edu or call 962-4018 by Sept. 3.

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food and dining options, a convenience store and retail space. Several existing services currently housed in other buildings on the UNCW campus will be moved to the new Union building. Examples of such services would be the UNCW post office, Ditto's copy spot, and the UNCW bookstore.

On the same day as the groundbreaking ceremony, there was a problem in the existing Union building. A toilet overflowed in one of the building's bathrooms.

"The physical plant guys are working on that now," said UNCW Marketing and Communications Specialist Brenda Riegel. The plumbers working in the bathroom saw that the problem came from someone flushing an excess of toilet tissue down the toilet.

Another construction project currently in progress at UNCW is the renovation of Westside Hall. Westside Hall is the location of offices pertaining to student health. These offices are temporarily being housed in the Friday Hall Annex. However, the project was delayed when it was discovered that tape used in the construction of the building contained mold on it. "That building is scheduled to be done by the end of November," Farley said.

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