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UNCW Professor: "A lot can happen in 40 years"

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ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The sign on his office door reads *David K. Miller, Physical Education*, just as it has for the past 40 years at UNCW. This is Professor Miller's last semester; he will retire in May.

In his 40 years here, the 62-year-old Miller has held six positions, been in 10 offices in five buildings, coached baseball for 13 years, and worked under four chancellors.

Sitting in his office in Trask Coliseum, the soft-spoken, athletic-looking Miller reflected on his past and wondered about his future. "What am I going to do? ... I ask myself that," he said. "I believe I'm going to find a non-teaching job, something different. I've been here a long time."

It was 1965 when Miller, just graduated from Wake Forest, began at UNCW. "This is the only job in my teaching career I've had," he said.

Then, UNCW had 800 students, five buildings, no on-campus housing and no parking problems. Miller, even after four decades, doesn't have a reserved parking spot. "If I don't get here early enough I park on the grass," the grey-haired Miller laughed. By the way, there also was no grass here back in 1965. "The ground was sandy," he said.

That year he joined the physical education department as an instructor. He also began a 13-year run as assistant baseball coach, under coach William J. Brooks.

Coming here as an instructor

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Photo illustration by JuliePol Isaac | THE SEAHAWK

On Sunday, Jan. 23, UNCW police arrested three young men suspected of stealing thousands of dollars worth of property from 12 cars on campus. At 5:30 a.m., UNCW police responded to a phone call from a female student returning to the on-campus apartments who saw a Jeep driving around slowly without its headlights on.

Campus police pulled over the jeep and arrested the perpetrators: David Franks, 19; Dwayne Moore, 19; and Thomas Evans, 19; none of which were UNCW students.

HOLLAN PETERSON
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Using a screwdriver stolen from one of the vehicles and a baseball bat, the three men smashed the rear windows of twelve cars on campus and stole car stereos, CDs, cell phones, and other personal belongings. The suspects smashed windows of both locked and unlocked vehicles.

According to the NC Department of Corrections, Moore, who remains in police custody with a \$10,000 bond, has a prior criminal record consisting of two counts of assault on a female; two counts of breaking and entering of a motor vehicle; and three counts of forgery. Moore was recently released from jail in December 2004 after serving time for these offenses.

All three of the young men are scheduled to appear in court mid-February where they face felony and misdemeanor charges of breaking and entering of an automobile, larceny and vandalism. Additionally, they face charges for similar crimes committed earlier that morning within the city of Wilmington's jurisdiction.

Because the suspects broke into 12 different cars from multiple lots around campus – suites, apartments, and Honors – it is likely they were on campus for some time. The incident has caused many students to wonder how something like this could this have happened on a campus where the police appear to be constantly visible.

"We all were very surprised that this happened, I have never felt that this campus was anything but safe," said Megan Ennes, an RA in the Honors House.

Lieutenant Mitchell Cook of the UNCW Police suggests that it is possible that other students saw the three young men but since they were unsure if they were doing anything wrong they decided not to contact the police. He suggests that in those situations it is best to let the police check it out.

The Campus Crime and Security Report identifies burglary as the most frequent criminal offense committed on campus with 56 incidents reported in 2003.

To report a crime or any suspicious activity students can contact campus police by dialing 962-4911 for emergencies; 962-3184 for non-emergencies; or 962-8477 to leave an anonymous tip.

Minorities honored in celebration of diversity

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In honor of Black History month, UNCW's Upperman African-American Cultural Center will host an array of activities dedicated to the culture of a minority rich with history and accomplishment. Rashid Shabazz, interim director at the center, invites students and faculty to stop by and explore the rich heritage, arts, literature and history of the African-American culture during the month of February.

The Upperman Center is hosting a jazz concert on Feb. 6, which will be held in the University Union liv-



Photo illustration by Andrew Bader | THE SEAHAWK

UNCW embraces Black History Month as chance to celebrate diversity and challenge minorities to learn about one another.

ing room at 4 p.m. Grenaldo Frazier will be performing at the jazz concert and teaching the history of African American involvement in the music forms such as jazz and gospel.

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