



Discover the true story behind 'The Exorcism of Emily Rose,' page 7

the Seahawk



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Former UNCW student convicted of voyeurism and breaking and entering

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Marwan Albataineh, a former UNCW Student, was convicted on Aug. 17 on two felony counts of Voyeurism and one felony count of Breaking and Entering. In addition to 48 months of probation, Albataineh is permanently barred from UNCW's campus. Other conditions of his probation prohibit him from using the Internet or video recording equipment, require him to serve community service hours and to register with North Carolina's Sex Offender & Public Protection Registry, which includes submitting a DNA sample.

This conviction "speaks to the great cooperation of law enforcement agencies that exists in this community," UNCW Chief of Police David M. Donaldson said.

Albataineh was apprehended on Aug. 22, 2004, after UNCW police received a complaint from a female student who

saw Albataineh videotaping her in a Friday Hall bathroom. Although this was the second call regarding a peeping Tom that authorities had received, the amount of footage on the confiscated video recorder lead authorities to believe that Albataineh had been preying on unsuspecting females for approximately two months. He also broke into a woman's off-campus apartment in efforts to record her within

see FELONY page 2

Student fabricates attack story



According to UNCW police records there have been 12 reported forcible sex offenses in the last five years. Incoming freshmen were given safety whistle bracelets from UNCW for the first time this year. The bracelets are intended to be used in emergency situations.



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The 19-year-old sophomore, who had given UNCW police a detailed description of her attacker, has admitted she lied about being assaulted on campus.

"We don't know why she misled us, but she has admitted to lying," UNCW Police Chief David M. Donaldson said.

The young woman, who lives off campus, told police on Aug. 23, that she was attacked around midnight on Aug. 20 while jogging on campus between the Student Recreation Center and the Gazebo. The student said she was grabbed from behind and forced to the ground by a white male, approximately 6 feet 4 inches tall, and reportedly a struggle

occurred.

The student refused to cooperate with police to pursue criminal charges against her assailant, but said she wanted all students informed of the incident. UNCW police sent out an alert, with a detailed description of the attacker, warning students to be on the lookout for him. A week after she made the charge, she told police she'd fabricated the incident.

"She was apologetic," Chief Donaldson said. He doesn't think she meant to break the law. He said his department will not criminally charge her for filing a false report, which is a misdemeanor.

"I don't know why she did it and I don't know if she was crying out for help or attention; I'm just a cop, we know investigation. We're not experts in psychology," the chief said.

"The one positive thing in all this is there was not an assault," Chief Donaldson said, who began at UNCW as a patrolman in 1992

and has been chief for three years.

A 20-year-old female student also reported a sexual assault last month. She said she was attacked on Aug. 18 on campus at the University Apartments and that she knew her attacker. She also refused to aid police in a criminal prosecution.

"I want to stress that just because she doesn't want to pursue criminal charges, doesn't mean she wasn't attacked," said Donaldson. He said that most sexual assaults involve people who are acquainted. He said alcohol is usually involved and the attack takes place at one of their homes. Police are continuing to investigate the incident involving the 20-year-old.

Donaldson said UNCW has a relatively low incidence of sexual assaults among the more than 11,000 students. "This is an extraordinarily safe campus," he said. "I say that not because I am police chief, but because the students who live here tell us it's safe."

He said formal student surveys

and task force findings report that students feel safe at UNCW. According to UNCW police records there have been 12 reported forcible sex offenses-

see ASSAULT page 2