

inside this issue

Page 3
"Privatizing Discrimination"

Page 4
5-4: Second Time Since 1980

Page 6
Is It the Common Cold or Do You Have the Flu?
&
Embracing What You've Earned

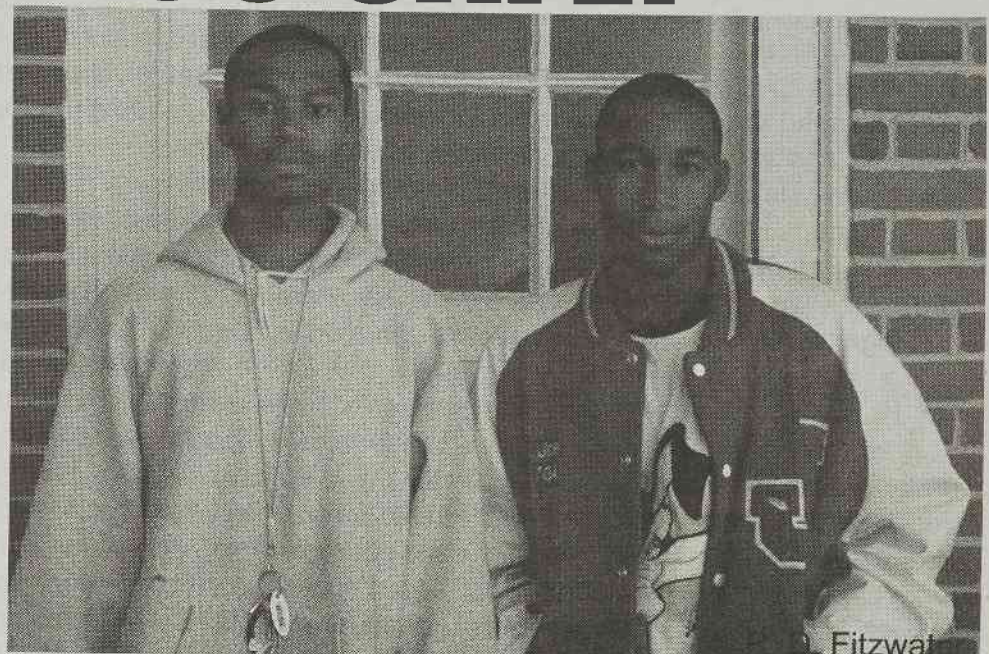
Page 7
Kosal Chosen 2004-05 Jefferson Pilot Professor

ARE YOU SAFE?



By
Ron Fitzwater

Joseph Ramsey only wanted to pay his roommate back with dinner the evening of September 27 when they, along with fellow Nash Hall resident Elliot Hansen, took a leisurely walk over to McDonald's. The three men had no idea that waiting for them on their return to the Wesleyan campus was a group of individuals with a gun and the desire to take the few dollars the students had in their pockets.



Robbery victims Elliot Hansen and Joseph Ramsey

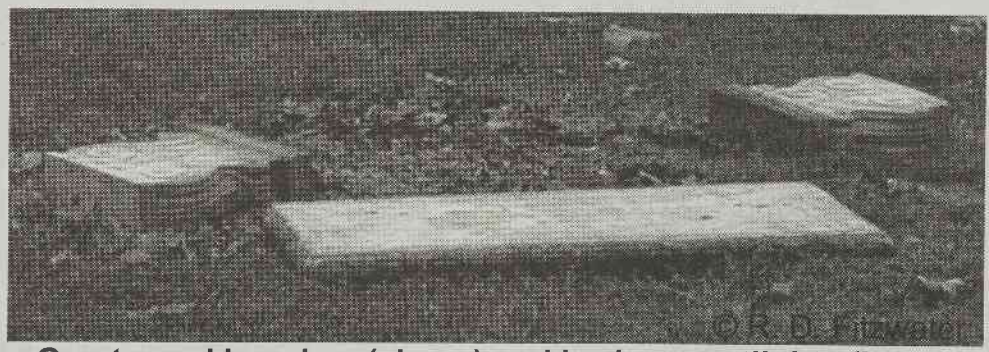
"When we walked back across the field we saw a car parked up at the corner with its lights on. We thought it was broken down," Hansen recalled. "There were four guys walking away from it and they passed us at the tennis courts. All of a sudden, one guy ran back to us, pulled a gun, and pointed it at Joe. I was about to run and he said 'if you run I'm gonna shoot you' so I stopped and he pointed the gun at me and said 'give me what you got.'"

Hansen witnessed the robbery and "did nothing to help." Hansen added, "I don't understand why they didn't call security or something."

and Ramsey this is the only contact from any administration official with them to date.

After the robbery, Hansen and Ramsey reported the crime to Nash Hall Resident Assistants, who at first thought the men were joking. Once the RA's realized they were serious they called campus security and attempted to contact the Rocky Mount Police Department. "They tried to call two times and nobody

This robbery is only one of a growing number of crime incidents on campus during the fall 2004 semester. The school's main building has been the scene of three recent acts, with attempted break-ins of the Adjunct Professors office, Gravely science wing and the Business office. There has been vandalism of monuments and stone benches and damage to one of the spotlights in the front of the Braswell Building, as well as vandalism in residence halls during the recent blackout. Administration officials are also looking into reports of a group of young men forming a "Fight Club" in the Dunn Center parking lot.



Overturned benches (above) and broken spotlights (below right) in front of the college, are only some of the damage done on campus this year.

What they had were \$3, an ATM card, their ID's and Ramsey's room key. The assailants ran back to their car and fled campus with their meager take.

answered so they had to call 911," said Hansen.

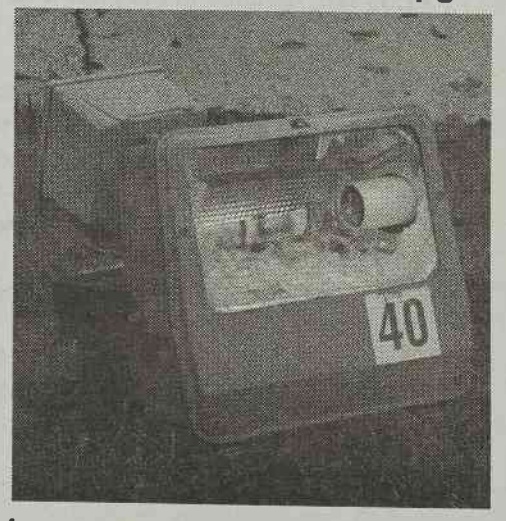
The individuals, four African-American males, had been seen earlier in the evening in Nash Hall. "They were just walking up and down the halls looking in people's rooms," said Hansen. Though the men were not students, they had somehow gained entry into Nash and were able to roam about without being challenged. This apathy by resident students was demonstrated to a more serious degree during the robbery, when as Ramsey stated, people in Collins

The Securitas officer arrived 15-20 minutes after being contacted, according to Hansen and Ramsey, with Rocky Mount PD officer Harper arriving 30 minutes later. The Police officer took statements from the two victims and left. (At the time of this article no one from the RMPD has contacted either man to follow up on the investigation.)

The following day, Hansen's ID was found by a maintenance worker and turned into the office of student life. Dean Peter Phaiah contacted the student to let him know that the ID was being sent to the RMPD for fingerprinting. According to Hansen

Ramsey feels that he knows where the problem arose for Hansen and himself: campus security. "I don't know what's going on with security on this campus," he said. "I mean, I see security walking around and driving around, but whenever something happens they're nowhere to be found. Somebody shouldn't

See 'Crime' pg. 5



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