

The Daily Tar Heel



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Wednesday, August 25, 1999

Volume 107, Issue 60

News/Features/Arts/Sports 962-0245
Business/Advertising 962-1163

Chapel Hill, North Carolina
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'BOLO' Behind Bars UNC Police Nab Suspect in 2 Assaults

Jesus Alvarez-Ramos was traced to jail where he was held after he did not appear in court for a DWI charge.

By **ASHLEY STEPHENSON**
Senior Writer

University Police arrested Tuesday the man they believe was responsible for two attempted sexual assaults on two students last week.

Jesus Alvarez-Ramos, 23, of Apt. Q-12 Royal Park Apartments was charged with one count each of second-degree kidnapping, attempted second-degree rape and attempted first-degree rape in connection with the assaults Aug. 15 and Aug. 17, said University Police Chief Derek Poarch.

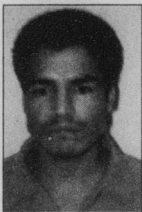
Police held a press conference Tuesday night in the Smith Center to

notify the public of the assailant's capture.

Alvarez-Ramos, who worked part-time at Carolina Coffee Shop, is being held under \$100,000 bond in the Orange County Jail in Hillsborough.

Poarch said investigators found Alvarez-Ramos in jail Tuesday, where he was being held for failing to appear in court for a driving while intoxicated case.

Although University Police are pursuing no other suspects, Poarch said he could not address specific details of the case because the investigation was still



Suspect Jesus Alvarez-Ramos was captured Tuesday by University Police.

open.

Officers began to develop leads on Alvarez-Ramos on Aug. 19, pursuing various tips until he was charged Tuesday, Poarch said.

"While this case is resolved, I think it is important to remind everyone that the safety tips are important and should still be utilized all the time," he said.

After the first incident Aug. 15, University Police posted information on its Web site and distributed fliers throughout campus buildings and residence halls. The composite sketch that was included on the fliers resembled Alvarez-Ramos closely, Poarch said.

He said Alvarez-Ramos had no prior record.

During the night of the second attack, which occurred in the alley between Hanes Art Center and Carolina Coffee Shop, police confirmed from the shop's management that Alvarez-Ramos had been working there that night, Poarch

said.

The charge of kidnapping applies to the first assault, he said, because Alvarez-Ramos restrained the student's movement when he threw her to the ground and attempted to sexually assault her.

But Poarch said the police's capture was facilitated by the community's involvement and cooperation in the case. "The number of people phoning in certainly assisted us," he said. "And people were listening to the advice we gave them."

In the days following the attacks, police urged students to "Be on the Lookout," prompting many students to adopt the acronym BOLO as the name of the assailant.

As a result of the attacks, students were asked to step up their safety routines. University Police instructed students to walk in pairs and take the Point-2-Point at night.



University Police Capt. Mark McIntyre, Lt. Larry Caldwell and Lt. Archie Daniel, share news of the arrest at a Tuesday night press conference.

The first assault Aug. 15 took place between Caldwell Hall and Grimes Residence Hall. The victim, a UNC sophomore, was walking with two friends near Cameron Avenue when a Hispanic man approached and spoke to them. Eventually, the three friends split up, and the sophomore continued to her residence hall.

The victim told the police the Hispanic man walked up behind her, threw her on the ground and tried to

sexually assault her. She screamed and her two friends ran to her and confronted the man, who ran away. The second assault occurred at 8:30 p.m. Aug. 17. A female student was walking up the alley near Hanes Art Center when the assailant grabbed her and threatened her with a knife. The student sprayed the man with Mace and escaped.

The University Editor can be reached at udesk@unc.edu.

Forum to Solicit Public Input on Chancellor Search

Students and faculty will have the chance to talk with members of the search committee Thursday.

By **ASHLEY STEPHENSON**
Senior Writer

Chancellor Search Committee members say that after a Thursday forum, they will be ready to compile their list of preferred qualities for UNC's next chancellor and send the University's search firm hunting.

As part of its efforts to hear input from the University community on the chancellor search, the committee is holding a public forum at 4 p.m. Thursday in the Carolina Inn Hill

Ballroom.

"I want to hear (from students, faculty and staff) how they would be able to tell the difference between a very impressive person and a very impressive person who is right for this job," said member Pete Andrews, Faculty Council chairman.

Chancellor Search Committee Chairman Richard Stevens said the 14-member group would listen to anyone who wanted to speak at the forum. But he stressed that this was only one method being used to hear the opinions of the community regarding the search.

By next month, he said, the committee hoped to form an official statement about the preferred qualities they wanted in UNC's next leader after reviewing numerous e-mail messages and letters from the public as well as taking sugges-

tions from the forum. "We have not yet started any debate on any candidates. Our first step was to be open and receptive."

Interim Chancellor Bill McCoy was tapped to lead UNC until a permanent person can be found to take the post. McCoy stepped in when former Chancellor Michael Hooker died on June 29 from complications stemming from lymphoma.

Search committee member Anne



Faculty Council Chairman Pete Andrews said he wanted to hear from students, faculty and staff.

Cates, chairwoman of the Board of Trustees, said she expected a decent turnout at the forum. Gauging from the response from forums held when she sat on the committee that selected Hooker, Cates said she was optimistic. "I don't expect 24,000 students to show up," she said. "But when we had the forum, a goodly number showed up."

Jim Peacock, former Faculty Council chairman and committee member, said the forum would give the committee a unique way to field the comments and questions of concerned students, faculty and staff. "The letters and e-mails are really good, but it's nothing like hearing it face to face," Peacock said.

Stevens said that once the committee had given the search firm its list of specified qualities, they would start investigating potential candidates. "There will

be ads all over the place," he said.

But regardless of how helpful the forum proves to be, committee members are up against a deadline.

UNC-system President Molly Broad originally gave the group a May 2000 deadline to select a candidate when she tapped McCoy to take the post.

But Stevens said last week that the committee hoped to decide by December. The committee that picked Hooker took 18 months. Delays started when several candidates withdrew their names from the committee's list when the names were leaked to the media.

Committee members decided in a July 29 meeting to keep a tight lid on their list of potential candidates.

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Officials Fix PR Lot Problem

Director of Public Safety Derek Poarch says the PR lot will continue to be monitored 24 hours a day.

By **LAURA STOEHR**
University Editor

University officials fixed the pedestrian gate at the PR lot Tuesday morning and re-emphasized that they could not find equipment problems with the vehicular gate.

Craig Hyatt, manager of information technology for auxiliary services, said it appeared that the pedestrian gate had been struck by lightning.

The gate's reader and controller were replaced and functioned properly during tests Tuesday. Hyatt said the pedestrian and vehicular gates had been tested with officials' test cards Aug. 15 and worked at that time.

Some students had reported problems with gaining entry into the lot, located off Estes Drive, which is gained via students' UNC ONE Cards. Hyatt said tests Tuesday did not reveal any malfunctioning in the vehicular gate itself. The gate was closed Monday evening after it had been left open since last week because of access problems.

Hyatt told The Daily Tar Heel Monday there were many reasons the ONE Cards could malfunction.

The system that controls the gate

See GATE, Page 6

Down the Stretch They Come ...

UNC seniors are preparing to make the best of their final years and jump-start their plans for the future.

By **LEIGH DAVIS**
Features Editor

Heather Biggs and Leslie Meadows pulled two turtles out of the aquarium in their Carmichael Residence Hall room and placed one on the floor.

As the turtle moseyed across the carpet, the two seniors, who have lived together since they arrived at UNC, joked about their pets' names. "I think we're going to call them Laverne and Shirley or some duo from the show," said Biggs, a nursing major from Hiddenite.

"This is the first year we've had pets, and we really haven't named them yet," Meadows chimed in. "I hope this works out."

Choosing to live with each other in a residence hall room was a natural choice. "I can't imagine anything different," said Meadows, a

geography major also from Hiddenite.

The two said that four years ago, they couldn't have guessed where their UNC experience would take them.

Biggs wanted to be a doctor and majored in biology, and Meadows wanted to attend pharmacy school. "That just didn't work out," Biggs said.

Biggs, now in nursing school, said she had difficulty deciding on a major. "After biology, it was psychology, and then I decided to go to nursing school a year late," she said.

Instead of graduating with her friends in May, Biggs will stay another year to finish nursing school.

"I had so many choices here," she said. "I know it's not my last year, but it's my senior year. Next year I won't be classified as anything, and my friends will be gone."

Meadows, on the other hand, does not have a concrete plan for next year. "I'm interested in finding a job dealing with depleted water resources," she said. "But I don't know how to go about getting that job or even what I'd be doing."

Meadows said she would solicit help from University Career Services for her job search and take geography courses to prepare for next year.

But for now, she is concentrating on making it through the fall semester.

She said she was thrilled to have



Seniors Heather Biggs (left) and Leslie Meadows (right) share a laugh while Heather's mother, Carol, helps them move into Carmichael Residence Hall. This will be their fourth year rooming together.

a class with only eight people.

"I thought I was in the wrong place when I went into class," she said. "I thought they were having a meeting."

Small classes are not the only privilege the new seniors are experiencing.

"I want to do things I've never done before," Biggs said.

"Yeah, and I want to go to the bars on Franklin Street," Meadows said. "But it hasn't registered that I am a senior. I don't know what I'll do next year. I can't imagine being anything but a Carolina student."

See SENIORS, Page 6

The Cast of Characters

Four UNC students agreed to have their senior years followed by the DTH. See what happens as they apply to graduate schools, go on job interviews and make plans for life after UNC.



Heather Biggs
Nursing



Zubin Earpin
Political Science



Leslie Meadows
Geography



Bryan Wagner
Business

There is no such thing as justice — in or out of court.

Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr.