

# The Daily Tar Heel

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## Police: TV Tapes First Tip in Assault Arrest

NBC-17 caught the suspect on tape on Franklin Street while the crew was doing a scenery shot.

By ASHLEY STEPHENSON  
Senior Writer

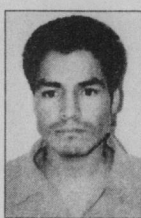
A local TV station's tapes were the starting point of leads investigators used to track down a suspect who police

believe was responsible for attacks on two UNC students last week, University Police officials said Wednesday.

NBC-17 had a news crew on campus Aug. 18 reporting the assaults and unknowingly caught Jesus Alvarez-Ramos on tape. Alvarez-Ramos was arrested Tuesday when University Police traced him to the Orange County Jail, where he was being held on charges for failing to appear in court for a driving while intoxicated charge.

"Our reporter saw this guy sitting on

the wall (outside of Carolina Coffee Shop) and commented on how similar he looked to the composite sketch," said Joe Shaw, NBC-17 system news director. "They took the video of him to the police."



Suspect Jesus Alvarez-Ramos

was employed at Carolina Coffee Shop, a location close to where one of the attacks took place. After the Aug. 15 and Aug. 17 attacks, University Police posted fliers featuring a composite sketch of the suspect in all campus buildings.

The Aug. 17 attack took place in the alley between the coffee shop and Hanes Art Center.

"We didn't know he was the suspect at the time," Shaw said. "We were basically just shooting the scenery."

Shaw said the station found out

Tuesday police had arrested the same man they caught on tape.

The tape was aired at 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. on the station Tuesday, he said.

University Police Chief Derek Poarch said NBC-17 as well as the News & Observer of Raleigh had given police tips. After a press conference in which police updated the media on their search for the assailant, Poarch said a reporter from the N&O approached him

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## N.C. Farms Declared Disastrous

Farmers who have lost more than 30 percent of profits can apply for emergency loans to cushion the blow.

Staff Report

After months of severe drought, the U.S. Department of Agriculture declared North Carolina and several other states agricultural disaster areas Wednesday.

Farmers are eligible for emergency, low-interest loans to help compensate for losses due to heat and drought across North Carolina, 14 counties in Maine and 13 counties in Virginia, department Secretary Dan Glickman announced.

"This drought continues to wreak havoc throughout the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast," Glickman stated in a press release.

He stated that he would continue working with Congress to provide direct cash grants to struggling farmers.

"We are reminded again of how widespread and severe this drought is," President Bill Clinton stated in a press release.

"Its impact on farmers across the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast is devastating."

To apply for the loans, farmers must have suffered at least a 30 percent loss within a single product, be able to repay the loan, have adequate security and not be able to receive credit elsewhere. They have eight months to apply.

N.C. farmers said the problem deserved the immediate attention. "It's serious around here," said Roxboro farmer Jay Chambers.

Mark Garrett, another farmer from Roxboro, said the drought had caused him financial problems. "We all work for money," he said. "The corn crop is lost. The soybean crop depends on what happens next. The tobacco crop is hurt."

Farmers nationwide have been plagued by dry conditions this summer, prompting some midwestern and western states to be declared disaster areas earlier this year.

The department is still evaluating damage in other states that asked for disaster area status.

The eastern side of the United States — including New England, western North Carolina and northern Florida — was most affected by the absence of rain.

See DROUGHT, Page 9

## Charter Schools Set For Year

Local charter school officials say they are not worried about encountering any problems this year.

By GINNY SCIABBARRASI  
Assistant City Editor

With the closing of School in the Community fresh on their minds and a new school year in progress, local charter school administrators are focusing on teaching history — not repeating it.

Mike Wilhoyt, principal of the Orange County Charter School, said he was aware of the problems faced by School in the Community but did not feel his school was at risk.

"It's all about numbers and if you get enough kids and you get enough money, then it's OK," he said.

School in the Community, a charter school located in Chapel Hill at 202 S. Greensboro St., closed its doors last spring after low enrollment caused the school to lose its charter.

Wilhoyt said his school had seen an increase in enrollment from 140 students from last year to 163 this year. He attributed the increase to the school's commitment to remaining community-focused.

Wilhoyt said the school was implementing a new period allowing students to have the opportunity to meet with their teachers and discuss events going on in their lives.

"I know everybody and everybody knows me," he said. "When you know the kids, you can detect (problems) better."

Sadie Jordan, principal of Village Charter School, said charter schools had constantly networked with other charter schools to ensure their success.



DTH/SEFTON IPOCK

Tui Hayes, a former student at School in the Community, now spends his time working with computer animation, a talent fostered at the school.

"We're not having any trouble," she said. "We're part of a five-school consortium."

Jordan said her school's enrollment was at 155 students, securing them against having their charter revoked.

"If you're above 65 (students), you're fine," she said. "The School in the Community should have been directed to at-risk and alternative schools."

Jean Bolduc, whose son attends Village Charter School, said School in the Community failed because of lack of support from the surrounding towns.

"I think the real reason they failed was not so much the lack of enrollment, but the cost of the facility was so severe," she said. "They should have had some assistance from Chapel Hill or Carrboro."

Fred Battle, chairman of School in the Community's school board, said the

closing of the school was damaging to the local educational field.

"I think that the School in the Community experience has really traumatized the community."

Debbie McHenry, the lead administrator for School in the Community, said closing the school had taken a toll on her emotionally.

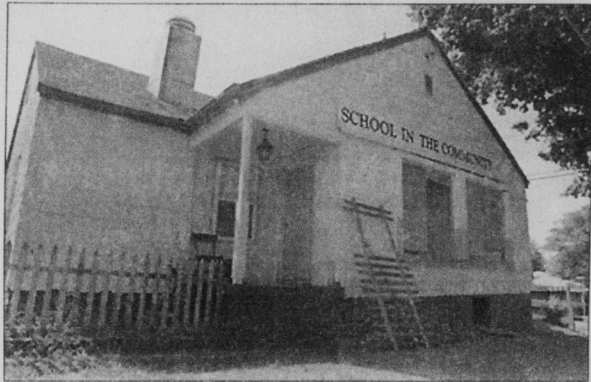
"For me it was so draining that I had to quit schools altogether," she said. "I've had my fill of schools for a while."

McHenry said she would advise other charter schools to ensure lots of volunteers and money.

"You have got to have big money behind you and parents with money supporting you," she said.

Seven of the students from School in the Community finished their education

See CHARTER, Page 9



DTH/SEFTON IPOCK

School in the Community, a charter school, closed last March. The displaced students had to attend different schools or join the work force.

## UNC Shines in National Survey

Students praised libraries, campus publications and athletics as the best parts of attending the University.

By ANNE FAWCETT  
Staff Writer

College students often are limited to showing support for their schools at football games while praises for student life and academics are left unheard.

A publication to be released Tuesday by The Princeton Review aims to change that.

Its ninth annual guidebook, "The Best 331 Colleges," presents profiles and rankings of colleges nationwide based on surveys completed by 59,000 students from the 331 schools.

And as it turns out, UNC students want to cheer about a lot more than the basketball team. The students surveyed for UNC's results gave high ranks to professors' accessibility, Chapel Hill's atmosphere and opportunities offered.

UNC ranked in the top 20 schools in six categories, including a No. 1 ranking

### Head Over Heels for Rankings

A national survey by The Princeton Review of student opinions ranked UNC high on six aspects of student life, including school spirit, library access and location.

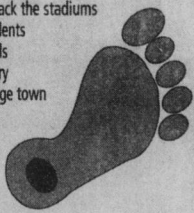
#### "And the Survey Says ..."

- Everyone loves the Tar Heels.
- Students love Chapel Hill.
- Political activism is hot.
- There is a great library.
- Registration is a pain.
- There are large classes.
- Student publications are popular.
- There is ethnic diversity on campus.
- Many teaching assistants teach upper-level courses.

#### UNC's Ranking

(among 331 universities)

- |        |                             |
|--------|-----------------------------|
| No. 1  | College newspaper gets read |
| No. 8  | Students pack the stadiums  |
| No. 10 | Happy students              |
| No. 11 | Jock schools                |
| No. 14 | Great library               |
| No. 18 | Great college town          |



DTI/DANA CRAIG

as the college where students most often read the campus newspaper. Following UNC were the University of Pennsylvania, Michigan State University and the University of Arizona.

"There are a lot of places where students don't pay attention to the campus newspaper at all," said Ed Custard, one of the co-authors for the guide. "At a place like Chapel Hill or Michigan State, to know what's going on, you really do have to read the newspapers."

Results submitted by UNC students

also placed the school near the top of other categories such as happiest students and student support of athletics.

"UNC comes out great," Custard said. "There are plenty of schools who would love to have as enthusiastic a response as Chapel Hill."

One student wrote, "A lot of private schools look down on kids at state schools like Carolina. The truth is that we have more fun, beat them in sports,

See SURVEY, Page 9

## Group Readies Response For Labor Disclosures

All UNC licensees must release the locations of their manufacturing sites by March 31 of next year.

By ALEXANDRA MOLAIRE  
Assistant University Editor

A group of UNC faculty and students are mapping out how to handle problems that could arise as companies producing UNC apparel release information about labor conditions.

The Licensing Labor Code Advisory Committee will develop a complaint system to handle complications or concerns as licensees disclose manufacturing sites to the University.

An Aug. 15 letter from UNC and the Collegiate Licensing Co. notified licensees about the contract renewal requirements, which include a March 31 deadline for site disclosure for companies who renew between Nov. 15 and March 31.

Former Chancellor Michael Hooker appointed the committee in March 1998 to advise him on licensing labor codes.

In April, students staged a sit-in at

South Building and forced McCoy to endorse their demands concerning licensees' sweatshop conditions.

UNC and other universities, many of which use the same licensees, have been working for more than two years to enforce fair labor conditions.

Duke University set Jan. 1, 2000, as its disclosure deadline, said Rut Tufts, committee co-chairman.

And with Duke's early deadline, some licensees will have already disclosed their locations before UNC's March deadline.

In addition to location information, licensees must meet the CLC's code of conduct, which includes requirements concerning health, safety and child labor, within 90 days.

The letter also stated that the licensees must either join the Fair Labor Association, a group that monitors working conditions, or agree to have the FLA monitor their manufacturing sites.

Licensees renewing after the March date must implement all the new requirements, including full disclosure.

Three-fifths of UNC's licensees are up for contract renewals before March

See LABOR, Page 9

## INSIDE Thursday

In Your Own Backyard



Local music fans hold bragging rights for the area's growing music scene. Some bands have performed in local venues for decades, while others have reached national recognition. Despite where they are now, these musicians all call the Triangle home. See Page 5.

### The Clock Is Ticking

The Daily Tar Heel is hiring writers, photographers, copy editors and online staff. Applications are available at the DTH office in Suite 104 of the Student Union and are due by 5 p.m. Friday.

### Today's Weather

Sunny;  
Low 90s.  
Friday: Sunny;  
High 80s.

*I forget what I was taught. I only remember what I have learnt.*

Patrick White