

Survey Lauds Smaller Colleges

By **BEN DE SANTIS**
Staff Writer

Students applying to college should stick to smaller schools, at least according to a survey that found smaller colleges might provide a higher quality education than larger schools.

The National Survey of Student Engagement recently released its results for 2000, which reveal advantages for students at smaller institutions in several areas relating to student life and quality of education.

More than 63,000 students at 276 institutions nationwide participated in the survey. And at least two N.C. schools — Elon College and UNC-Asheville — received high scores on the report.

Survey director George Kuh said the survey was started in response to the U.S. News and World Report college rankings. Kuh said the rankings, which many college applicants and officials regard as the standard of collegiate ranking systems, focus on school resources rather than student satisfaction.

He said the survey was designed to show "what students do with the resources they have."

The survey was developed by Indiana University at Bloomington and is sponsored by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Pew Forum for Undergraduate Learning. Nine N.C. colleges and universities, including three UNC-system schools — UNC-A, UNC-Wilmington and Appalachian State University — participated in this year's survey.

Survey officials are expecting more than 100,000 students at about 320 institutions, including UNC-Chapel Hill and 14 other UNC-system schools, to participate in next year's edition.

Kuh said the survey based its results on five national benchmarks of education — level of academic challenge, level of campus support, student interaction with faculty, the amount of active and collaborative learning and the accessibility of enriching educational experiences, such as study abroad programs and internships.

Elon College was one of only four

schools to score in the top 20 percent in each category.

Dan Anderson, Elon director of college relations, said the survey could help the school recruit top-notch students.

"It will give prospective students an idea of the education they'll get at Elon," Anderson said.

He said Elon's strength is its strong sense of community. "We have very strong relationships between students and faculty," Anderson said.

He said he feels larger public institutions have difficulty creating a similar environment due to their size.

Archer Gravely, UNC-A director of institutional research, said he was pleased with the survey's results.

UNC-A, which has 3,292 students, ranked above the national average in most categories examined by the survey.

Gravely said, "We held our own and looked better than most of the public institutions."

The State & National Editor can be reached at stntdesk@unc.edu.

Race Case Goes Back to High Court

The Associated Press

ADEN, Yemen — Yemeni investigators are ready to charge at least two people in the apparent terrorist attack on the USS Cole, a source said Sunday, six weeks after an explosion tore through the warship as it sat in Aden's harbor.

Charges are expected to be filed as soon as this week against the two suspects, the source said. They could be sentenced to death if convicted.

But any charges are unlikely to mean the end of the probe: U.S. investigators still suspect an international conspiracy.

Seventeen U.S. sailors were killed and 39 more injured on Oct. 12, when two suicide bombers steered a small boat laden with explosives alongside the Cole and detonated it. U.S. and Yemeni officials have said the attack appeared to be a carefully planned, well-financed operation, and the bomb materials were expertly prepared.

The Yemeni source close to the investigation would not identify the two men he described as main suspects about to be charged. But last week, other sources said authorities had detained six Yemeni men they believe were key accomplices

— including one who was allegedly in charge of the operation in Yemen.

American officials have said they believe the operation was carried out by a network of small cells of two or three people, probably from one or more anti-American Islamist organizations, including Yemen's Islamic Jihad, Egypt's al-Gamaa al-Islamiya and Saudi dissident Osama bin Laden's followers.

Bin Laden, an exiled Saudi millionaire, lives in Afghanistan. U.S. officials believe he ordered the 1998 bombings of the U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania that killed 224 people.

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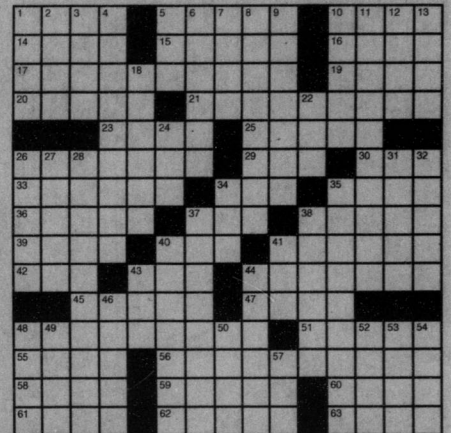
THE Daily Crossword

By Stanley B. Whitten

- ACROSS**
- 1 Musical post-script
 - 5 One half step higher
 - 10 Stitched
 - 14 Hot box
 - 15 St. John Perse
 - 16 Poi source
 - 17 Nostalgic location
 - 19 Wife/sister of Osiris
 - 20 First in quality
 - 21 Religious convert
 - 23 French girlfriend
 - 25 Adam and Rebecca
 - 26 Floral wreath
 - 29 112.5-degrees from W
 - 30 Also
 - 33 Consecrate
 - 34 Allow
 - 35 Beat soundly
 - 36 Portended
 - 37 Oyster farm
 - 38 Look after
 - 39 Poetic works
 - 40 Letters for 1051
 - 41 Harsh
 - 42 Natal starter?
 - 43 Chinese revolutionary
 - 44 Reproductive
- DOWN**
- 1 Freebie
 - 2 Ended

- 3 Actress Moore
- 4 Peculiar deviations
- 5 Clever
- 6 Assisted
- 7 Culture medium
- 8 Famous
- 9 Introduce
- 10 Wading bird
- 11 Well-to-do location
- 12 Formal document
- 13 Cyrano's distinction
- 18 Order back
- 22 Language end
- 24 \$ from a bank
- 26 Libreville's
- country
- 27 Battery's negative electrode
- 28 Well-dressed cowboy's location?
- 31 Bizarre
- 32 Orchestra members
- 34 See 26A
- 35 Industrialized
- 37 Incarnadine
- 38 Babylonian, e.g.
- 40 Gruesome
- 41 Bird's horn?
- 43 Fellow
- 44 Flower plot
- 46 Kind of race
- 48 Transmitted
- 49 Always
- 50 "___ kleine
- Nachtmusik"
- 52 Corduroy characteristic
- 53 Addition: suff.
- 54 Bangkok resident
- 57 Brown with a band

USELESS CHARRED
PIRANHA HEROINE
BERIDOF ENTENTE
OVERSTATE GEM
WED RESISTORS
LUMINESCE
CAPONES SHITATSU
OBTAIN TORIES
BEATTIE PANACEA
HEADFIRST
PAPERLION IDA
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