

Helms Suspended with Pay

Written by Staff Reports

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Freedom High football coach Michael Helms, who won his 100th career game this fall, was arrested Friday for assaulting his son in a hallway during the 16-year-old's junior varsity basketball game at

Rutherford County's R.S. Central High School. A video allegedly shows Helms assaulting his son. And according to authorities, it was one punch to the face that knocked the boy's head back into a concrete wall. The incident was witnessed by an R.S. Central faculty member and a student, who reported it to the school resource officer.

When the officer approached Helms about the incident, Helms reportedly said he did it, that it was his son, and that it didn't leave a mark. Authorities say that Helms's son, who was standing by, told the officer it was his own fault.

Burke County School District officials say Helms has been suspended with pay while the investigation continues. Helms is charged with simple assault and released on \$1000 bond. His court date is set for February 21.