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Wainwright nixes Spurs, stays at UNCW

BEN JONES
STAFF WRITER

UNC-Wilmington Men's Basketball Head Coach Jerry Wainwright started the fall semester with a bang when he was offered a coaching position with the San Antonio Spurs. The Spurs, who won the National Basketball Association's World Championship in 1999, made Wainwright an offer to join the staff earlier this month.

Last season, Wainwright led the Seahawks to the NCAA Tournament, after a CAA Championship victory over Old Dominion University. The win marked UNC-Wilmington's first Championship for the Men's Basketball program, and set a precedent for future basketball seasons at UNCW.

Wainwright visited San Antonio over the August 12 weekend, after receiving permission from UNCW administration, including Athletic Director Peg Bradley-Doppes. At a



Men's head basketball coach Jerry Wainwright, seen here at UNCW's first NCAA tournament appearance in March, will stay at UNCW.

press conference upon return to Wilmington, Wainwright declined the position, citing players, coaches, the Wilmington community, and the university as reasons to stay in his

current position.

"I truly love our players. They made a promise to me [to come to UNCW], and I made a promise to them," said Wainwright. "I love our team, and truly enjoy coaching them."

Bradley-Doppes was relieved by Wainwright's decision.

"I felt the offer was an honor that Coach Wainwright deserved. He is a great coach and ambassador for our university. As scary as it was for him to go down, I really felt that in not letting him go would be a dis-

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Financial aid woes mark start of school year

HEIDI BING
NEWS EDITOR

Approximately 630 UNCW students' classes were cancelled before the 2000 fall semester began because the student accounts did not receive notification of their tuition statement. Tuition bills will be mailed today to those students whose tuition payment remains unpaid and classes will be cancelled on Wednesday, Sept. 1 for students who do not respond to this tuition statement. A \$35 late fee will also be added to these bills.

Those students whose tuition is covered by financial aid must return the tuition statement with written verification that their financial aid estimate will cover tuition.

"We called everybody who looked like they had estimated financial aid before the cancellation of classes," said General Manager of Student Accounts Sharon



Students line up at the cashier's office to pay tuition bills last week.

Baucum of the Wednesday, Aug. 9 cancellation.

Many students do not understand their rights and responsibilities concerning their financial aid package and several students have voiced

scrutiny of the UNCW financial aid department concerning its role in class cancellation.

"Many students believe that if they have financial aid their classes will be held," Financial Aid and Veterans Service Director Mark Williams said "The student has to take some action to let the university know that they will be responsible for the bill. This is not a financial aid policy; financial aid does not cancel classes."

Williams said the university is examining the policy and that changes have been recommended.

"Students think that (financial

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