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BOT gives Baddour 3 more years

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR'S CONTRACT RENEWED DESPITE DOUBTS

BY JOHN FRANK
STAFF WRITER

The University's governing board voted unanimously Wednesday to approve a three-year contract extension for Athletic Director Dick Baddour, ending doubts in recent months about the stability of his position.

The new contract comes after a two-month performance review by a Faculty Athletics Committee, the first known comprehensive review of a UNC director of athletics.

Baddour's annual base salary

will remain \$203,083, with the possibility of a pay increase in the next six months.

Any definitive salary increase will be delayed until later this year when University officials will have a better idea of the state's budget situation and the availability of funds.

A memorandum from Chancellor James Moeser to the Board of Trustees stipulates that the parties will meet by July 1 to discuss his salary and annually after that to consider any addition-

al raises.

His contract, which will become effective July 1, also continues bonuses of \$16,923, or one month's pay, if the football team makes a bowl game or if the men's or women's basketball team makes the NCAA tournament.

The new contract also includes a new bonus if the University is ranked as one of the top 10 schools in the Director's Cup standings.

UNC has finished in the top 10 in four of the last six years.

At the Jan. 22 trustees meeting,

members authorized Moeser to negotiate a new contract with Baddour, who has served as athletic director since 1997.

Because it was a personnel matter it was discussed in a closed session, which lasted about four hours.

A contract was drawn up soon, and a ballot was sent to the trustees by mail and e-mail Tuesday.

Trustees faxed all their ballots back by Wednesday when Baddour signed the agreement, which will keep him in that position through

June 2007.

Moeser recommended the extension and only a simple majority of the 13 members was required for approval.

While Moeser has stood by Baddour publicly, others in the UNC athletic community questioned the way Baddour handled the firing of former basketball coach Matt Doherty.

Baddour's current contract expires June 30 and includes a scheduled review prior to any extension. It was supposed to be completed by June 30, 2003, but

Moeser said at the time that he forgot about the deadline.

In mid-November the Faculty Athletics Committee began the review, soliciting written and oral evaluations from coaches, assistant coaches and officials in the Department of Athletics' booster club, among others.

The report was completed by Jan. 16, and Moeser presented it to the trustees during the closed session. Baddour was out-of-town on University business during the January meeting.

University officials insisted that the review was not out of the ordinary and was typical for top

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POET'S ON THE MIC



DTH/BRENT CLARK

Christopher J. Rowland, a Raleigh poet who performs under the stage name "Langston Fuze," reads from his book of poetry "Plasma Succotash" on Tuesday night at Chapel Hill's Skylight Exchange. Fuze, a 2003 United Arts Council literature grant winner, headlined the

weekly Vague Metaphor poetry night, which usually features a professional out-of-town poet as well as an open mic for both experienced and novice spoken word performers. Vague Metaphor is performed from 8:15 to 11 p.m. Tuesdays at the Skylight Exchange on 405-1/2 W. Rosemary St.

Edwards has tight hold on 2nd

North Carolina's senator still faces uphill battle

BY CHRIS COLETTA
ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

John Edwards' showing in Tuesday's presidential primaries has propelled his campaign, pundits say, but the North Carolina senator still faces an uphill climb to win his party's blessing.

In Tuesday's contests, the Democrat outpaced Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry 45 percent to 30 percent in South Carolina, his birthplace, for his first primary win. He also finished just 1,200 votes behind retired Gen. Wesley Clark in Oklahoma, where many did not expect him to compete for a victory.

These events, particularly Edwards' decisive Palmetto State triumph, have cemented him as the main challenger for Kerry, who has won 7 of the first 9 nominating battles and used that momentum to vault into the position of national front-runner.

"It was essential that he win somewhere," said David Weeks, professor of political science at Azusa Pacific University in California. "It definitely helped him."

But in order for the Southerner to pose any serious threat to Kerry's dominance, he first must prove himself as a legitimate alternative in the eyes of voters — and he must do it quickly.

In past elections, the nomination process has been spread out over the course of four or five months, with primaries in delegate-rich states taking place in May or June.

This year, however, the race has been condensed. Super Tuesday, when California, New York, Texas and other large states enter into play, is March 2.

Thus, Edwards needs to make headway into Kerry's lead now, before the front-runner sweeps through the next batch of primaries and snatches enough delegates to win the nomination.

The nomination process "used to be this sort of leisurely, state-a-week kind of thing," said Philip Klinkner, professor of government at Hamilton College in New York. "Now we've got Washington and Michigan on Saturday and then Virginia and Tennessee, and then it just starts getting crazy."

Edwards doesn't plan to campaign signifi-

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Recruit faces drug charges

BY BRIAN MACPHERSON
SPORTS EDITOR

Police arrested UNC basketball recruit JamesOn Curry at Eastern Alamance High School on Wednesday and charged him with six drug-related felonies.

Curry was charged with two counts of possession with intent to sell and deliver marijuana, two counts of sale and delivery of marijuana and two counts of sale, possession and delivery of a controlled substance on school grounds, said Randy Jones, spokesman for the Alamance County Sheriff's Office.

"It's very surprising," said UNC coach Roy Williams. "I'm just learning everything about it, just like you guys are."

The Eastern Alamance senior, who became the state's all-time leading scorer in December, was one of 49 individuals, including three juveniles, arrested in a coordinated operation at about 8:30



UNC recruit JamesOn Curry was charged with six drug-related felonies Monday.

a.m. Wednesday.

"We had each of the individuals we had warrants for called to a particular office area (of the school), and we had deputies staged nearby," Jones said.

The students' parents were immediately summoned to make arrangements with a magistrate.

"He's got to look at the big picture," said UNC wingman Rashad McCants. "He's got a scholarship to North Carolina. Everybody's watching. He can't do anything that's going to jeopardize that."

SEE CURRY, PAGE 2

Hopefuls size up current leaders

BY AMY KINGSLEY
STAFF WRITER

Although Student Body President Matt Tepper is not eligible for re-election, candidates for student body president have compared themselves to his administration in order to build their political platforms and differentiate themselves from their rivals.

Most of the candidates trumpet change and progress within student government as a primary goal. This often involves criticism of the current administration and scrutiny of hot-button issues.

"It's interesting to be in the position of hearing everyone critique what you've done," Tepper said.

Most of the candidates said they support the current administration but noted that there is room for improvement.

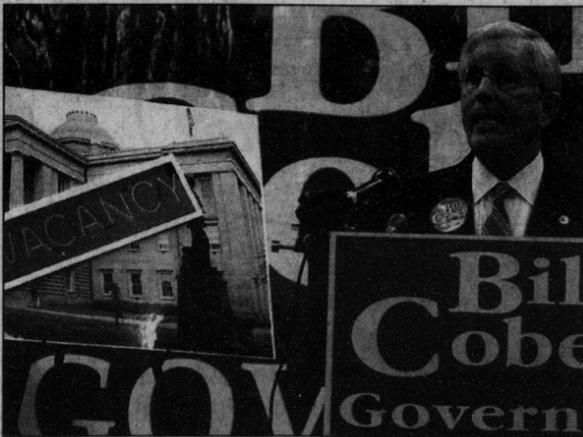
"I think past administrations have had great ideas," said candidate Faudlin Pierre. "None of them have gone without their flaws."

The issue of communication — among student government, student groups and the University administration — splits the candidates into two camps. Some lauded the efforts of the current administration while others believed former Student Body President Jen Daum established better relationships.

"If there was anything you could say about Jen Daum, it was that she was accessible," candidate Matt Liles said.

Candidate Matt Calabria said increased communication with student groups is needed to avoid controversies such as the Summer Reading Program. "Student government in past years, in general,

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DTH/JOHN DUDLEY

Republican gubernatorial candidate Bill Cobey speaks to supporters at the N.C. Republican headquarters Wednesday as part of his kick-off tour.

Cobey kicks off campaign

BY KAVITA PILLAI
STAFF WRITER

RALEIGH — North Carolina Republican gubernatorial candidate Bill Cobey kicked off his campaign tour Wednesday at the N.C. Republican Party Headquarters, saying he wants his campaign to represent change.

"Our state is underachieving," Cobey said to the roughly 30 supporters, including former U.S. Sen. Jesse Helms of North Carolina. "The state should be leading in the economic recovery, not watching it pass by."

Cobey was quick to blame Gov. Mike Easley for the economic

problems facing the state, contrasting Easley's tax hikes with Bush's tax cuts.

"Bush chose to cut taxes and, the result is the economy going up ... and people going back to work," he said. "Easley raised taxes, and we've had 100,000 jobs lost and runaway spending."

Cobey, like Bush, said he supports cuts on personal income taxes as well as taxes for corporations. He said he would cut personal income taxes by a half point to start and would adjust it for inflation.

He also excused the rising national deficit as a result of national security concerns.

"(Gov.) Mike Easley needs to be let go. I'm here officially applying for the job."

BILL COBEY, REPUBLICAN GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATE

"You have to factor in 9-11 spending," he said. "Bush inherited an economy that was going down. Still, I'm not for deficit spending."

Cobey also supported Bush's stance on gay marriage, the war on terror and abortion.

"We must defend the defenseless, from the unborn to the disabled to the elderly," he said.

On higher education, Cobey said he wants state universities to

work with community colleges and secondary schools "in a seamless way." He said he supports tuition hikes when necessary.

"I think it's proper to increase out-of-state tuition to make it more in line with other peer institutions," he said. "But we have a commitment to keeping in-state tuition as low as possi-

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WEATHER

TODAY PM showers, H 42, L 38
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SATURDAY Partly cloudy, H 54, L 26

