

The Daily Tar Heel

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www.dailytarheel.com

BUNTING FACES THE MUSIC

BY DANIEL MALLOY
SENIOR WRITER

Larry Edwards didn't want to let go.

As John Bunting left the news conference to announce his firing, Edwards embraced his coach and held on tight, whispering in Bunting's ear — one linebacker to another.

Bunting and his assistant coaches had consoled the team Sunday night, after Athletics Director Dick Baddour told the coach he would remain for the final five games of the season but would not return in 2007.

Monday morning, it was Edwards' turn to console.

"Coach Bunting and his staff helped us become better people that we are today," Edwards said, flanked by fellow seniors Brian Chacos and Ronnie McGill.

"Hearing the news they're not going to be back next year, it really hurt me."

Bunting's character was brought up repeatedly Monday by his players and Baddour.

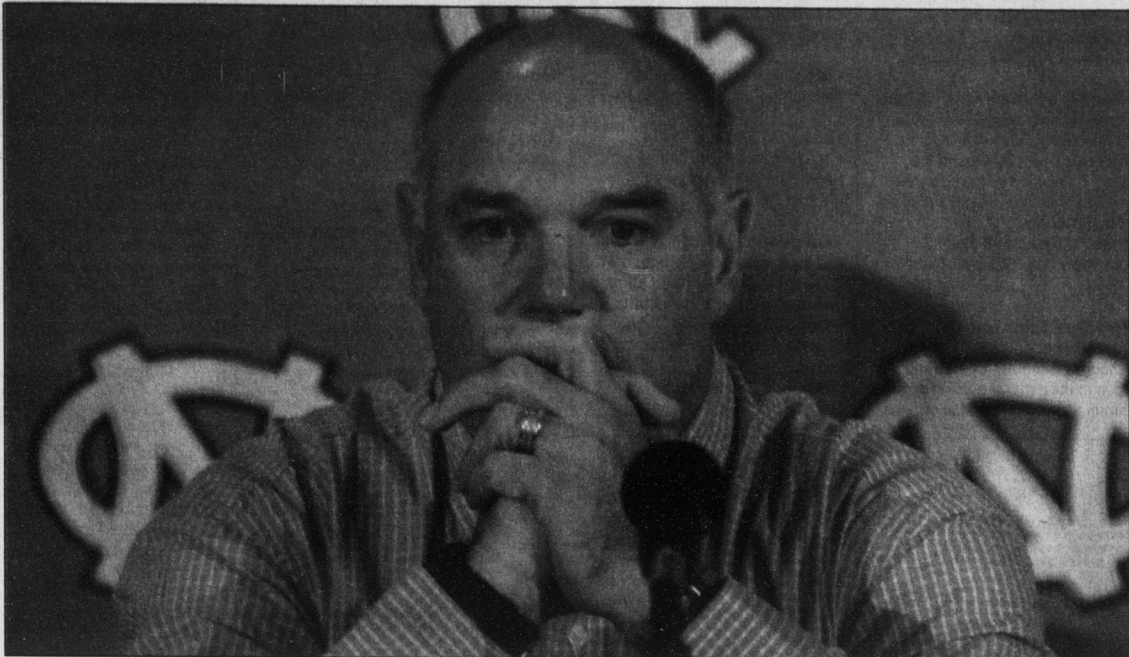
But in the end, the coach's 25-42 record, including 1-6 so far this season, was enough for Baddour to justify a regime change.

Bunting repeatedly asserted this season that the program was going in the right direction — citing improvements in recruiting and the fact that a great majority of the freshman class is red-shirting.

But those reasons weren't enough to keep his job.

"Not everything do John and I agree on," Baddour said.

"We are a bit, or a lot, in a numbers game. Wins and losses and productivity and assessing where



DTH/ALICIA TOWLER

North Carolina head coach John Bunting listens as Athletics Director Dick Baddour addresses the media concerning Bunting's dismissal, which will come at the end of the season. Bunting expressed gratitude toward his friends and players, and said he doesn't know if he'll coach another team.

things are headed. To suffice it to say, I felt like we needed a new direction."

Though he was the only University official at the news conference, Baddour consulted others when making the decision.

Throughout the season, the ninth-year athletics director was in contact with Nelson Schwab, chairman of the Board of Trustees, as well as other trustees. Those conversations intensified after Thursday's 23-0 loss at Virginia, along with the outcry from fans and media.

"There had been so much focus on the coaching position that it was to the detriment of the football

program," Schwab said in a phone interview Monday evening.

"We felt the timing would give the program, the players and the coaches time to focus on the remainder of the season with some clarity."

But for the players, it makes the rest of the season difficult, playing with the additional distraction of a lame-duck coach.

"Nobody really saw this happening right now during the middle of the season," McGill said. "From the whole players' standpoint, it's just shocking and a little bit frustrating that it happened now."

For many fans, though, the

news was met with joy.

"This should have been done a long time ago," said Matt Gers, a 2005 graduate and co-founder of firebunting.com.

And with site's original aim now accomplished, Gers is contemplating directing his ire elsewhere.

"I think Dick Baddour is floating on the line here," he said. "We'll see how the coaching search goes."

Baddour was vague Monday when asked about the search.

"Together we will start focusing on the future," Baddour said.

"We will use the efforts of Chuck

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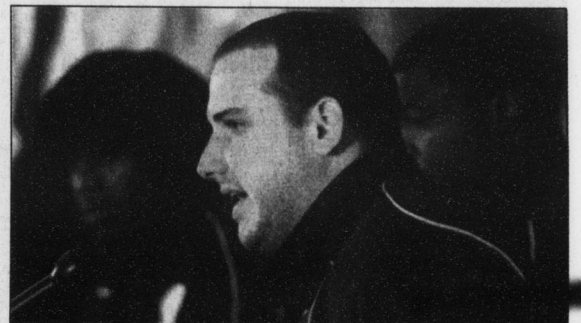
Bunting's time at UNC

2000
Dec. 11: Named UNC's 24th head coach

2001
Dec. 31: Beats Auburn in Peach Bowl

2004
Oct. 30: Upsets Miami at Homecoming
Nov. 20: Awarded two-year contract extension

2006
Sept. 23: Loses 52-7 at Clemson
Oct. 19: Loses 23-0 at Virginia



DTH/ALICIA TOWLER

Senior offensive lineman Brian Chacos responds to questions about his embattled coach, saying he's disappointed that the team let Bunting down.

Early voting opens to unexpected crowd

BY JESSICA SCHONBERG
CITY EDITOR

Many people visiting Morehead Planetarium on Franklin Street Monday weren't there to stargaze.

The planetarium is one of two early one-stop voting stations in Orange County that opened Monday. The station in Hillsborough opened Thursday.

One-stop voting allows registered voters to cast their ballots before the Nov. 7 election.

Anyone registered within the county can vote at any of the three voting sites, regardless of the precinct to which he or she

SEE EARLY VOTING, PAGE 6

One-Stop Voting

Orange County Board of Elections Office

▶ 110 E. King St., Hillsborough

▶ M-F 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

▶ Phone: 245-2350

▶ Fax: 644-3318

Morehead Planetarium

▶ 250 E. Franklin St., Chapel Hill

▶ Today-Nov. 3

▶ M-F 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

▶ Saturday, Nov. 4

▶ 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Carrboro Town Hall

▶ 301 W. Main St., Carrboro

▶ Today-Nov. 3

M-F 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

▶ Saturday-Nov. 4

M-F 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Important Dates

Tuesday, October 31

▶ Absentee ballot requests must be received by 5 p.m.

Saturday, November 4

▶ One-stop early voting ends at 1 p.m. for general election

Monday, November 6

▶ Completed absentee ballots must be received by 5 p.m.

Tuesday, November 7

▶ Election Day

Center fights political tilt

BY LINDSAY MICHEL
SENIOR WRITER

After catching wind that U.S. Sen. John Kerry's running mate was hired by UNC to run a research center, Jon Sanders was skeptical.

Sanders, a policy analyst and research editor for the John Locke Foundation, believes in the importance of nonpartisan research at public universities.

And he is not certain that John Edwards, director of the UNC Center on Poverty, Work and Opportunity and a former U.S.

senator, has successfully fulfilled that mission.

"My suspicion is that (Edwards) and the University of North Carolina are kind of using each other's

names to help themselves," he said. "And Senator Edwards is naturally running for president in 2008 and is in need of a pet issue."

As with many discussions concerning hot-button issues in America today, the poverty debate has become increasingly blue and red.

That has led many to question whether the center can approach poverty in a nonpartisan way under Edwards' leadership.

That kind of criticism is not foreign to the center's staff or to Edwards, who said he has not yet decided to run for president.

Attempting to put his opposition in its place, Edwards often spouts off what could be considered his new mantra: There is nothing partisan about poverty.

"I have a fundamental belief that this is not a partisan issue," he said.

Edwards said he hopes to bring scholars and practitioners from all political persuasions to fuel debate and fight for human rights.

"What we want to do is marry all of these ideas," he said.

"That's the way you're credible when you're trying to speak to the whole country in a bipartisan way."

Despite his criticism, Sanders said he thinks poverty can be approached objectively.

"I think certainly you can," said Sanders, an economist by training. "That's not an issue that either lends itself to Democrat or Republican, and it certainly is an issue that can and should be studied."

When Thomas Kaplan, associate director of programs and management at the Institute for Research on Poverty at the University of

SEE POVERTY, PAGE 6

UNC Center on Poverty, Work and Opportunity

A variety of organizations and individuals have helped shape the poverty center and its programming.

Poverty Center

- High-profile individuals**
 - John Sweeney, President of AFL-CIO
 - Jack Kemp, 1996 vice presidential candidate
 - Bill Friday, former UNC-system president
 - David Brooks, columnist for The New York Times
 - William Julius Wilson, professor at Harvard University
 - Katherine Boo, staff writer for The New Yorker magazine and a New America senior fellow
 - Kwame Asante, state director, Louisiana NAACP
- Money**
 - Michael Cucchiara and Marty Hayes — \$2 million donation
 - Park Foundation — grant from private funds for the documentary film
 - UNC School of Law — private funds
 - UNC Office of Provost — state appropriations for salaries
- Universities**
 - Harvard University
 - New York University
 - Northwestern University
 - UC-Santa Barbara
 - Brandeis University
 - Brooklyn Law School
 - Brown University
 - Columbia University
 - MIT
 - Princeton University
 - Washington University-St. Louis
 - Yale University
 - University of Texas-Austin
 - University of D.C. School of Law
 - Fordham Law School
 - Georgetown University
- Organizations**
 - N.C. Housing Coalition
 - Pew Partnership for Civic Change
 - Urban League Ministries in Raleigh
 - New America Foundation
 - Center for Economic and Policy Research
 - Home Builders Association of Durham
 - Georgetown Public Policy Institute
 - Heritage Foundation
 - AFL-CIO
 - The Los Angeles Times
 - The Buffalo News
 - The New York Times
 - The Wall Street Journal
 - Brookings Institute
 - The Cleveland Plain-Dealer

Source: Center on Poverty, Work and Opportunity

DTH/Lawson Parker

State fair ends on high note

BY BRENDAN BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Oversized pumpkins, innovative fuel and a safe midway helped make this year's state fair one of the most successful in its history.

OUT AT THE fair



The fair, which closed Sunday, ran safely and successfully despite occasional poor weather, officials said.

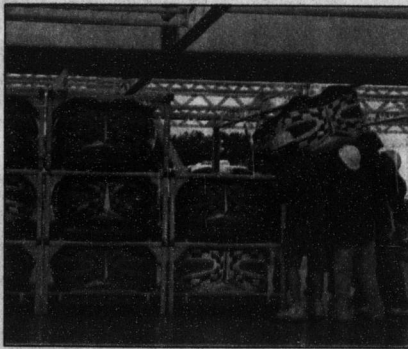
"We pride ourselves on being a family-friendly and safe fair, and we think we delivered that," fair spokesman Brian Long said.

Giant fruits and vegetables, fried foods and oodles of fun attracted the fifth-largest crowd in the fair's history.

"To get almost 786,000 people there despite two days of rain is pretty good," Long said.

The total attendance of 785,956 fell just behind that of the 2005 fair, Long said. He predicted that total rev-

SEE FAIR, PAGE 6



DTH/MICHELLE KANAAR

Chris Dupre, Ron Woodward and Tony Williams (left to right) pack up bumper cars at the state fairgrounds Monday afternoon. The fair closed Sunday night after what organizers deemed a successful 10-day run.

CORRECTION

Due to a reporting error, the Sunday front-page story, "UNC fills finance position," incorrectly stated that five candidates interviewed for the post. About 12 total were interviewed, while five were chosen for on-campus interviews. The Daily Tar Heel apologizes for the error.

online | dailytarheel.com

HOT OFF THE PRESS Newsweek senior editor delivers Park lecture

FORECASTING Former adviser to Colin Powell speaks on U.S. future

RHYMING GAME UNC visiting poet to read selections from book

nation | page 8

HEAD TO HEAD
U.S. Congress candidates David Price and Steve Acuff face off on campus in their second debate, discussing issues including the war in Iraq.

sports | page 9

AN OPEN BOOK
Tim Crothers is set to talk about his biography of UNC women's soccer head coach Anson Dorrance, "The Man Watching," today in Hamilton 100.

this day in history

OCT. 24, 1919
The Carolina Playmakers holds its first "caper," making fun of a production from the previous year and topping off the event with a party.

weather

Sunny
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