THE DAILY CLIPS

November 27, 2007

News, commentary, and opinion
compiled by the East Carolina University News Bureau from:

The Greenville Daily Reflector
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The New York Times
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Business Week
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Roof canned as Duke coach

School says it will spend the money needed to compete

BY LUCIANA CHAVEZ
STAFF WRITER

DURHAM — Duke fired head football coach Ted Roof on Monday as athletic director Joe Alleva vowed to spend more to snare a proven replacement so a team long known as a doormat in the Atlantic Coast Conference can again compete for championships.

"The conference has changed tremendously, and perhaps we haven't done a good job of keeping up with the conference," Alleva said at an afternoon news briefing to disclose the dismissal. "And I'm telling you today, that's going to change."

Now, Alleva said, Duke will be in the game — but will do so without compromising its stringent academic standards to admit athletes who cannot succeed in the classroom.

Alleva said Duke will boost its salary offer to get a new coach, perhaps matching the more than $2 million salary of UNC's Butch Davis and the more than $1 million that N.C. State pays Tom O'Brien. Both Davis and O'Brien were hired a year ago as the Triangle's largest football schools made splashy moves to elevate their programs to championship level. Roof's pay has not been made public.

Alleva pledged that Duke would look at major improvements to 78-year-old Wallace Wade Stadium, which doesn't have the cushy skyboxes favored by big-money donors now.

SEE ROOF, PAGE 8A
SEE, HEAR MORE
& Hear audio on the firing of Ted Roof and see more photos of his Duke coaching career at newsobserver.com/sports.

More important, Alleva said, Duke would look for a proven coach who can recruit better players and get wins on the field to energize fans. Alleva will head the search and said he hopes to make a hire by Christmas.

I think the coach is the key," Alleva said. "With the right budget and the right facilities, the coach is the one that has to attract the student-athletes."

Duke President Richard Brodhead said in a statement he supported the decision.

"Through our team has shown progress, we have yet to reach the success we're looking for," Brodhead said. "Duke is committed to developing excellence in football, and I am confident that with new leadership, we will achieve this goal."

Roof had gone 7-4-5 in four-plus seasons. Duke was just 2-3-3 in the past three seasons. Roof's winning percentage (.118) ranks as the lowest in the program's 87-year history.

ACC losing streak

Roof's teams had lost 25 straight games in the ACC, which added football power Florida State in 1991 and, in the past three years, dominating programs at Virginia Tech, Boston College and Miami.

Duke last won the ACC title in 1989.

Roof had fought to keep his job in recent days. He met with Alleva and Brodhead on Sunday morning to discuss the job. Alleva said he reached his decision Sunday night but told Roof on Monday morning.

However, Alleva said he started to think he might have to make a change when the Blue Devils lost control of a close game at Notre Dame two weeks ago and lost 28-7.

Roof said he thought a win over archival North Carolina on Saturday would earn him a fifth season. But Duke's freshman kicker, Nick Maggio, misssed a 40-yard field goal at the end of regulation that would have secured the victory.

 Asked whether his decision would have been different had Maggio made the kick, Alleva said, "Probably not."

Roof, who had one year remaining on a five-year contract, said Monday that he was proud of his record in graduating football players and building character in his players. He said the program was close to turning a corner.

"But at the end of the day, it falls in the head coach's lap," Roof said. "That's the way it is. I take full responsibility for that."

Roof echoed Alleva's views on change, saying Duke will have to make significant moves in its program if administrators want to win more. Earlier this year, Roof had led gatherings of important supporters and former players, even researching how nearly two dozen similar universities approached football.

Roof declined to say what changes were necessary, saying it would breach confidentiality agreements with the 22 schools Duke studied.

"I think when you look at the

'A commitment'

"We've got a commitment here to football," he told reporters. "Most of you may not believe that, but we have a tremendous commitment here to football."

Duke ended the 2007 season with a 20-14 overtime loss to rival North Carolina on Saturday, giving the team a 1-11 record this year. The Blue Devils went 0-12 in 2006, 1-10 in 2005, 2-9 in 2004; and were 2-3 under Roof in 2003.

Alleva praised Roof for his integrity and values. He also said the program was better off under Roof, though it is the one team in the athletic program that "does not live up to Duke standards."

"Ted Roof has brought things to our attention that we needed to do, and we've done many of them," Alleva said. "I'm sure another coach will bring other things to our attention that we need to do. And we are prepared to do those things to compete for championships."

Ultimately, the win-loss record could not be ignored.

"It just comes down to the point where you have to win some games," Alleva said.

News researcher Denise Jones contributed to this report.

Luciana Chavez/newsobserver.com or (919) 829-4864

University of North Carolina head coach Butch Davis, left, meets with Ted Roof on the field after UNC beat Duke 20-14 Saturday in the final game of the season for both.

AP Photo by Karl DeBlaker
AIDS Quilt visits the Triangle

BY MEILING ABOUNNARATH
STAFF WRITER

Quilts often bring to mind images of gray-haired Southern women sitting in a circle talking about their lives, sipping sweet tea and sewing.

But this quilt conjures far different impressions: of men, women and children losing their lives, wasting away from a disease for which there is as yet no cure.

The quilt — the AIDS Memorial Quilt — was made by friends, lovers, mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, aunts, uncles, and grandchildren of people with AIDS from all over the world. It was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize in 1989 and has been called "the largest community art project in the world."

This week, pieces of it are hanging in various buildings at UNC-Chapel Hill and at the Family Life Center of First Baptist Church in downtown Raleigh. The blocks, or sections, of the quilt were brought to the Triangle to commemorate World AIDS Day on Saturday.

In Raleigh, the First Baptist Church, 109 S. Wilmington St., will have an opening ceremony at noon Friday, and will hold a World AIDS Day interfaith worship service at 7 p.m. Saturday. The 20 quilt panels on display can be viewed from noon to 7 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, and 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday. Someone will read names from the quilt aloud during the times it is available for viewing.

At UNC-CH, more than 15 student organizations joined the N.C. Hillel Foundation for Jewish Campus Life in scheduling a weeklong series of events to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS.

SEE AIDS QUILT, PAGE 6B
AIDS QUILT
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

awareness of HIV (the human immunodeficiency virus) and AIDS (acquired immunodefi-
ciency syndrome), which HIV causes.

Except for the student volunteers who were handing out pamphlets about AIDS, HIV and
the quilt, many of the students at the Student Union and the Global Education Center paid
little notice to the displays Monday.

Most glanced up once and kept walking. Some were making a beeline for comfortable
chairs for studying or working on their laptops.

But Rachel Harper, a member of N.C. Hillel's student life board who spearheaded the
events, remains optimistic.

"On UNC's campus — because it's a college — sometimes, when you talk about issues like this,
it's almost like preaching to the choir," she admits. But that's exactly why she wants to raise more awareness
about the disease and virus. It's still a crisis, she said, but people aren't treating it like a crisis anymore.

"Lately, I haven't seen coverage of HIV/AIDS in the media, unless it has to do with
pharmaceutical companies," said Harper, a junior majoring in biology. "I can't help but think what the world is losing
when more than 2 million people [in the world] die from this each year."

To Will Martin, a senior majoring in anthropology, sitting at a table under a block of the
quilt in the Global Education Center is one of his contributions to increasing awareness.

"It's something I can do here to help out," he said, poised to educate the next passer-by

about the disease that is the quilt's namesake. "It's something tangible I can do. The
AIDS Quilt is a very tangible way of visualizing the painful AIDS epidemic."

Hanging above him was a block made in part by Benjamin and Anthony Hernandez and
"Mom," who scribbled "Daddy we miss you" on a pink piece of cloth about the size of a 3-by-5
note card.

Another section was made by "Rosemary" in memory of Dan Sileo: "I knew you for a short
time, but it was full of joy, laughs, and your great baking," was written in black marker
and signed "Love, Rosemary."

Though Martin wants to tell students about the people who are infected and affected by
AIDS and HIV, he also wants to portray "a sense of hope, and a value in the past so we can make
changes in the future."

"A lot of people say AIDS is one of the biggest moral problems of our generation," he said.
"So what are we going to do about it?"

Alex Michael, a junior majoring in communications, was shocked that UNC-CH was able
to get pieces of the AIDS Quilt. "It's one of the biggest art projects in the world. Having
that kind of collaboration for one topic is awe-inspiring," she said as she volunteered to educate passers-by Monday. "[HIV/
AIDS] doesn't just affect a certain demographic. It affects anyone and everyone."
In college coaching, insist on excellence

Regarding the Nov. 24 news story "UNC criticized for Davis' pay raise": I’m a UNC faculty member, but I have no problem with football coach Butch Davis earning the market wage. What I do have a problem with is his getting a raise for mediocrity. UNC professors are expected to be excellent in teaching, research and service. I don’t get a large raise for simply being competent for a single year.

Let’s hold off on raises for Davis until his team excels for several years.

Michael Foster
Chapel Hill

One beats 24

The educational mission of our universities is being increasingly perverted by the emphasis on, and expense of, big-time sport. Universities should not be fostering training schools for gladiators who aspire to receive huge contracts in the NFL or NBA.

Correspondingly, to give UNC-Chapel Hill football coach Butch Davis a raise of $291,000 — The N&O reports that he “will receive an average of more than $2 million a year” for a first year in which he has won a third of the games — is outrageous.

Former UNC President Bill Friday observes that the raise “would be far in excess of that provided the (UNC) president or any chancellor and substantially greater than the yearly compensation of an English professor.”

In fact, the public Faculty Salary Record of August 2007 shows that the combined salaries of all 24 full-time full professors of English at UNC-Chapel Hill total $2,797,000. If Davis’ raises continue at the current rate, in three years his compensation will surpass the combined salaries of all these professors.

As for the value of their work compared to that of the football coach, while future crowds may exit Kenan Stadium with a temporary feeling of euphoria if the team wins, skill in English is of lasting benefit in virtually every occupation and way of life.

Christopher Armitage
Bowman and Gordon Gray Professor, Department of English
UNC-Chapel Hill
Chapel Hill

Teachers lose out

After teaching for 14 years at three different colleges and universities as an adjunct professor (Meredith College, UNC-Chapel Hill and Elon University), I have watched my salary decrease in relation to the cost of living. It has been impossible to get access to even minimal benefits. So I am thankful to read that some other people are as outraged as I at the millions and millions being spent by our universities on something that has precious little to do with education.

Lisbeth Brittain Carter
Raleigh
Education can work

Opposing view:
Licensing course would do more to curb abuse than failed age-21 laws.

By John McCardell

Though alcohol-related traffic fatalities are lower now than in 1984, they are higher than they were 10 years ago. Indeed, for the first two years after the drinking age was raised, such fatalities increased in the 16-20 age group. We must be cautious in asserting cause-and-effect relationships.

There are other considerations. How to calculate the role of safer automobiles or mandatory seat-belt laws? How to treat the demographic reality that the number of 18- to 20-year-olds has risen and fallen over the years?

How to explain National Highway Traffic Safety Administration data showing that more lives have been saved by safety restraints in the past two years than have been saved by legal age 21 in all the years since the law changed? And how to regard the 1,000 alcohol-related deaths each year among 18- to 24-year-olds off the roadways, a number increasing at an alarming rate?

Finally, how to measure cultural change? The "designated driver," unknown 25 years ago, is now commonplace. Drinking and driving, in short, has become unacceptable.

For this sea change in cultural perceptions, credit is due to organizations like Mothers Against Drunk Driving. Education can work.

Yet, ask high-schoolers about alcohol education, and you will hear about temperance lectures and scare tactics. Then ask colleges that have tried more reality-based approaches, such as AlcoholEdu. You will hear of significant reductions in reckless drinking and alcohol-induced behavioral problems. Education can work — if it reflects the social environment young people know.

Education should result in licensing. A young adult completing a comprehensive alcohol education course should be permitted to purchase, possess and consume alcohol. The license would certify that the holder is prepared to make responsible decisions. It would also serve as an incentive: Those violating the laws of the issuing state before turning 18 forfeit eligibility; those violating the laws after turning 18 immediately forfeit the license. This could do more to curb teenage drinking than anything we have yet tried.

Much has changed in the past 23 years. But alcohol remains a reality in the lives of 18- to 20-year-olds. Effective public policy should acknowledge that reality and create the safest possible environment for it.

John McCardell, former president of Middlebury College in Vermont, is the founder and director of Choose Responsibility.
Would an age 18 minimum curb alcohol abuse?

Our view:
Idea gains traction on campus, but evidence shows 21 law saves lives.

On most college campuses, only seniors and some juniors are old enough to consume alcohol legally. But you'd never notice that distinction on a Saturday night. Or, for that matter, Thursday night or Friday night.

Despite the minimum drinking age of 21, students of all ages imbibe, many to excess. The American Medical Association links drinking to 1,400 deaths, 500,000 injuries and 70,000 sexual assault cases on campuses every year.

This all suggests that the age 21 law has been about as successful at preventing underage drinking as Prohibition was at keeping alcohol from society as a whole. So does that mean it's time to revert to 18? Supporters of the idea, which is gaining traction, make a number of logical arguments. But what sounds logical isn't necessarily prudent public policy.

The drinking age is a hot topic on campuses and beyond. In the past five years, four states have considered lowering the age, set at 21 in 1984 by Congress. Former college president John McCardell created an advocacy group, Choose Responsibility, that is pushing for age 18, coupled with an education and licensing program. Not surprisingly, more than 30,000 students have signed a pro-18 online petition.

The pro-18 argument goes like this: If 18-year-olds are allowed to vote and serve in the military, they ought to be able to drink. The age 21 minimum simply undermines respect for the law and prevents young people from learning to drink responsibly at home before they get to college. Once they arrive, the 21 law prevents them from imbibing socially in restaurants or bars. Instead, students huddle in dorm rooms or fraternity and sorority houses, where they tend to binge on "forbidden fruit" and harm themselves or others.

These arguments are not without merit. The pro-18 case, however, runs aground over the inconvenient truth about highway deaths. In the early 1970s, many states lowered the drinking age to 18 to accommodate Vietnam War veterans, but when alcohol-related highway deaths rose, states went back to 21.

About 50 major studies point to the same conclusion: On average, traffic deaths drop by 16% when the drinking age goes from 18 to 21. Since 1984, about 25,000 lives have been saved, federal highway authorities estimate. While it's true that other safety measures, such as seat belts, save even more lives, that's not a reason for giving up the gains attributable to the drinking age.

Lowering the legal drinking age would undoubtedly make even more alcohol, purchased legally by 18-year-olds, available to younger teens, some of whom are just learning to drive. Inexperienced drivers and alcohol are a particularly dangerous mix.

Choose Responsibility's argument that 18-year-olds could be issued "drinking licenses" after completing alcohol education courses is also unconvincing. Would fake drinking licenses be any less rampant than fake IDs are now?

Rather than try to poke holes in leak-proof research, groups such as Choose Responsibility would be better off advising colleges how to deal effectively with a difficult issue, without either turning a blind eye or transforming campuses into police states.

Americans are entering a holiday season, Thanksgiving through New Year's Eve, during which 1,773 people — 247 of them under 21 — were killed in alcohol-related crashes a year ago. To be sure, the problem is far more complex than an arbitrary age limit, but it is 18 or 21. But based on the best available evidence, lowering the drinking age would only increase the carnage.

Life savers

The government estimates that the age-21 drinking law saves about 1,000 lives a year.

| Safety belts | 19,434 |
|             |       |
| Air bags    | 12,547 |
| Motorcycle helmets | 1,316 |
| 21-year-old drinking age | 923 |
| Child restraints | 451 |

1 — From 2004, the latest year data available Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

By Alejandro Gonzales, USA Today
Runner beats rivals by decades

Man holds record for ages 95-99

BY JERRY ALLEGOOD
STAFF WRITER

GREENVILLE — As a runner, Bill Finch is a world record holder, but he's willing to slow down to play badminton with gray-haired, sore-kneed folks ranging in age from 55 to 75.

"I'm used to playing with these young people," he says with a laugh.

Finch is 95.

Finch holds a slew of gold medals, including a world record for the 1,500 meter run in the 95-99 age bracket. During the National Senior Games in Louisville, Ky., earlier this year, he was clocked at 13:07:12.

A 13-minute time may not seem speedy compared with the men's world record of 3 minutes, 26 seconds. But Finch is more than three times the age of many record setters. He's been eligible to participate in senior games, which start at age 55, for 40 years.

"The fact that he is able to race and compete at that age is a remarkable achievement," says Brad Allen, president of the N.C. Senior Games.

Finch is well-known statewide by participants in the senior games competition, which attracts about 3,000 athletes to state finals. "He gives some younger people a run for their money," Allen says.

A native of Raleigh, Finch attended Cary High School and UNC-Chapel Hill. He had one career with Carolina Power & Light Co. and after retirement worked with the emergency management agency in Cumberland County. A widower, he moved to Pitt County about 10 years ago to be closer to his son, Bill Finch Jr., a pharmacist at the East Carolina University medical school.

"I can't keep up with him," the younger Finch says. He said his father trains in his own way, with no coach or program other than running regularly based on how he feels. Typically, he runs alone.

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RUNNER
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Finch says his father rarely has encountered problems, except one time about five years ago when he tripped in a hole while running in the dark, fell and cut his face. He then drove himself to the hospital, had the injury stitched up and drove himself home.

Finch usually jogs through his neighborhood — or sometimes on a track at a junior high school — on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. His daily running regimen is surprisingly simple — no stretching or warmups. "I just run," he says.

During competitions, he sets a pace and stays with it until a push near the end.

Finch has a full head of white hair and wears glasses, but otherwise his trim frame belies his age. He admits to watching his weight closely. "Every time my weight gets over 155, I start worrying about it," he says.

Pressed for some insight into his longevity and stamina, he reveals the closest thing to a secret: "I eat turnip greens."

Although running is his forte, Finch participates in other sports. He took up archery at the behest of a woman who was 80. "She beat me so bad, I quit," he jokes.

He also tried half-court basketball with younger guys. "If they had used two goals and two ends [of the court] I could outrun 'em," he says.

Friends admire his positive attitude. "He's got to be competitive to be doing it at 95," says Jackie Hayes, 63, who plays badminton with Finch.

Alice Keene, local coordinator for the Greenville/Pitt County Senior Games, says Finch is the oldest participant in the program and often has no others in his age group during competition. That doesn't take away from his accomplishments, she says, and rather highlights his uniqueness. She said Finch is an illustration of the benefits of staying active and fit.

She said he often-accompanies her to recruit college students as volunteers for the senior games.

"He is a tremendous inspiration to people of all ages," she said.

Allen, the state coordinator, says Finch is still at the top of his game and ready for the next age bracket.

"We fully expect him to set the record for 100-plus," he said.

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Author Tom Wolfe was a big name at the 2006 North Carolina Festival of the Book.

STAFF FILE PHOTO BY TED RICHARDSON

Librarians say book festival future is bleak

BY CRAIG JARVIS
STAFF WRITER

From Barbara Kingsolver's keynote speech to the intriguing match-ups of literary kin, it seemed that the N.C. Festival of the Book couldn't get any better than the 2006 event based at Duke University.

And it might not. UNC-Chapel Hill is passing on its turn as host of the biennial festival in 2008, and the other university librarians who have organized the event say it may no longer be practical to pull it off.

"I know some people will be disappointed," said Sarah Michalak, librarian and vice provost at UNC-CH. But she said the university couldn't take on the monumental task of organizing the event and also concentrate on developing its library programs as part of its strategic plan.

Resource issues have haunted the festival since its founding in 1998. The first N.C. Literary Festival, featuring Annie Dillard and John Grisham, was sponsored by the Center for the Study of the American South at UNC-CH. Money problems derailed plans to make the festival biennial. It returned in 2002 after the university librarians, led by Susan K. Nutter of N.C. State University, resurrected it with a plan of rotating it among UNC, NCSU and Duke.

"This was something that was a real strength and treasure in North Carolina, its writers and talent that we have here," said Nutter, also a vice provost. "We wanted to foster it."

Without a dedicated staff or institutional home, the host school has had to start from scratch with planning and raising money.

The 2002 version, held in Chapel Hill and run with a $200,000 budget, featured Julia Alvarez and a concentration of regional writers. The Raleigh edition in 2004, with a $150,000 budget, boasted Alice Walker and Dennis Lehane and added a film component.

Last year Duke had a $280,000 budget, half of which the university raised; the rest came from foundations, corporations and the other three campuses (N.C. Central University was brought in for the first time). Duke also hired a director to focus exclusively on the festival. In addition to the wattage of Kingsolver and Tom Wolfe, the festival added intrigue with pairs of writers — Allan Gurganus with former student Ann Patchett, Doug Marlette and close friend Pat Conroy, Kaye Gibbons and chum Mary Chapin Carpenter — for conversations. The event was widely praised as the best of all the festivals.

But Nutter isn't ready to concede to the demise of the universities' joint effort. When it became apparent that UNC-CH planned to bow out, she suggested that the campuses pool their library programs under the literary festival name and be more aggressive about publicizing them.

"At N.C. State we're going to go at it with a vengeance," she said. "It's important to us."

Michalak said UNC had recently organized programs that might fit the idea — one featuring Mary Shelley's "Frankenstein" and others involving English explorer-artist John White and North Carolina writer John Ehle's reprinted book "The Free Men."

"We can begin to forge out of that a literary series," Michalak said. "It's going to take a little time to build that. We're hoping to be able to create a fully satisfying stream of events that people will come to rely on."

Duke librarian and vice provost Deborah Jakubs said she would still like to see the festival return to campus one day.

"Don't write us off yet," she said.
PLAN: THRASH WILDLY, DON'T NEGLECT THE FUN

Inner peace? Not necessarily, but inner tube water polo's a kick at UNC-CH

BY SAMUEL SPIES
STAFF WRITER

CHAPEL HILL — The sounds echo off the walls and windows. Shouts. Cheers. Splashing — lots of that.

The referee's whistle. The smack of yellow balls against outstretched hands. The clang of a shot hitting a metal goalpost.

All of it mixed with the sharp tang of chlorine.

This is inner tube water polo at UNC-Chapel Hill.

"It's a haphazard game." — Ariel Zimnick, a journalism major, after her first match.

"It's just fun because no one really knows what they're doing." — Matt Johnston, a biology and psychology double major from Sugar Land, Texas.

Two teams of six players each take to the water, belly-up in black inner tubes, thrashing wildly to move just a few feet.

"You paddle and kick and paddle and kick, and you're not really moving, or you're going in circles." — Nikki Rowell, a psychology major from Charlotte.

It's not easy, but it's fun, they say.

"It's not water polo, but at the same time, how often do you picture 10 guys in a pool on inner tubes?" — Brian Husar, a peace, war and defense major from Chicago.

The rules are simple. Among them: Stay in the tube, and pass the ball within five seconds.

It's a popular intramural sport at UNC-CH. Between 30 and 40 teams compete for coveted intramural champions' T-shirts, and there was a waiting list this year of about 20 more teams.

Because of limited pool space, the games are played in half an hour each. There are men's, women's and mixed leagues.

The play is fast, and ball control and possession are a big part of it. But there are other tactics.

"Have as much fun as possible — that's our strategy." — Sean Skwerer, a math and statistics major from Raleigh.

David Buff looks to make a pass, which, according to the rules, players must do within five seconds.

WATCH IT ONLINE: To watch the students play, go to this story at newsobserver.com/news.
UNC criticized for
Former system President Bill Friday says it's 'excessive'; Knight

Davis' pay raise
Commission member Hudding Carter calls it 'premature.'

BY SAMUEL SPIES
STAFF WRITER

CHAPEL HILL - Former UNC system President Bill Friday criticized a college athletics "arms race" Friday, two days after UNC-Chapel Hill announced a $291,000 raise for football coach Butch Davis.

Davis got a one-year contract extension and the raise despite posting a 3-8 record heading into the final game today against Duke.

The UNC-CH Board of Trustees has to approve the raise, which would bring his compensation to an average of more than $2 million a year, including endorsements from the Nike shoe company and bonuses.

In an interview, Friday said the board should correct "excessive yearly compensation of an English professor," he said.

Trustees Chairman Roger Perry said the board is committed to rebuilding the football program and was not motivated by rumors of other schools trying to lure Davis.

"It's lamentable that that's what it takes to compete," Perry said Friday. "Unless we unilaterally disarm our program, we are going to have to stay competitive. ... This is an issue that's much, much bigger than just us."

Trustees Bob Winstead and John Ellison agreed, both saying they would vote to approve the raise.

"I believe that if you look at the reputation of the University of

SEE DAVIS, PAGE 4B
North Carolina and where we have focused the vast majority of our time and resources, it is clear that we believe the academic mission is the most important mission of the university, and it will continue to be so," Winston said.

Davis’ raise will be a combination of base salary and supplemental salary, meaning some money will come from the athletic department and some will come from the Educational Foundation, the department’s fundraising arm.

George Hogan, who in 1947 was hired as the first employee of the Educational Foundation, said Davis has not impressed him.

“I think it’s utterly ridiculous,” said Hogan, who estimated he has given “a couple hundred thousand” dollars to Carolina athletics over the years. “If he wants to leave, or if he doesn’t want to be at Carolina, then let him go.”

Hodding Carter III, University Professor of Leadership and Public Policy, also criticized the six-figure raise.

“We just bid against a mythical salary to keep a guy we had just given a very good contract ... A really fine contract to a coach that may prove himself. But I would say that it’s a little premature.”

Carter is a member of the Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics, which promotes college athletic reform. Friday is its former co-chairman, though he said he was speaking only for himself.

“Big-time football has the potential of, and the record of, doing more to corrupt the mission of higher education,” Carter said.

Friday said the raise sends the wrong message about the university’s priorities, a problem that began when “commercial television brought its largess into the world of intercollegiate sports.”

“This salary action establishes a level of compensation so dramatically out of balance with the compensation of the faculty of the university that I hope and trust the trustees and the [Board of Governors] will meet their obligation to correct the excessive imbalances, which, if not corrected, establish the real priorities of the university,” Friday said.

The UNC system Board of Governors approved 15.7 percent raises this fall for UNC-CH Chancellor James Moeser and N.C. State University Chancellor James Oblinger. The $53,035 raises increase their pay to $390,835 and were given, in part, to raise the UNC-CH chancellor’s salary to a more competitive level as the search begins for Moeser’s replacement.

UNC athletics director Dick Baddour said Davis has buoyed the program despite his losing record, citing five sellouts, strong recruiting and on-the-field improvements. Baddour said he expects the trustees to approve the raise.

The UNC athletics department posted a deficit for the first time in eight years because of the firing of former football coach John Bunting and subsequent hiring of Davis last year.

Staff writers Anne Blythe and Robbi Pickeral contributed to this report.