



# 2003 NORTH CAROLINA FOOTBALL

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# JOHN BUNTING



**HEAD COACH**  
**3RD YEAR AT CAROLINA**

by Lee Pace, Extra Points

During his two years back at his beloved alma mater, John Bunting has seen both the light and the darkness. He's felt ecstasy and misery, pride and embarrassment. He's floated on a cloud and been dragged through the gunk.

His 2001 Tar Heel football team finished 8-5. It won five straight games—including a memorable 41-9 shellacking of Florida State—was in contention for a BCS berth late in the year and finished the season with a victory over Auburn in the Chick-Fil-A Peach Bowl.

"That was a perfect team to walk into," Bunting says of his hiring in December, 2000. "That was a senior class laden with guys who were ready for me. They wanted to win. They were frustrated with losing. And they had talent. It was an ideal situation to win a bunch of ball games."

His 2002 team wheeled 180 degrees. The Tar Heels were 3-9 and endured a wretched late-season stretch when, with starting QB Darian Durant sidelined with a broken thumb, they scored only four touchdowns in four games and yielded 172 points over the same month. During the latter part of the year, Bunting gathered together the freshman and sophomore classes—the foundation to the future of the program—and pounded home the fact that this was a temporary state of affairs.

"I wanted them to understand why we were losing and losing the way we were—we were

too young and not strong, not physical and not emotional enough," Bunting says. "That's what our off-season has been all about—creating toughness and competitiveness. I don't know if you're born with toughness and competitiveness. I think you learn to be tough and you learn to be competitive."

Through the ups and the downs, Carolina's 32nd head coach has demonstrated a remarkable combination of resiliency, toughness, intelligence, passion and leadership. He's needed every skill in the book as the Tar Heels are trying to overcome youth and depth problems and restore the program to the heights it enjoyed in the 1990s—including seven consecutive bowl berths and back-to-back Top 10 finishes in 1996-97.

Bunting was an All-ACC linebacker for the Tar Heels during his 1969-71 playing career in Chapel Hill. He returned to Carolina after a stellar playing career with the Philadelphia Eagles and a coaching career that included a head-coaching stint in NCAA Division III and NFL assistant positions in Kansas City, St. Louis and New Orleans. After two-plus years in the competitive fire of top-line Division I-A football, Bunting now comfortably has his arms around the challenge of running a program at the upper reaches of the college game. It's more than X-and-Os and tackling technique. It's recruiting and fund-raising, it's academic counseling and university politics.

"What I'm better at now than the first year is understanding the enormity of the entire operation," Bunting says. "I've been accused of doing too much—too much speaking, too many charities. My coach at Philadelphia, Dick Vermeil, has an expression—'The main thing is the main thing. Don't take your eye off the main thing.' That, of course, is winning."

"But in order to get this program turned around, I've got to win on a lot of fronts. I've got to get out there and meet those people so they stay supportive. We've got to keep them excited about what we're doing. I'm also more focused on the discipline within the team. My tolerance threshold is low.

"More than anything, I've got to make sure our staff recruits guys that are in touch with my mindset. We can't take anyone who's not mentally and emotionally ready for this program. We have to recruit with character in mind – tough guys who love football."

The Tar Heels are getting closer to that standard. Bunting and staff signed a recruiting class in February considered by consensus one

of the two best in the ACC and among the top 20 nationally—eighth by PrepStar, 16th by SuperPrep, and 17th by Tom Lemming of ESPN. That follows a 2002 class—Bunting's first true signing class after being on the job for a year—which has some fine players but was hit from a perception standpoint by several high-profile misses late in the game.

"I never doubted my ability or this staff's ability to recruit," Bunting says. "The perception of last year's class is nowhere close to the reality. But losing those kids at end line we did was a heart-breaker. So we turned the whole operation upside-down. Some things were fine. Some needed improving. We opened it up to new ideas.








"In the end, we did a better job promoting the University of North Carolina and the Chapel Hill experience."

Those close to the program know it's simply a matter of time until Bunting gets a roster full of players who pass his rigorous standards. The Tar Heels will be better in 2003 than they were in 2002. And better the year after that.

"This class shows Carolina is a force to be reckoned with," receivers coach Gunter Brewer says. "People recognize we can turn the corner in the blink of an eye and they want to be a part of it. The statement this class makes is that Carolina can get it done and we are getting it done."

Adam Metts was a senior on the 2001 team and a part of the 7-5 Peach Bowl champion

## THE BOOK ON BUNTING

-  Bunting was hired as Carolina's 32nd head coach on December 11, 2000.
-  Bunting won more games (eight) in his first season at North Carolina than any other first-year coach in school history.
-  In his first season, Bunting led the Tar Heels to a victory over Auburn in the 2001 Peach Bowl.
-  Bunting earned first-team All-ACC and honorable-mention All-America honors as a linebacker at North Carolina in 1971.
-  A 10th-round NFL pick, Bunting played 13 years of professional football, including 11 with the Philadelphia Eagles.
-  Bunting was the starting linebacker on the Eagles squad that played in the 1981 Super Bowl.
-  Bunting won a Super Bowl in 1999 as a co-defensive coordinator with the St. Louis Rams.

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team. He sees greatness ahead for Bunting & Co.

"I think coach Bunting can be the next Dean Smith, but for football," Metts says. "He knows the game, and he also knows how to relate it to players. He's a great motivator. This whole team was concentrated and so much more consumed by the game of football this year. A lot of it I attribute to coach Bunting and his staff and how they prepared us."

Bunting's hiring by Chancellor James Moesser and Athletic Director Dick Baddour culminated a decades-long dream by Bunting, who set his sights on one day coaching at his alma mater shortly after leaving Chapel Hill in the spring of 1972. At each stop along the way—from Philadelphia to Glassboro to Kansas City to St. Louis to New Orleans—Bunting took with him a framed photograph of Kenan Stadium. It hung in his locker or over his office desk for 30 years.

"Years ago I mentioned I'd like to be the head coach at North Carolina," said Bunting. "What a stupid thing to say. I didn't even know what coaching was like. But, I knew I'd like to explore the possibility. I just didn't want to say, 20 years from now, 'Gee, I wish I'd bothered to find out.'"

Carolina's football family is glad he went to the trouble.



Prospective football players for the junior-varsity team at Springbrook High in Silver Spring, Md., gathered on the practice field in August 1965, under the watchful eye of coach Jim Collier. He noticed over the first few days that one kid seemed to be at the front of the line for the tire drill and cone drill. One seemed to have more fuel left after two hours than the others. One was stronger and certainly very fast for his size—just over 6-foot and nearly 200 pounds. He seemed to set a high standard for the other kids to follow.

Collier knew he was on to something.

"I came home one night after practice and told my wife, 'If I'm ever going to coach a pro, I have one now,'" Collier says.

"It's not anything you can explain to people. It's a sense of drive, of hunger, it's something inside that absolutely propels someone to excel. And, of course, he had the physical attributes to go with it."

The player, of course, was John Bunting.

Over the next three seasons, Bunting would inscribe the number "31" in each of his football shoes—in honor of his hero, Green Bay Packer fullback Jim Taylor—and take the field to create loads of ills for the opposition as a fullback on offense and linebacker on defense.

Bunting's efforts caught the eye of a young

assistant coach on the staff of new Tar Heel coach Bill Dooley in the fall of 1967. John Atherton became impressed with the pain Bunting felt after a narrow loss to a rival. "Coach Atherton told us, 'John's had a taste of losing. He doesn't like it at all. I like that in him,'" remembers Jim Bunting, John's father.

Young Bunting already had an attraction for the Tar Heels, having been smitten with their colors and demeanor as a basketball team playing at nearby College Park against the University of Maryland. He picked Carolina over Maryland and became a three-year starter at the beginning of his sophomore year, 1969. Bunting would earn all-conference honors as a senior and help in the gradual escalation of the program's fortunes—5-5 in '69, 8-4 in '70 and 9-3 in '71.

His trademarks were not physical skills—he ran 4.9 in the 40 and stood only 6-1, 210 pounds—but toughness, mental acuity and white-hot desire to be the best.

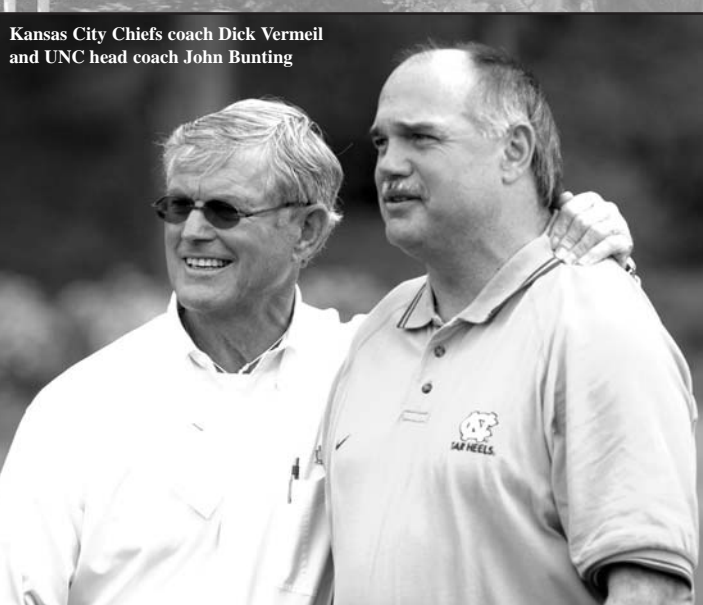
"John's got linebackers' eyes," says John Anderson, a classmate and fellow linebacker. "The intensity burns through. It's like you can see them a mile away."

"John was so fierce," says Flip Ray, who played defensive tackle in the class ahead of Bunting. "He would take or deliver the hardest hit you can imagine, then get right back up. His jaw would tighten, his eyes would burn with intensity.

"He wouldn't have to say anything. Just seeing him stare out from behind that facemask was all anyone else needed for motivation."

Bunting's final team collected the ACC Championship and lost 7-3 to Georgia in the Gator Bowl. Since then, only the 1972, 1977 and 1980 teams have won the league title, a distinction that's become increasingly more difficult the last decade with Florida State's admission to the ACC. At the news conference to announce his hiring, a reporter asked Bunting about the huge Super Bowl ring he collected during his tenure in St. Louis.

Bunting paid homage to the Rams' accom-



Kansas City Chiefs coach Dick Vermeil and UNC head coach John Bunting

## BUNTING & THE NFL

- Played in the Super Bowl with the Philadelphia Eagles in 1981.
- Won a Super Bowl in 1999 as a co-defensive coordinator with the St. Louis Rams. The Rams defense was No. 1 in the league against the run and No. 6 overall.
- Bunting is one of only three current college coaches to play at least five years in the NFL.



## CAROLINA & THE NFL DRAFT UNDER JOHN BUNTING

- 1st Round - No. 2 Julius Peppers
- 1st Round - No. 6 Ryan Sims
- 4th Round - David Thornton, Sam Aiken
- 7th Round - Joey Evans, Ronald Curry, Quincy Monk
- More players were drafted from North Carolina in 2002 than any other ACC school.
- Carolina ranked sixth in the country with six NFL draft picks in 2002.
- Among the players Bunting has coached in the NFL are: Former Tar Heel All-America and current Detroit cornerback Dre' Bly, Houston linebacker Charlie Clemons, Buffalo linebacker London Fletcher and former Kansas City linebacker Derrick Thomas.

plishment—capped by a 23-17 win over Tennessee in the 2000 Super Bowl—then reached in his pocket and pulled out a smaller, older ring.

"This ring right here is just as important to me," he said. "It's my 1971 ACC Championship ring that I won with a bunch of hard-working guys who had one common goal. That's what we're going to work to get done here."

That elicited a hearty round of applause from the smattering of former players, athletic department staffers, Tar Heel players and other Carolina supporters interspersed with the news media. That was the first true insight into this coach who had lived in relative obscurity to the rank-and-file Tar Heel fan for the last three

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decades.

Many Carolina people were unaware that since leaving Chapel Hill Bunting had done the following:

- Served as a cornerstone to the building job Vermeil performed at Philadelphia from 1976-82, a period that included the Eagles winning the 1981 NFC Championship before losing to Oakland in the Super Bowl.

“His passion for the game and the team were clear from the beginning,” says Vermeil. “He was a player you could build around, one who exemplified the characteristics you want in a football player. John defined the expression, ‘Winning with character.’”

- Exhibited extraordinary courage and desire to recover from a serious knee injury during the 1978 season. He had cartilage removed and ligaments repaired—major surgery at the time with a long convalescence. Many players don’t recover.

“Surgical and rehab techniques weren’t what they are today,” says Frank LeMaster, a fellow Eagles linebacker at the time. “He was in rehab six days a week, five hours a day. He had ice on his knee constantly. He paid the price dearly.”

- Became a defacto assistant coach by organizing weekly film study sessions for linebackers and being a sounding board for defensive coordinator Marion Campbell.

“John Bunting as a player knew more about our defense than Marion Campbell, who was a defensive genius,” All-Pro linebacker Bill Bergey says. “More than once Marion was challenged by John, not in a threatening way, but in a, ‘Why don’t we do this ...’ kind of way. Marion would always do it his way, because he didn’t want to be shown up by a player. But afterward, you’d see them over to the side talking about it. Marion wanted to know what John thought.”

- Played an integral role in the 1982 NFL players strike, which saw an eight-week work stoppage. Bunting was the Eagles’ players representative to the NFL Players Association and was a member of the players’ executive committee. Teammates and NFL officials felt the Eagles were one of the most unified and informed clubs in the league because of Bunting’s work.

“It was amazing the power John had over a lot of guys making a lot of money,” says K.C. Keeler, an Eagles teammate. “They’d follow him blindly.”

- Dived heart-and-soul into the coaching business in 1988 when he was named head coach at Glassboro State College in southern New Jersey. After two rebuilding seasons, Bunting’s teams won 28 games the last three years, as well as two league titles and one trip to the national semifinals.



Carolina won the 2001 Peach Bowl over Auburn in Bunting’s first season at Carolina.

“Anyone who played for John, loved him,” says Richard Wackar, a former Glassboro State (today known as Rowan University) coach and athletics director. “He could get more out of the kids than they believed they had in them.”

“His word was gold,” says Joe Low, who played for Bunting at Rowan. “It was the essence of a team playing for a coach.”

- Returned to the NFL for eight years as an assistant coach—four at Kansas City, three at St. Louis and one at New Orleans. His linebacking corps at each stop were considered among the best in the league. The high point of this tour of duty was winning the Super Bowl with Vermeil when one of his linebackers, Mike Jones, made the game-saving tackle at the one yard-line on a Tennessee Titan on the final play of the game.

“He’s a great teacher,” says Jay Williams, a member of the Rams’ defense that year. “I’m telling you, man, he’s a great, great coach.”

When the Carolina job became open following the 2000 season, Bunting realized that, at age 50, this would probably be his last opportunity at the job he’d coveted for so long. His bosses with the New Orleans Saints—in particular head coach Jim Haslett and general manager Randy Mueller—understood the passion Bunting had for Carolina and believed the job was such a perfect fit that they allowed him to pursue and interview for the job even though the Saints’ season was not over. That is not standard operating procedure in the NFL.

Bunting had the support of his former Tar Heel teammates, who understood the man’s inner workings and were willing to trust the future of their beloved program to the man who’d never coached at the Division I-A level. Gayle Bomar, a Tar Heel quarterback in the late-1960s, had a long phone conversation with Bunting during the search process and hung up believing Carolina could not find a better man for the job.

“John blew me away with how passionate he was about the job, that Carolina was where he wanted to be, that he wanted to get the program back to where it had been,” Bomar says. “I could tell he had that fire in his belly. He didn’t talk about the money, didn’t talk about being a head coach. All he wanted to do was help Carolina realize its potential. There was not an ounce of doubt in his voice at all. At that point, I jumped on bandwagon. I said, ‘This guy needs to be here.’”

Baddour and Moeser formed the same opinion once they had the opportunity to meet with him. Bunting was hired and immediately brought a jolt of energy to a program that had lost the edge it enjoyed during back-to-back Top 10 seasons in 1996-97.

“John Bunting is a man of passion,” Baddour said.

“This man will energize our fan base,” Moeser said.

“He has the swagger of a winner,” defensive tackle Ryan Sims said.

“You could feel the power around him,” defensive tackle Will Chapman added.

Two of the most significant early moves Bunting made were to re-staff the strength and conditioning area of the program—Jeff Connors was hired from East Carolina to direct this crucial department—and to schedule defending champion Oklahoma on the road for his first game of the 2001 season. Those were major statements.

“What an incredible show of respect the Oklahoma game was for us, and he didn’t even know us at the time,” says Metts. “It set the tone for the offseason. If you want to be the best, you’ve got to play the best.”

Carolina lost at Oklahoma, then on the road as well at Maryland and Texas. But a foundation had been laid and Bunting and the Tar Heels never quit. They shocked Florida State at home on Sept. 22nd, then reeled off four more victories and were in the running for a Bowl Championship Series berth going into a road game at Georgia Tech in early November. Unfortunately, the Tar Heels lost that game and the next one, at home against Wake Forest, but rallied to beat Duke, SMU and Auburn to finish 8-5.

Through the ups and downs of 2001, Bunting is confident that the consistency of demands

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from him and his staff made an impression on the players.

"We stayed the course," Bunting says. "We wanted to do things our way. We've been very demanding and disciplined. A lot of players couldn't meet our standards and aren't here. A lot of players had to change their ways of doing things. They had to make the right choices, do the right things or suffer the consequences."

Prior to Carolina's victory over the SEC West champion Auburn in the Peach Bowl, 13 Tar Heels received their degrees in December graduation ceremonies. Those highlights were followed in April by an NFL Draft that saw six Tar Heels selected and four more sign free-agent contracts.

- **Winning.**
- **Graduating.**
- **Playing a game you love at the highest levels.**
- **Having an opportunity to succeed in the professional ranks.**

Those are the cornerstones to what the Carolina program under John Bunting will offer to its players.

"Coach Bunting is a fair and honest man," says linebacker David Thornton, who bolted from obscurity to a fourth-round NFL selection under Bunting. "He has a passion for his players on and off the field. He gave me the oppor-

tunity to play and didn't look at me differently because I was a former walk-on. He wants to put the best players on the field. It's a blessing that he came here when he did."

Defensive end Julius Peppers was the No. 2 pick overall in the draft and pointed to Bunting's attention to detail in helping refine his talents during his final year of collegiate football.

"Coach Bunting tried to get me adjusted to the NFL with a training-camp approach and bringing an NFL mentality to Carolina. He took me in his office and told me what it was going to be like at the next level. He had me watch tape of guys like (NFL defensive end) Joe Johnson and telling me things that would improve my game."

More and more Bunting will apply his thumbprint to the Carolina program. Fans appreciate his openness, his honesty, his regular-guy persona. Players know that no one played the game any smarter or tougher than Bunting did during his run as a Tar Heel.

He's living a dream, coaching on the campus he loved so much as a young man three decades ago. One of his favorite touches is the Old Well Walk, where the team busses deliver the players and Bunting to the Old Well two hours before home games. From there they walk through a tun-

nel of cheering fans through Polk Place to Kenan Stadium. It's an emotional stroll each week for Bunting.

"I have to fight back the tears every time," Bunting says. "But that's the way I am. I love this place. I couldn't be happier being back here after all these years."

*Lee Pace is a Chapel Hill writer and publisher of Extra Points, a newsletter covering Tar Heel football, and is author of Born & Bred—John Bunting Takes Dead Aim On His Dream Job At Carolina.*

## THE JOHN BUNTING FILE

• **Born:** July 15, 1950, in Portland, Maine

• **High School:** Springbrook High School in Silver Spring, Md., 1968

• **College:** University of North Carolina, 1972

### • Family

**Wife:** Dawn, former college basketball, softball and volleyball coach

**Children:** Kimberly and Brooks (both from previous marriage)

### • Player

**1969-71** University of North Carolina  
**1972-82** Philadelphia Eagles - NFL  
**1983-84** Philadelphia/Baltimore Stars - USFL

### • Coach

**1985** Baltimore Stars (USFL) - Assistant Coach, linebackers  
**1986** Brown University - Assistant Coach, defensive ends  
**1987** Rowan University - Assistant Coach, defensive line  
**1988-92** Rowan University - Head Coach  
**1993-94** Kansas City Chiefs (NFL) - Defensive Assistant Coach  
**1995-96** Kansas City Chiefs (NFL) - Assistant Coach, linebackers  
**1997** St. Louis Rams (NFL) - Assistant Coach, linebackers  
**1998-99** St. Louis Rams (NFL) - Assistant Coach, co-defensive coordinator & linebackers  
**2000** New Orleans Saints (NFL) - Assistant Coach, linebackers  
**2001-present** University of North Carolina Head Coach

## BUNTING BY THE NUMBERS

Year	Team	Record	Conf.	Postseason
1988	Glassboro State	5-5-0	—	—
1989	Glassboro State	5-3-2	—	—
1990	Glassboro State	7-3-0	—	—
1991	Glassboro State	9-2-0	—	NCAA Playoffs
1992	Rowan (Glassboro State)	12-1-0	—	NCAA Playoffs
2001	North Carolina	8-5-0	5-3 (3rd)	Won Peach Bowl
2002	North Carolina	3-9	1-7 (7th)	—
<b>Totals</b>		<b>49-28-2</b>	<b>6-10</b>	

**At North Carolina:** 11-14-0 (2 years)  
**At Glassboro State (Div. III):** 38-14-2 (6 years)

vs ACC Schools	vs. Non-Conference Schools
Florida State 1-1	SMU 1-0
Duke 2-0	East Carolina 1-0
NC State 1-1	Oklahoma 0-1
Clemson 1-1	Texas 0-2
Virginia 1-1	Syracuse 1-0
Wake Forest 0-2	Arizona State 1-0
Georgia Tech 0-2	Miami (Ohio) 0-1
Maryland 0-2	



Dawn and John Bunting with their two dogs Gracie and Joey.

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## WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING ABOUT JOHN BUNTING

"John is the total package as a football coach and as a person. I'm very close to him and I'm very proud of him. When you know someone as long as I've known John, you really get to know them. I have experienced the highs and the lows when he was both a player and a coach. We are both wearing world championship Super Bowl rings because of his contribution. He helped lead a defense that maybe wasn't as talented as some of the others in the league and we finished sixth in the league in total defense. We won that Super Bowl because of people like John Bunting and the type of defense he molded that season.

"I wasn't surprised that they fought through those first three losses (in 2001). He knows how to handle those kinds of things. He has the ability to take that pressure to win and get players to produce. He is going to have a team here that is disciplined, that loves to play and loves to work. It will be a family atmosphere and it will be a tight knit group of players. Carolina should be proud to have John Bunting as its head coach.

### ■ Kansas City Chiefs Head Coach Dick Vermeil

"He's done a great job (at UNC) and I think he'll continue to do a great job. I don't think they could have hired anybody better. I know he's got fine coaching ability. He understands the pro game as well as the college game. There's no question that he prepares guys for the NFL."

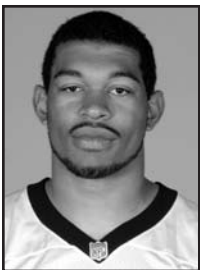
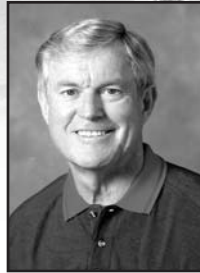
### ■ Carolina Panthers Head Coach John Fox

"He helped me out a lot, especially with little things. He tried to get me adjusted to the NFL with a training camp approach and bringing an NFL mentality to Carolina. He took me in his office and told me what it was going to be like at the next level. He had me watch some tape of guys like (NFL defensive end) Joe Johnson and telling me things that would improve my game."

### ■ Defensive End Julius Peppers No. 1 draft pick of the Carolina Panthers Played for Bunting in 2001

"John was, in my opinion, not the most gifted linebacker in the National Football league, but was absolutely the best prepared and the smartest. That's why he played so long and so well. He called all of our defenses in Super Bowl XV with the Eagles. I had him come to work with me with the Chiefs. I knew he'd be an outstanding coach, and he was. It didn't take him long to get to where he should be, which is as a head coach."

### ■ Kansas City Chiefs President Carl Peterson



"The most important thing is John understands what it takes to play in the NFL. He's been there and he's played a long time so he can give advice to these young guys on their work ethic and what it takes to play in the national Football League, both on and off the field.

"Anytime you have a guy that's played in the league and has also coached in the league, it's nothing but a plus for the organization, especially from the standpoint that every player that comes in here in college football wants to play in the National Football League, and John can give first hand advice."

### ■ New Orleans Head Coach Jim Haslett

"He brought a different scheme to us. He brought more of an NFL feel to our practices and to our games. He played 13 years in the pros. He's got a Super Bowl ring. He's coached the No. 1 defenses in the NFL. That speaks for itself. He's got an ACC championship ring, so whatever he tells you, it's going to be the truth. It meant a lot to me to have somebody like that."

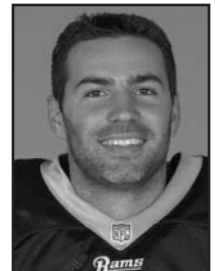
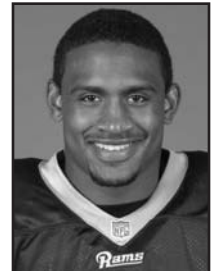
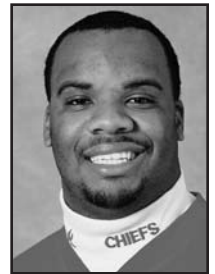
### ■ Defensive Tackle Ryan Sims, No. 1 draft pick of the Kansas City Chiefs Played for Bunting in 2001

"I was excited for Coach Bunting and for Carolina when he took the job. He's intense, he's dedicated and he'll get things going the right way. He was our co-defensive coordinator in St. Louis and he was the mastermind in the press box. Everyone on the team will get behind Coach Bunting."

### ■ Detroit Lions Cornerback Dre' Bly Former Tar Heel All-America Played for Bunting in St. Louis in 1999

"I remember John as a fiery person, a motivator that would get in your face and holler every once in a while, but a great guy. When there's someone he wanted, he was behind you 100 percent and backed you in everything you did. He was very intense, very into his job and loved to do what he was doing. He loved to create, loved to make up schemes and loved to design things. I think the one word that describes him is 'intensity.' He's intense in everything he does, and he wants to get the best out of every player that's on the football field playing for him."

### ■ St. Louis Rams Quarterback Kurt Warner



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## WHAT THEY ARE SAYING ABOUT JOHN BUNTING

"The fact that Coach Bunting has played in the NFL really was a benefit to all three of those players [Peppers, Sims, Thornton], because he gives them an understanding of what it takes to get to that level."

■ **Indianapolis Colts**  
Head Coach Tony Dungy



"He has great people skills and does his job in a professional manner. He brings out the best in his players and they love to play for him."

■ **Ron Jaworski**  
Former Philadelphia Eagle teammate & current ESPN NFL analyst



"I think John Bunting is going to be the next Dean Smith of football. Why? Because John Bunting knows the game and he's a great motivator. But not in the traditional sense. He makes you think about what you can become and he puts a lot of emphasis on the seniors to implement what he's trying to do and what his goals are for the team and spread it to the younger guys on the team. The man is a great football coach. When I'm an alum from here I'm going to be glad to say I played for him."

■ **Center Adam Metts**  
Played for Bunting in 2001



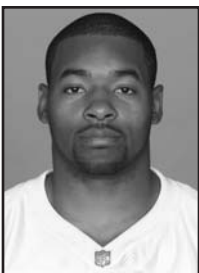
"You have to listen to Coach Bunting (about the NFL). He knows the tricks of the trade. What made me so ready was being with Coach Bunting, because we practice full speed all the time. I was very comfortable with the way practices went."

■ **Wide Receiver Sam Aiken**  
2003 NFL Draft Pick of Buffalo Bills  
Played for Bunting in 2001-2002



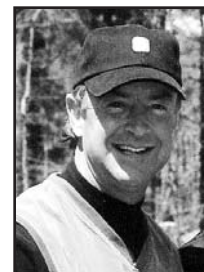
"He's a fair and honest man. He has a passion for his players on and off the field. He gave me the opportunity to play and didn't look at me differently because I was a former walk-on. He wants to put the best players on the site. It's a blessing that he came here when he did."

■ **Linebacker David Thornton**  
2002 NFL Draft Pick of Indianapolis Colts  
Played for Bunting in 2001



"Anyone who comes here and wants to be a better football player and a better person will get that if they come to Carolina under John Bunting. This guy knows football and is totally committed. If you really want to be the best, this is the guy to get around."

■ **Paul Miller (UNC '72)**  
Former UNC teammate



"John Bunting is a man of passion. He's passionate about the University of North Carolina. I know that he understands the mission of this University and will do everything he can to see that this program is operated in the values that are acceptable to this institution. And I also know he will motivate his players to go 110 percent every game and every practice."

■ **Dick Baddour (UNC '66)**  
North Carolina Athletic Director



"I played with John back in the early 1970s and late 1960s. To me, John was one of the most intense football players I've ever come across and what always impressed me about John's football ability was how he studied the game. He was a real scholar in the game of football. He'll be a great recruiter and the one thing that I can assure you is that the team will be ready to play on Saturday with John Bunting at the helm."

■ **Don McCauley (UNC '70)**  
2001 College Hall of Fame Inductee & Former Bunting Teammate



"John is a first-class individual who was the best leader as a player that I have ever been around. He has outstanding leadership abilities, football knowledge and experience. I'm certain he will be a tremendous addition to North Carolina and to the Atlantic Coast Conference."

■ **John Swofford (UNC '71)**  
ACC Commissioner  
Former UNC Teammate



"We know that anyone who comes from John Bunting's program will be well coached, because he is one of the best fundamental technique coaches that I have ever been around. That is so important right now in the NFL because guys have to be able to come in and play right away. I know the type of players he will produce."

■ **Mark Hatley**  
Vice President  
Green Bay Packers



# 2003 CAROLINA FOOTBALL COACHES

## GUNTER BREWER

- WIDE RECEIVERS
- 4TH YEAR AT CAROLINA
- 18TH YEAR OVERALL



**RECRUITING AREAS:**

Southwestern Piedmont (Charlotte, Concord, Kannapolis, Anson County, Richmond County, Scotland County), Georgia, Florida Panhandle

Gunter Brewer is in his fourth season as the Tar Heels' wide receivers coach, having joined the staff in February of 2000. Brewer came to Carolina after coaching at Marshall from 1996-99.

An energetic and enthusiastic coach, Brewer has produced several outstanding receivers at Carolina. Last season, Sam Aiken set single-season school records in receptions (68) and receiving yards (990) and Chesley Borders set a single-game record with four touchdown catches at Arizona State. Carolina's receivers helped the Tar Heel offense set school records in passing yards per game, completions and attempts.

Aiken is one of three receivers Brewer has coached – Kory Bailey and Bosley Allen are the others – who rank among the top 20 receivers in school history. Aiken ranks third at UNC with 2,205 career receiving yards and



is fourth in career receptions with 146. He was drafted in the fourth round by the Buffalo Bills and Borders and Allen signed free agent contracts following the 2002 season.

For the second consecutive year, Carolina had three players with at least 30 receptions in 2002, including Aiken with 68, Borders with 32 and Jarwarski Pollock with 31. In 2001, Carolina had two receivers with more than 40 receptions for just the second time in school history.

Carolina tied a school record in 2001 with 25 touchdown receptions, 23 of which were to wide receivers. In addition, Carolina's big-play offense produced 43 pass plays longer than 20 yards, including nine plays longer than 40 yards.

In 2000, four of Carolina's receivers caught at least 15 passes and three of the four averaged over 15 yards per catch. Those four – Allen, Bailey, Aiken and Jamal Jones – combined to catch 116 passes for 1,871 yards and 10 touchdowns. Carolina made 11 catches that went for longer than 45 yards, including a school-record-tying 78-yard touchdown catch by Kory Bailey. It was the longest reception ever by a Tar Heel in Kenan Stadium. Overall, Carolina had 40 pass plays of 20-or-more yards.

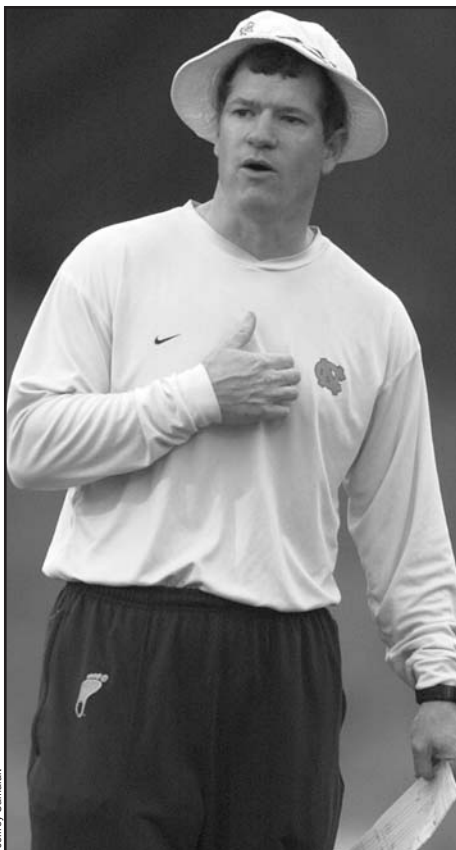
At Marshall, Brewer coached 1997 Biletnikoff Award winner Randy Moss, who has gone on to become one of the brightest stars in the National Football League. In 1999, Marshall completed a perfect 13-0 season to earn a No. 10 final national ranking, and in Brewer's four seasons there the Thundering

Herd had a 50-4 overall record. His responsibilities at Marshall were: running backs and recruiting coordinator, 1996; wide receivers and recruiting coordinator, 1997; associate offensive coordinator and wide receivers, 1998; special teams coordinator and wide receivers, 1999.

Brewer was a two-year letterwinner at wide receiver at Wake Forest, where he earned his degree in science and health sports in 1987. In 1989, he was awarded a master's in education with a specialization in exercise physiology from Mississippi.

Brewer's previous coaching stops include: strength and flexibility at Wake Forest, 1986-87; running backs at Mississippi, 1988-89; offensive coordinator for the Angles Bleus (Paris, France) of the European Football League, 1989; graduate assistant/administrative aid at Mississippi, 1989-90; running backs and recruiting coordinator at East Tennessee State, 1990-92; wide receivers and recruiting coordinator at ETSU, 1992-95; head coach at Northeast Community College in Booneville, Miss., 1995.

Brewer and his wife, Rhonda, have a son, Keaton, and a daughter, Lauren.



Jeffrey Comarant



### THE BREWER FILE

- Coached three of Carolina's top-20 receivers of all-time, including Sam Aiken, Kory Bailey and Bosley Allen
- Coached 1997 Biletnikoff Award winner and NFL star Randy Moss at Marshall
- Coached UNC single-season receiving yards and receptions record holder Sam Aiken
- Son of former Mississippi Head Coach Billy Brewer

- **Born:** August 9, 1964
- **Education:** Wake Forest, 1987; Mississippi, 1989 (Master's)
- **Playing experience:** Wake Forest, 1986-87

- **Previous coaching experience:** Wake Forest (1986-87), Mississippi 1988-89, Angles Bleus (France, 1989), Mississippi (1989-90), ETSU (1990-95), NE Community College (1995), Marshall (1996-99)

- **Bowl experience:** 1989 Liberty, 1996 Division I-AA National Championship Game, 1997 Motor City, 1998 Motor City, 1999 Motor City, 2001 Peach

- **NFL Players:** Randy Moss, James Williams, Nate Poole, David Foye, Sam Aiken

- **Family:** Wife - Rhonda; Has a son, Keaton (15), and a daughter, Lauren (12).

# 2003 CAROLINA FOOTBALL COACHES

## KEN BROWNING

- TIGHT ENDS
- DIRECTOR OF HIGH SCHOOL RELATIONS
- CAMPS AND CLINICS COORDINATOR
- 10TH YEAR AT CAROLINA
- 36TH YEAR OVERALL
- RECRUITING AREAS:



Piedmont (Raleigh, Durham), Northeast North Carolina, Tidewater, Central & Southwestern Virginia

A veteran assistant coach who has been with the Tar Heels since 1994, Ken Browning enters his third season as Carolina's tight ends coach. In the offseason, he added the title of Director of High School Relations and will continue to direct UNC's camps and clinics. From 1994 to 2000, Browning coached Carolina's defensive tackles and, in 2000, he was UNC's defensive coordinator.

In two seasons as tight ends coach, Browning groomed Zach Hilton into a solid NFL prospect and Bobby Blizzard into an honorable-mention All-ACC selection. Last year, Hilton and Blizzard combined for 47 receptions for 698 yards and six touchdowns. Blizzard finished fourth on the team with 28 catches for 440 yards and a team-high five touchdowns. He enters the 2003 season as one of the league's top NFL prospects.



*Ken Browning*

As defensive coordinator in 2000, Carolina led the ACC and set a school record with 53 sacks. Carolina finished 19th in the nation against the run, allowing just 103.5 yards per game, and was second in the league and 30th in the nation in total defense.

Browning was twice named the state's high school Coach of the Year at Durham's Northern High School before joining the UNC staff. He has brought that formula for success to the Tar Heel program. Browning has developed a number of outstanding tackles, including first-round NFL draft picks Vonnie Holliday, Marcus Jones and Ryan Sims and

second-round picks Rick Terry and Russell Davis. Sports Illustrated selected North Carolina's defensive tackles in its positional "Dream Team" in its 1998 preseason college football issue. Every defensive tackle Browning has coached at UNC has been drafted by or signed with an NFL franchise. That continued in 2002 when Sims, who played under Browning for three years, was selected by the Kansas City Chiefs in the first round with the No. 6 pick.

The Tar Heels led the ACC in total defense from 1995-97 and finished No. 2 in the nation in yards allowed in 1996 and 1997. The Tar Heels were third in the country against the run in 1996 allowing 73.9 yards per game. In 1997, Carolina was fourth in the nation stopping the run as the opponents averaged 77.9 yards per contest. UNC held opponents to less than 50 yards rushing in six games and less than 100 yards in nine of 12 games.

Browning was the head coach and athletic director at Northern High School for 18 years. He posted a 178-35 record and won the 1993 4-A state title and Shrine Bowl. Over his last three years, Northern built a 43-2 record and he was named the North Carolina Coach of the Year by the Associated Press in 1992 and 1993. He became only the third coach to win both the state title and Shrine Bowl in the same year.

Carolina has had seven winning seasons and played in six bowl games during Browning's nine seasons at Carolina.

Browning and his wife, Susan, have three sons - Chuck, John and Joe.

### THE BROWNING FILE



- Also serves as UNC's summer camp coordinator
- Has the longest tenure of any current Carolina assistant coach
- Coached defensive tackles at UNC for seven seasons before switching to tight ends in 2001
- Carolina led the conference with a school-record 53 sacks in 2000 when he served as defensive coordinator
- Named the North Carolina High School Coach of the Year in 1992 and 1993

- **Born:** March 2, 1946
- **Education:** Guilford, 1968
- **Playing experience:** Guilford, 1964-68

• **Previous coaching experience:** Patrick Henry High School, Va. (1968-69), Martinsville High School, Va. (1969-70), Ledford High School (1970-75), Northern Durham High School (1976-93)

• **Bowl experience:** 1994 Sun, 1995 Carquest, 1997 Gator, 1998 Gator, 1998 Las Vegas, 2001 Peach

• **NFL Players:** Russell Davis, Nate Hobgood-Chittick, Vonnie Holliday, Marcus Jones, Riddick Parker, Andre' Purvis, Rick Terry, Ryan Sims, Zach Hilton

• **Family:** Wife - Susan; Has three sons, Chuck (31), John (27) and Joe (24)



Jeffrey Camment

# 2003 CAROLINA FOOTBALL COACHES

## JEFF CONNORS

- ASSISTANT ATHLETIC DIRECTOR
- STRENGTH & CONDITIONING COORDINATOR
- 3RD YEAR AT CAROLINA
- 14TH YEAR OVERALL



Jeff Connors is in his third year as Carolina's Strength and Conditioning Coordinator and his second as an assistant athletic director. While his primary focus is the football team's strength and conditioning program, Connors oversees the department's entire strength and conditioning program.

This spring, Connors was honored as a Master Strength & Conditioning Coach by the Collegiate Strength & Conditioning Coaches association (CSCCa). The Master Strength & Conditioning Coach certification is the highest honor that can be achieved as a strength and conditioning coach, representing professionalism, knowledge, experience, expertise and longevity in the field.

Connors' conditioning program was one of the reasons for Carolina's strong second-half performance in 2001. The Tar Heels outscored their opponents 165-130 in the second half, including a 34-0 rout of Florida State in the second half of Carolina's 41-9 victory.

Connors came to Carolina after spending 10



*Jeff Connors*

seasons as East Carolina's Director of Strength & Conditioning. Under Connors, the Pirates were one of the best fourth-quarter teams in the country. In 1996, the ECU defense did not allow a point in the fourth quarter until the seventh game of the season and in 1999, the

Pirates outscored their opponents, 102-56, in the final period. In 2000, ECU had a 94-57 advantage in the fourth quarter.

Several of Connors' former assistants are now head strength and conditioning coaches at other universities, including: John Williams, Director of Strength & Conditioning at Baylor; Tom Howley, Director of Strength & Conditioning at Cornell; Jay Butler, Director of Strength & Conditioning at Rutgers; Jennifer Jones, Head Coach of Strength & Conditioning for Women's Sports at Arkansas; Sonny Sano, Director of Strength & Conditioning at Ohio.

Connors was the featured speaker at the 1995 National Strength and Conditioning Association Conference in Phoenix, the 1996 NSCA Conference in Atlanta and the 2003 NSCA Conference. In 1996, he was the Regional Director of the Year and was nominated for National Strength Coach of the Year in 1991.

Connors is a competitive power-

lifter and has won four state titles in powerlifting and has been ranked as high as fourth nationally. He holds Level I certification in Olympic Weight Lifting by the U.S. Weight Lifting Federation.

A 1980 graduate of Salem (W. Va.) College, Connors was a four-year starter at cornerback and was team captain as a senior. He led Salem in interceptions as a sophomore and junior.

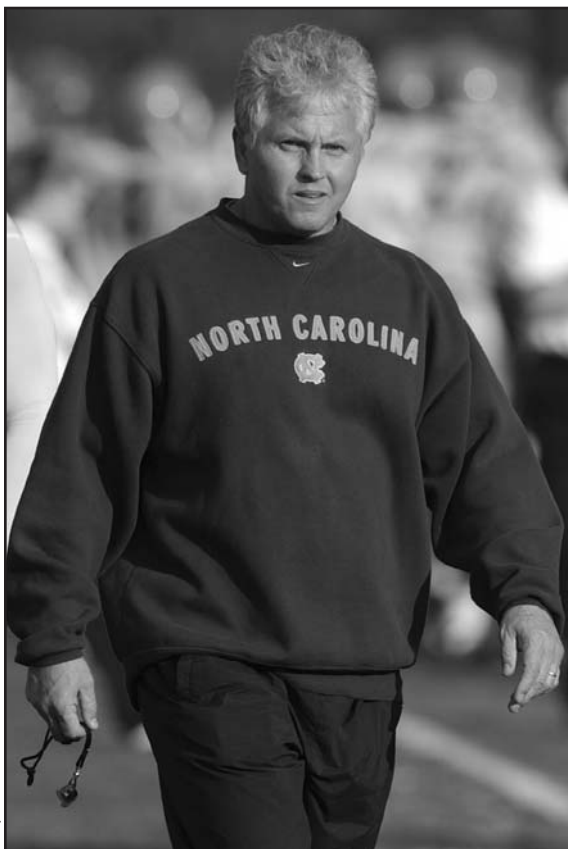
After college, Connors served as a police officer in South Florida for two years. Prior to becoming a strength coach, Connors coached high school football and wrestling at The Benjamin School in North Palm Beach, Fla., and he later coached linebackers at the Tennessee Military Institute in Sweetwater, Tenn.

Connors and his wife, Michele, have a daughter, Kaitlin, and a son, Beau.



### THE CONNORS FILE

- Carolina outscored its opponents 165-130 in the second half in 2001
- Was a four-year starter at Salem (W.Va.) College
- Worked at Tennessee Military Institute, Bucknell and East Carolina
- **Born:** June 12, 1956
- **Education:** Salem (W.Va.) College, 1980
- **Playing experience:** Salem (W.Va.) College, 1976-80
- **Previous coaching experience:** Tennessee Military Institute (1981-83); The Benjamin School (1983-87); Bucknell (1987-90), East Carolina (1990-2000)
- **Bowl experience:** 1991 Peach, 1994 Liberty, 1995 Liberty, 1999 Mobile Alabama, 2000 Gallery Furniture.com, 2001 Peach
- **NFL Players:** Robert Jones, Jeff Blake, Emmanuel McDaniel, John Jett, Ryan Sims, Julius Peppers, Sam Aiken
- **Family:** Wife - Michele; Has a daughter, Kaitlin (12) and a son, Beau (14)



# 2003 CAROLINA FOOTBALL COACHES

## JIM FLEMING

- DEFENSIVE BACKS
- 2ND YEAR AT CAROLINA
- 19TH YEAR OVERALL
- RECRUITING AREAS:

Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Connecticut, New York, Maryland, Washington, D.C.



Jim Fleming enters his second season as Carolina's defensive backs coach. Fleming was hired on Feb. 25, 2002 after spending the previous two seasons as head coach at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Conn.

Last season, free safety Dexter Reid flourished under Fleming's direction, earning first-team All-ACC honors after leading the league and finishing second in the country in tackles with 13.8 per game.

A 1982 graduate of the University of the South in Sewanee, Tenn., Fleming led Sacred Heart to an 11-0 record in 2001. The Pioneers won the Northeast Conference and defeated Duquesne, 31-15, in the ECAC Bowl on December 1st to capture the Division I-AA mid-major national championship. Sacred Heart was ranked No. 2 in the nation in scoring, pass efficiency defense and turnover margin, No. 4 in total defense and No. 7 in scoring defense and passing yards allowed. The



Pioneers scored eight defensive touchdowns and the special teams units blocked eight kicks and scored five times. He was named the Northeast Conference Coach of the Year for the second year in a row.

In 2000, Sacred Heart posted a then-program-best 10-1 record, earning him the NEC's and the American Football Coaches Association's Division I-AA Region I Coach of the Year honors. Sacred Heart's eight-game improvement represented the best turnaround in Division I-AA that year, following a 2-9 record in 1999.

Defensively, the Pioneers ranked second nationally in scoring defense, limiting opponents to 13.4 points per game.

In 1998-99, Fleming was the defensive coordinator/defensive backs coach at Villanova University. Prior to that, he spent four years at East Carolina. He coached outside linebackers in 1994 and defensive backs from 1995-97. The 1995 team finished 9-3 and won the Liberty Bowl, featuring a defense that intercepted 19 passes and was seventh in the nation in pass efficiency. In 1996, ECU was 8-3 and finished first in the country in turnover margin. In his final year in Greenville, the Pirates were second in Conference USA in pass defense.

Fleming has also made coaching stops at South Carolina (graduate assistant in 1985-86), Boise State (1987-92) and Brown (1993).

In 1991, Boise State led the Big Sky Conference in all major defensive categories. Boise State was first nationally in run defense and third nationally in turnover margin (42 takeaways). He was also responsible for special teams, and the kickoff return unit was ranked first in the conference and third nationally. The 1990 squad advanced to the semifinals of the Division I-AA playoffs and finished 10-4. Boise State led the Big Sky in scoring defense and blocked 12 punts.

Jim and his wife, Leslie, have two sons, Jimmy and Will, and two daughters, Kate and Meg.



### THE FLEMING FILE

- Led Sacred Heart to the Division I-AA mid-major national championship
- Was twice named the Northeast Conference Coach of the Year
- Has coached at Villanova, East Carolina, Brown, Boise State and South Carolina
- Coaches first-team All-ACC performer Dexter Reid

- **Born:** September 23, 1959
- **Education:** University of the South, 1982
- **Playing experience:** University of The South, 1978-81

- **Previous coaching experience:** South Carolina (1985-86), Boise State (1987-92), Brown (1993), East Carolina (1994-97), Villanova (1998-99), Sacred Heart (2000-01)

- **Bowl experience:** 1994 Liberty, 1995 Liberty, 2001 ECAC

- **NFL Players:** Emmanuel McDaniel, Frank Robinson, Dwight Henry, Kelvin Suggs, Deveron Johnson

- **Family:** Wife - Leslie; Jimmy (14), Will (13), Kate (11), Meg (8)



# 2003 CAROLINA FOOTBALL COACHES

## HAL HUNTER

- OFFENSIVE LINE
- 2ND YEAR AT CAROLINA
- 19TH YEAR OVERALL
- RECRUITING AREAS:

Southern Piedmont (Fayetteville, Sandhills), Western Florida, New Orleans



Hal Hunter enters his second season as Carolina's offensive line coach. Hunter was added to UNC's coaching staff on Jan. 18, 2002, after two seasons as Indiana's offensive coordinator.

Last year, Carolina's offense set several school passing records, including passing yards per game, completions and attempts. The Tar Heels finished 22nd in the country in passing offense and offensive guard Jeb Terry was selected academic All-ACC. This season, Carolina returns all five starters on the offensive line for the first time in more than 20 years.

At Indiana, Hunter led the Hoosiers to two of their most successful offensive seasons ever. Under his guidance, the Hoosiers averaged more than 435 yards per game in each of the last two years and finished in the top 20 in total offense in both seasons.

In 2000, Hunter designed an offense to fit the skills of talented quarterback Antwaan Randle El, who was named Big Ten Player of the Year and earned first-team All-America honors. Indiana led the Big Ten and finished fourth in the nation in rushing offense (averaging 269.5 yards per game), was 19th in the country in total offense, rushed for 33 touchdowns and allowed just nine sacks in 11



games. The Hoosiers were one of just 11 teams to average more than five yards per carry (5.66) and IU became only the second school in Big Ten history to have two 3,000-yard career rushers on the same team (Randle El and Levron Williams).

The previous season (2000), Hunter's first at IU, the Hoosiers were seventh in the country in rushing offense, averaging 266.4 yards per game, and 12th in the nation in total offense despite starting an entirely new offensive line. Indiana led the Big Ten in rushing offense and finished second nationally in yards per carry (5.8), trailing only Nebraska. Indiana scored 34 rushing touchdowns and averaged over 30.6 points per game, the second-highest total in IU history.

Hunter came to Indiana after a successful five-year stint as offensive line coach at LSU from 1995-99. He was promoted to assistant head coach in 1999. Hunter also served as the interim head coach at LSU for one game in 1999. At LSU he developed one of the Southeastern Conference's most dominant offensive lines as the Tigers led the SEC in rushing in both 1997 and 1998. In 1997, he was credited with the development of Outland Trophy finalist Alan Faneca, a two-time All-America selection and 1998 first-round pick of the Pittsburgh Steelers. That same year, LSU's offensive line also featured first-team All-SEC and All-America center Todd McClure, a 1999 draft selection of the Atlanta Falcons. In his one game as interim head coach, Hunter led the Tigers to a season-ending 35-10 win over Arkansas. Athlon magazine recognized Hunter

as the SEC's top offensive line coach in 1997.

Prior to arriving at LSU, Hunter, 42, served as an assistant coach at Vanderbilt from 1991-94, tutoring the Commodores' tackles and tight ends for three seasons. In 1994, he was placed in charge of the entire offensive line. Vanderbilt ranked second in the SEC in rushing in 1991, 1992 and 1994.

Before heading to Vanderbilt, Hunter spent four seasons as the offensive line coach at Akron.

Hunter is a 1982 graduate of Northwestern, where he earned Dean's List honors and graduated in the top 10 percent of his class with a 3.6 GPA. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in communications studies with a concentration in economics. He lettered at linebacker for the Wildcats in 1978, but a neck injury prematurely ended his career. Hunter stayed with the program and assisted with the defensive line and served as a strength coach.

In 1982, he coached outside linebackers and was the strength coach at William & Mary. Hunter also has coached the offensive line at Pittsburgh (1983-84), Columbia (1985) and Indiana University of Pennsylvania (1986).

Hunter's father, Hal Sr., has over 40 years of experience in college and professional football and is currently an area scout for the Carolina Panthers.



### THE HUNTER FILE

- Helped lead Carolina's offense to a school record 266.6 passing yards per game
- Led an Indiana offense to two of its most successful offensive seasons ever in 2000 & 2001
- Coached All-America Antwaan Randle El at Indiana
- Has coached several NFL players, including 1998 first-round draft pick Alan Faneca
- Defeated Arkansas, 35-14, in his one game as interim head coach at LSU in 1999

- **Born:** July 8, 1959
- **Education:** Northwestern, 1982
- **Playing experience:** Northwestern, 1978

- **Previous coaching experience:** William & Mary (1982), Pittsburgh (1983-84), Columbia (1985), Indiana, Pa. (1986), Akron (1987-90), Vanderbilt (1991-94), LSU (1995-99), Indiana (2000-01)

- **Bowl experience:** 1984 Fiesta, 1995 Independence, 1996 Peach, 1997 Independence

- **NFL Players:** Alan Faneca, Todd McClure, Al Jackson, Louis Williams, Brandon Winey, Craig Osika

- **Family:** Wife - Tracy; Has two sons, Hal IV (14), Andrew (11)



# 2003 CAROLINA FOOTBALL COACHES

## DAVE HUXTABLE

• DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR

• LINEBACKERS

• 3RD YEAR AT CAROLINA

• 24TH YEAR OVERALL

• RECRUITING AREAS:

Western North Carolina, Northern Georgia



Dave Huxtable begins his third season as North Carolina's linebackers coach and second as its defensive coordinator. Huxtable was promoted to defensive coordinator after the 2001 season.

In 2001, Huxtable helped guide a defense that finished first in the ACC and 15th in the nation in total defense. In addition, he molded a group of relatively inexperienced linebackers into one of the top units in the ACC. Former walk-on David Thornton, who had recorded just 24 tackles in his career as a special teams player prior to the 2001 season, led the team with 131 stops, was named the team's defensive MVP and earned second-team All-ACC honors. Linebacker Quincy Monk was second on the team with 125 tackles. Thornton (fourth round) and Monk (seventh round) were selected in the NFL Draft and linebacker Merceda Perry signed an NFL free agent contract. Huxtable also served as Carolina's special teams coordinator in 2001.

Huxtable came to Carolina after a year as



*Dave Huxtable*

the linebackers coach and special teams coordinator at Oklahoma State. He is a 23-year coaching veteran who has also coached at East Carolina, Georgia Tech, Western Kentucky and Iowa State.

Before coaching the Cowboys, Huxtable spent two years on the ECU coaching staff working with the defensive line in 1999 and inside linebackers in 1998. It was his second coaching stint with the Pirates. He coached linebackers and special teams at ECU in 1990-91 and was on the staff that defeated NC State in the 1991 Peach Bowl.

In 1999, the Pirates' defense was 10th in the NCAA in pass efficiency defense and 14th in the country in scoring defense. ECU earned a berth in the 1999 Mobile Alabama Bowl.

While serving as linebackers coach at Georgia Tech from 1992-97, he also served three years as special teams coordinator (1992-94) and defensive coordinator (1996-97) for the Yellow Jackets. He was part of the staff that coached Georgia Tech to a 35-30 win over West Virginia in the 1997 Carquest Bowl. He also coached at Western Kentucky from 1985-89 and was the defensive coordinator there in 1989. He began

his coaching career as a graduate assistant at Iowa State in 1982 and 1983 and was the defensive coordinator at Independence Community College in 1984.

Huxtable coached first-round draft picks Robert Jones (Dallas Cowboys, 1991) at ECU and Keith Brooking (Atlanta Falcons, 1997) at Georgia Tech.

A 1979 graduate of Eastern Illinois University, Huxtable and his wife, Vicki, have a daughter, Shea, and a son, Jake.



### THE HUXTABLE FILE

- All three of Carolina's starting linebackers in 2001 – David Thornton, Quincy Monk and Merceda Perry – were either drafted or signed an NFL free agent contract.
- Coached first-round draft picks Robert Jones (at ECU) and Keith Brooking (at Georgia Tech)
- Has 23 years of coaching experience, including stints as defensive coordinator at Georgia Tech (1996-97) and Western Kentucky (1989)

- **Born:** December 20, 1956
- **Education:** Eastern Illinois, 1979
- **Playing experience:** Eastern Illinois, 1977

- **Previous coaching experience:** Western Kentucky (1985-89), East Carolina (1990-91), Georgia Tech (1992-97), East Carolina (1998-99), Oklahoma State (2000)

- **Bowl experience:** 1991 Peach, 1997 Carquest, 1999 Mobile Alabama, 2001 Peach

- **NFL Players:** Keith Brooking, Jamal Cox, Robert Jones, Norris McLeary, Ron Rogers

- **Family:** Wife - Vicki; Has a daughter, Shea (17) and a son, Jake (14).



# 2003 CAROLINA FOOTBALL COACHES

## BRAD LAWING

- DEFENSIVE LINE
- RECRUITING COORDINATOR
- 1ST YEAR AT CAROLINA
- 24th YEAR OVERALL



### • RECRUITING AREAS:

Piedmont North Carolina, Southeastern North Carolina, Eastern South Carolina, South Florida

Hickory, N.C., native Brad Lawing, most recently the defensive line coach and recruiting coordinator at Michigan State, is in his first season as Carolina's defensive line coach and recruiting coordinator.

Lawing comes to Carolina after coaching four seasons in East Lansing. During his tenure, the Spartans led the Big Ten in total defense during the 1999 and 2000 regular seasons. In his first season at Michigan State, the Spartans led the Big Ten (76.2 yards per game) and ranked fifth nationally in rushing defense. Lawing also played an integral part in helping Michigan State assemble one of the nation's top 20 recruiting classes each of the last three years. The 2000 recruiting class was ranked among the nation's top 10 by several publications.

At Michigan State, Lawing was instrumental in the development of four NFL players, including All-America and first-round draft



*Brad Lawing*

pick Julian Peterson (San Francisco 49ers, 2000), Robaire Smith (Tennessee Titans, 2000), Jace Saylor (New England Patriots, 2001) and Josh Shaw (San Francisco 49ers, 2002). Peterson was named to the 2003 Pro Bowl.

Lawing coached 10 years at South Carolina from 1989-98, where he tutored the defensive line and served as recruiting coordinator under Brad Scott. During his stint with the Gamecocks, he helped produce three NFL players in Corey Miller (New York Giants, 1991-98), Gerald Dixon (Oakland Raiders) and Henry Taylor (Miami Dolphins). He also coached three All-Southeastern Conference players, including nose tackle Eric Sullivan, tackle Henry Taylor and end Stacy Evans. His last three recruiting classes were ranked among the nation's top 25 by the scouting services. At USC, he recruited defensive end John Abraham, a 2003 Pro Bowl selection from the New York Jets.

Lawing began his college coaching career at Appalachian State University in Boone, N.C., where he spent one season with former Carolina head coach and current Texas head coach Mack Brown. He coached the defensive line for five years and the

tight ends and offensive tackles for one season. Eight of his players earned all-conference honors, including Southern Conference Player of the Year Anthony Downs in 1987, and future NFL players Tommy Dawkins and Mike Frier. Over his final four seasons, the Mountaineers compiled a combined record of 34-12-2 (.729), including back-to-back Southern Conference championships in 1986 and 1987 and consecutive trips to the NCAA I-AA playoffs.

Lawing spent three years as an assistant coach at Havelock (N.C.) High School from 1980-82. He also coached baseball for two years, leading the team to the state finals in 1983.

A 1979 graduate of Lenoir-Rhyne College, Lawing earned a master's degree from Appalachian State in 1985. He graduated from St. Stephens High School in Hickory, N.C., in 1975.

Lawing and his wife, Laura, a native of Charlotte, have a daughter, Susie, and a son, Will.



Jeffrey Comerat



### THE LAWING FILE

- Coached four seasons at Michigan State and 10 at South Carolina before joining the Tar Heels
- Michigan State ranked fifth nationally in rushing defense in 1999 and 2000. MSU set a school sack record in 1999.
- Assembled a top 20 recruiting class in each of his last three seasons at MSU

- **Born:** August 10, 1957
- **Education:** Lenoir-Rhyne, 1979
- **Playing experience:** Four-year letterwinner at linebacker, Lenoir-Rhyne, 1976-79, and played baseball in 1977

- **Previous coaching experience:** Havelock (NC) High School (1980-83), Appalachian State (1983-88), South Carolina (1989-98), Michigan State (1999-2002)

- **Bowl experience:** 1986 I-AA playoffs, 1987 I-AA semifinalists, 1995 Carquest, 2000 Citrus, 2001 Silicon Valley

- **NFL Players:** Julian Peterson, Robaire Smith, Jace Saylor, Josh Shaw, John Abraham, Mike Frier, Corey Miller, Gerald Dixon, Henry Taylor

- **Family:** Wife - Laura; Has a daughter, Susie (19), and a son, Will (17)

# 2003 CAROLINA FOOTBALL COACHES

## ANDRE' POWELL

- **RUNNING BACKS**
- **3RD YEAR AT CAROLINA**
- **15TH YEAR OVERALL**



• **RECRUITING AREAS:**

Western North Carolina, Northern South Carolina, Central Virginia, Western Pennsylvania

Andre' Powell enters his third year as the Tar Heels' running backs coach. An enthusiastic coach and recruiter, Powell coaches a position that consisted entirely of freshmen and sophomores when he began in 2001.

In fact, this is the first season he has coached a senior tailback at North Carolina. Despite the youth, Powell has developed depth at the position and Carolina enters the 2002 season with four players vying for the starting position. Last season, Jacque Lewis started eight games and had a team-high 574 rushing yards and two touchdowns, while Willie Parker gained 236 yards and scored once.

In 2001, Carolina's running attack featured a trio of tailbacks, including Parker, Lewis and Andre' Williams. Williams handled the bulk of the carries and started eight games, while Parker was the star of the Peach Bowl, rushing for 131 yards and a touchdown in the win over Auburn. Lewis was one of seven true freshmen to see playing time. Combined, the trio rushed for 1,161 yards and nine touchdowns.

Powell came to Carolina after spending the previous five seasons at the University of Virginia, where he coached wide receivers and



running backs. He coached several former Cavaliers who currently play in the NFL, including tailback Tiki Barber and Thomas Jones and wide receivers Germane Crowell, Pat Washington, Charles Kirby and Terrence Wilkins.

Powell coached running backs during his first season at UVa in 1996, then tutored the wide receivers for three years before returning to teach the running backs last season. He

came to Virginia from Army where he was the running backs coach in 1995. He also spent the 1991 season at Army as the inside line-backers coach. In between stints with the U.S. Military Academy, Powell was the running backs coach at VMI in 1992 and at Rhode Island in 1993 and 1994.

Powell earned his bachelor's degree in health, physical education and recreation in 1989 from Indiana, where he was a two-year letterwinner at running back. He was a member of Hoosier teams that participated in the 1986 All-American Bowl and the 1988 Peach Bowl and was the team's Most Improved Player as a senior. He was the lead blocker for 1,000-yard rusher Anthony Thompson in 1988.

Powell began his coaching career as a graduate assistant at Indiana and was a coach on the 1988 Liberty Bowl squad that defeated South Carolina. After two years at Indiana, he was a graduate assistant at South Carolina in 1990.

A native of Lockhart, S.C., Powell attended Lees McRae Junior College in Banner Elk, N.C., for two years (1984-85) before transferring to Indiana.

Powell and his wife, Joann, have a son, Andre' II, and two daughters, Alayna and Mikala.



### THE POWELL FILE

- Coached running backs and wide receivers at Virginia for five seasons before coming to UNC
- Two-year letterwinner at Indiana where he competed on two bowl teams and was the lead blocker for 1,000-yard rusher Anthony Thompson
- Coached NFL players Tiki Barber, Germane Crowell, Thomas Jones, Pat Washington, Charles Kirby, Terrence Wilkins

- **Born:** September 29, 1966
- **Education:** Indiana, 1989
- **Playing experience:** Indiana, 1987-88

• **Previous coaching experience:** Indiana (1989), South Carolina (1990), Army (1991), VMI (1992), Rhode Island (1993-94), Army (1995), Virginia (1996-2000)

• **Bowl Experience:** **Player** - 1986 All-American, 1987 Peach; **Coach** - 1988 Liberty, 1996 Carquest, 1998 Peach 1999 Micronpc.com, 2000 Oahu, 2001 Peach

• **NFL Players:** Tiki Barber, Germane Crowell, Terrence Wilkins, Thomas Jones

• **Family:** Wife - Joann. Has a son, Andre II (7), and two daughters, Alayna (4), Mikala (1)

# 2003 CAROLINA FOOTBALL COACHES

## GARY TRANQUILL

- **OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR**

- **QUARTERBACKS**

- **3RD YEAR AT CAROLINA**

- **42ND YEAR OVERALL**

- **RECRUITING AREAS:**

Northern Virginia, Maryland



A coaching veteran with over 40 years of college and professional coaching experience, Gary Tranquill enters his third season as Carolina's offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach.

Tranquill has a diverse coaching background that includes 11 years of experience as an offensive coordinator at five different schools, three years as a defensive coordinator and five years as a Division I head coach. He has worked with some of the top quarterbacks in the Atlantic Coast Conference during two stints at Virginia, including All-ACC selections Scott Secules, Shawn Moore and Matt Blundin. In addition, he was the Cleveland Browns quarterbacks coach from 1991-93, where he worked with NFL standouts Bernie Kosar and Vinnie Testaverde.

In his two years at Carolina, the Tar Heels



*Gary Tranquill*

have set numerous passing records and quarterbacks Darian Durant and Ronald Curry established several individual records. Despite playing just two seasons, Durant is on the verge of setting nearly every major career passing mark at Carolina. He is tied for second in school history with 33 touchdown passes and needs just 34 yards to become the fourth play at Carolina to throw for 4,000 yards.

In 2001, Tranquill designed an offense that took advantage of the skills of both quarterbacks Curry and Durant by rotating both QBs throughout the game. Carolina won all eight games in which the quarterbacks rotated and set a school record with 25 touchdown passes. UNC scored over 26 points per game for the first time since the 1997 season.

Tranquill was the offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach for Nick Saban's Michigan State Spartans from 1995-98. During those four seasons, Michigan State averaged 161.5 yards rushing, 220.9 yards passing and 27.6 points per game. The Spartans averaged nearly 30 points per game each of the last three seasons of Tranquill's tenure – its top scoring averages of the decade.

As Virginia's quarterbacks coach from 1987-90, Tranquill helped develop some of the best passers in conference history. Secules led the conference in passing as a senior in 1987, while Moore became the school's all-time leader in passing yards, finished fourth in the 1990 Heisman Trophy balloting, was a first-team All-America and the 1990 ACC Player of the Year. Tranquill helped coach the Cavaliers

to a No. 1 ranking during the 1990 season – UVA's highest ever ranking.

Tranquill left Virginia for a three-year stint with the Cleveland Browns, then returned to college as Virginia Tech's offensive coordinator in 1994 before leaving for Michigan State in 1995.

A native of Avella, Pa., Tranquill began his coaching career at Wittenberg, his alma mater, where he coached from 1963-69. He was Ball State's secondary coach in 1970 before becoming the defensive coordinator for two seasons at Bowling Green State. In 1973, he served three years under George Welsh as Navy's quarterbacks and receivers coach. He would later return to Navy as Welsh's successor in 1982 as the head coach.

Tranquill also spent two years as an assistant coach at Ohio State (1977-78) under legendary coach Woody Hayes and was an assistant at West Virginia from 1979-81. At West Virginia, he spent one season as the defensive coordinator and two years as the offensive coordinator.

Tranquill is a 1962 graduate of Wittenberg, where he won four letters in football and baseball. He played on two Ohio Conference baseball championship teams and two NCAA regional winners in that sport. In 1960, he was the conference's top football player. He was inducted into Wittenberg's Athletic Hall of Fame in 1986.



Jeffrey Comerat



### THE TRANQUILL FILE

- Coaches UNC record-setting quarterback Darian Durant
- Has 13 years of experience as an offensive coordinator at six different schools, five years as a Division I head coach and has also served as a defensive coordinator
- Coached All-ACC quarterbacks Scott Secules, Shawn Moore, Matt Blundin at Virginia
- Coached quarterbacks Bernie Kosar, Vinnie Testaverde and Mike Tomczak in the NFL
- Was the head coach at Navy from 1982-86
- Inducted into Wittenberg's Athletic Hall of Fame in 1986

- **Born:** April 13, 1940
- **Education:** Wittenberg, 1962
- **Playing experience:** Wittenberg, 1958-61

- **Previous coaching experience:** Wittenberg (1963-69), Ball State (1970), Bowling Green State (1971-72), Navy (1973-75), Ohio State (1977-78), West Virginia (1979-81), Navy Head Coach (1982-86); Virginia (1987-90), Cleveland Browns (1991-93), Virginia Tech (1994), Michigan State (1995-98), Virginia (1999-2000)

- **Bowl experience:** 1977 Sugar, 1978 Gator, 1981 Peach, 1987 All-American, 1990 Citrus, 1991 Sugar, 1995 Independence, 1996 Sun, 1997 Aloha, 1999 Micronpc.com, 2000 Oahu, 2001 Peach

- **Family:** Wife - Shirley; Has two grown children - a daughter, Kari Barnes, and a son, Chris. Has six grandchildren

# 2003 CAROLINA FOOTBALL COACHES

## JAMES WEBSTER JR.

- ASSISTANT HEAD COACH
- SPECIAL TEAMS COORDINATOR
- 3RD YEAR AT CAROLINA
- 26TH YEAR OVERALL



**RECRUITING AREAS:**

Central Piedmont, Northeast Florida, Tennessee

James Webster, a former Carolina teammate of Head Coach John Bunting, begins his third season as the assistant head coach and first as special teams coordinator. Webster, who is in his 26th season as a college coach, was the first assistant coach added to Bunting's staff. Webster was elevated to special teams coordinator in the offseason after coaching defensive ends the previous two years.

Like Bunting, Webster came to North Carolina in 1968 and started at linebacker for three consecutive seasons. Although the two stayed in contact after leaving the University, Webster and Bunting did not actually see each other again until the summer of 1999 at the St. Louis Rams' preseason workouts where Bunting was serving as defensive coordinator. Webster spent the summer with Bunting and the Rams, watching and learning the NFL practice routine.

In his first season back in Chapel Hill since 1973, Webster had an immediate impact on the defense and specifically, the defense ends. Carolina led the ACC and was 15th in the country in total defense in 2001, led by one of the top defensive lines in the nation. Under Webster's tutelage, defensive end Julius Peppers won both the 2001 Lombardi and



*James M. Webster Jr.*

Bednarik Awards, becoming the first Tar Heel to ever win a major college football award. Peppers became just the second Carolina player (Lawrence Taylor was the other) to earn consensus All-America honors. He was drafted by the Carolina Panthers with the No. 2 overall pick in the 2002 NFL Draft.

Prior to returning to Chapel Hill, Webster had spent the previous six seasons at East Carolina. Webster coached the Pirates' outside linebackers for five seasons from 1995-99 and was in charge of the defensive line in 2000.

He was promoted to assistant head coach in 1999.

Webster began his coaching career at North Carolina under former head coach Bill Dooley in 1973 working with the junior varsity program. He also has been a linebackers coach at Dartmouth (1993-95) and Wake Forest (1988-93) and worked with the defensive backs at Northwestern (1982-84). Webster also served coaching stints at Florida (1974), Kansas (1975-78) and Colorado (1978-81).

A 1972 graduate of North Carolina, Webster was a standout defensive player for the Tar Heels. He was named the Most Valuable Defensive Player in the 1971 Gator Bowl and was the recipient of the ACC's Brian Piccolo Award in 1972 and the Frank Porter Graham Award as one of the top 12 seniors at UNC.

He and his wife, Cornelia, have a son, Kali, and two grandsons, Tajae and Xavier.



### THE WEBSTER FILE

- Former teammate of Head Coach John Bunting at North Carolina
- Was the Tar Heels' Most Valuable Defensive Player in the 1971 Gator Bowl
- Won the ACC's Brian Piccolo Award in 1972
- Coached 2002 first-round draft pick Julius Peppers in 2001
- Named Special Teams Coordinator prior to the 2003 season

- **Born:** August 27, 1950
- **Education:** North Carolina, 1972
- **Playing experience:** North Carolina, 1968-72

- **Previous coaching experience:** North Carolina (1973), Florida (1974), Kansas (1975-78), Colorado (1979-1981), Northwestern (1982-84), Wake Forest (1988-1993), Dartmouth (1993-95), East Carolina (1995-2000)

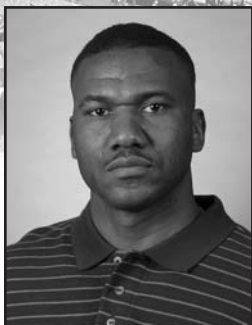
- **Bowl experience:** 1979 Sugar, 1976 Sun, 1988 Independence, 1998 Liberty, 1999 Mobile, 2001 Peach

- **NFL Players:** Mike McCrary, Julius Peppers

- **Family:** Wife - Cornelia; Has a son, Kali (25)



# 2003 CAROLINA FOOTBALL STAFF



## COREY HOLLIDAY

- ASSISTANT ATHLETIC DIRECTOR
- FOOTBALL STUDENT-ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT
- 3RD YEAR AT CAROLINA
- UNC LETTERWINNER, 1990-93



Corey Holliday, who played for the Tar Heels from 1989-93, is in his third year with the football program. He was promoted to Assistant Athletic Director for Football Student-Athlete Development in 2002. Holliday works with the football team in various administrative capacities, including player relations, financial aid matters and as a liaison with the academic support services program.

Holliday was selected as one of 25 athletics administrators to participate in the inaugural 2001-02 NCAA Leadership Institute for Ethnic Minority Males.

Holliday still holds the Carolina career record for most receiving yards (2,447) and he is second in career receptions behind Na Brown. Holliday caught a pass in an ACC-record 45 consecutive games for the Tar Heels from 1990-93 and was a team co-captain as a junior and senior.

Holliday played four seasons with the Pittsburgh Steelers and was a member of four divisional championship squads. He played in Super Bowl XXX against the Dallas Cowboys and had two receptions and two special teams tackles.

Holliday also has held positions with the Atlantic Coast Conference, UNC's Educational Foundation, and The Ohio State University. Before returning to Chapel Hill, he was a Business Process Analyst for Andersen Consulting in Columbus, Ohio.

He holds two degrees from North Carolina, including a B.S. in Business Administration in 1993 and a Master's in Sports Administration in 1997. Holliday and his wife, Angela (UNC '94), have a son, Christopher.



## RICK STEINBACHER

- ASSISTANT ATHLETIC DIRECTOR
- FOOTBALL OPERATIONS
- 4TH YEAR AT CAROLINA
- UNC LETTERWINNER, 1990-93



Rick Steinbacher, a 1993 University of North Carolina graduate and a four-year letterwinner on the Tar Heel football team, serves as Carolina's Assistant Athletic Director for football operations.

Steinbacher coordinates team travel plans, works with the University admissions office and the NCAA clearinghouse, supervises football office administrative personnel and handles other administrative duties as assigned by athletic director Dick Baddour and head coach John Bunting.

Steinbacher returned to his alma mater in January 2000 after working as a Vice President of Account Development with Tar Heel Sports Marketing since March 1999. He also had been affiliated with the Tar Heel Sports Network as a sideline reporter and color analyst for UNC football games for the past six seasons. From February 1994-March 1999, Steinbacher worked as an account executive with Procter and Gamble in Charlotte, N.C.

In four years as an inside linebacker at Carolina, Steinbacher made 30 starts and finished with 307 total tackles. The team's second-leading tackler in both 1992 and 1993, Steinbacher was named third-team All-Atlantic Coast Conference and a team co-captain as a senior.

Steinbacher and his wife Valerie have two daughters, Donna (8), and Kiersten (4). His brother Steve was also a football player at Carolina from 1984-88, and his sister Donna was a swimmer from 1986-87. His brother-in-law, Brian Bollinger, was an all-ACC offensive guard at Carolina (1987-91), and his sister-in-law Erika Steinbacher was an All-ACC diver at Carolina (1984-88).



## CHRIS BURKEY

- GRADUATE ASSISTANT COACH
- OFFENSE
- 3RD YEAR AT CAROLINA



Chris Burkey enters his third season with the Tar Heels and first as a graduate assistant coach. He will work with the offense, focusing primarily on the offensive line. The previous two years, Burkey worked in the UNC football video office.

Burkey came to Carolina in 2001 after serving as the wide receivers and strength and conditioning coach at Tennessee Tech University in Cookeville, Tenn. Burkey lettered four seasons at wide receiver at Wingate University in Wingate, N.C. He graduated from Wingate in December 1993 with a bachelor's degree in psychology.

Following graduation, Burkey served as an assistant coach at Wingate from 1994-98. During that time, he coached quarterbacks, running backs, wide receivers and strength and conditioning.

Burkey and his wife, Susan, live in Chapel Hill.



## JUSTIN ROBERTS

- GRADUATE ASSISTANT COACH
- DEFENSE
- 2ND YEAR AT CAROLINA



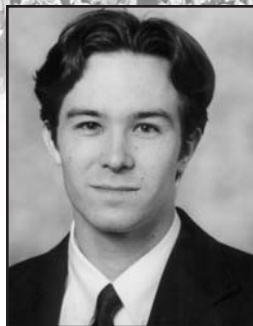
Justin Roberts begins his second season with the Tar Heels as a graduate assistant coach. He will work with the defense, focusing primarily on the defensive backs.

Roberts comes to Carolina after working two seasons as defensive graduate assistant at Oklahoma State where he served under Carolina defensive coordinator Dave Huxtable for one year. Roberts played four years at Missouri Southern, earning two letters as a center. He graduated from Missouri Southern in 1996 with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and administration. Following graduation, he was an assistant coach at Columbia Hickman High School in Missouri. The next season, he became the defensive line coach at Northeast Oklahoma A&M Junior College.



# 2003 CAROLINA FOOTBALL STAFF

## CAROLINA FOOTBALL STAFF



### CHRIS ALLEN

- DIRECTOR OF VIDEO AND COMPUTERIZED OPERATIONS
- 5TH YEAR AT UNC



Chris Allen is in his fifth year as the Director of Computer and Football Operations at North Carolina. Originally from Youngsville, N.C., Allen is responsible

for the day-to-day video operations of the football staff. In addition, Allen is responsible for computerized operations of the Kenan Football Center. He was named ACC Video Coordinator of the Year in 2002 by the Collegiate Sports Video Association.

Allen graduated from Carolina with a double major in psychology and media studies in 1998. He also served as a student video assistant in 1998 for the Tar Heels.

He worked as a private computer consultant, assisting faculty and staff of the University from 1997-99.



### DARREN BELL

- GRADUATE ASSISTANT STRENGTH COACH
- 1ST YEAR AT UNC



Darren Bell is in his first season as a graduate assistant strength coach at UNC. Bell worked the last two years as a volunteer football and track assistant coach at East Chapel Hill High School. He was also a

volunteer in the physical education department at McDougle Elementary School in Chapel Hill in 2002.

Bell graduated from Northeastern University in Boston in 1990 where he lettered four years in track. He earned a bachelor's of science degree in electrical engineering and worked in the computer networking business for 10 years.

He and his wife Ceci, have a son, Nathan (3) and a daughter, Nicole (2). His brother, Warren, played football at East Carolina.



### DEAN CROWELL

- ASSISTANT FOOTBALL ATHLETIC TRAINER
- 1ST YEAR AT UNC



Dean Crowell is in his first year as an Assistant Athletic Trainer at UNC. A 1997 graduate of Rutgers University with a degree in exercise science, Crowell comes to Carolina after working two seasons at

Rutgers where he worked with the Scarlet Knights football, baseball, wrestling and crew programs.

Crowell earned his Master of Arts in Athletic Training in the spring of 2000 at UNC. While at UNC, Crowell served as the athletic trainer for the women's soccer team, which won the 1999 national title.



### JASON FREEMAN

- ASSISTANT EQUIPMENT MANAGER
- 5TH YEAR AT UNC



Jason Freeman is in his fifth year as the football assistant equipment manager at North Carolina. Freeman is responsible for the maintenance of player's equipment and field equipment during practices and games,

coordinating the equipment for football practice, and assisting in the issue of all equipment. He also supervises the student equipment managers and helps oversee the laundry process.

Freeman was a student equipment manager for three seasons and an intern for one year before joining the staff full time in 1999.

A native of Barnardsville, N.C., Freeman graduated from Carolina in 1998 with a bachelor's degree in exercise and sports science.



### RICHIE GRIMSLEY

- DIRECTOR OF KENAN STADIUM/ FOOTBALL FACILITIES
- 5TH YEAR AT UNC



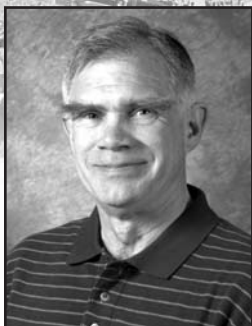
Richie Grimsley is in his second year as the Director of Kenan Stadium and fifth year overall at Carolina. He is responsible for the day-to-day operations of Carolina's football facilities, including Kenan Stadium, the Frank H. Kenan Football Center, the Kenan Fieldhouse and the Pope Box.

Grimsley worked three years in the UNC ticket office before being promoted to his current position. A former baseball letterwinner at UNC, Grimsley played outfield for the Tar Heels (1993-98) and hit a home run in his first collegiate at bat. He graduated from Carolina in 1998 with a bachelor's degree in physical education and is currently working on a master's degree in sports administration.

A native of Greenville, N.C., Grimsley and his wife, Ashley, a former UNC gymnast, live in Durham.



# 2003 CAROLINA FOOTBALL STAFF



## DAN HOOKER

- HEAD ATHLETIC TRAINERS
- 15TH YEAR AT UNC



Dan Hooker is in his 15th season as head athletic trainer for the University of North Carolina football team. Hooker has been on the Carolina athletic training staff since 1972.

In addition to his work with the gridiron Tar Heels, Hooker also coordinates athletic training and physical therapy at Carolina. He has held that position since 1984.

In 2002, the National Athletic Trainers Association recognized Hooker as one of the most distinguished athletic trainers in the nation.

Hooker earned his Bachelor of Science degree in physical therapy from the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond in 1967. He also received a Master of Science degree in secondary education from the University of Southern California in 1971 and Ph.D in education from Carolina in 1981. He has been an NATA Certified Athletic Trainer since 1972 and is licensed as an athletic trainer in North Carolina. He has been a Board Certified Sports Physical Therapist since 1987 and has served the Atlantic Coast Conference Sports Medicine Association as president and secretary.

Dan and his wife, Sharon, have two sons, Sean and Stefan. Sean is married to Sherin Amiri and they have a son, Graham. Stefan is married to Cory Cheek and they have a daughter, Savanna.



## JEFF KERR

- ASSISTANT STRENGTH COACH
- 3RD YEAR AT UNC



Jeff Kerr is in his third season at North Carolina and first as a full-time strength coach. A three-year all-conference linebacker at East Carolina, Kerr works specifically with the football team.

Kerr played inside linebacker at ECU from 1995-99, helping the Pirates land a berth in the 1995 Liberty Bowl and the 1999 Mobile Alabama Bowl. Following graduation, Kerr went to the Cleveland Browns fall camp. He then went to graduate school at ECU for one year before coming to Chapel Hill.

Kerr is a native of Salisbury, N.C.



## DOMINIC MORELLI

- DIRECTOR OF FOOTBALL BUSINESS OPERATIONS
- 23RD YEAR AT UNC



Dominic Morelli is entering his 23rd season with the Carolina football program. He oversees the UNC football equipment room and business operations, including the yearly football budget. He began as Carolina's

equipment manager in 1980.

A native of Winston-Salem, N.C., Morelli earned his degree from

Guilford College in 1980.

Morelli attended Ledford High School where he was a student manager for current UNC assistant coach Ken Browning.

Morelli and his wife, Nana, have a daughter, Kaitlin (16) and a son, Troy Joseph (10). Morelli has worked for four UNC head coaches in his tenure as equipment manager.



## JENNY OLSON

- LEARNING SPECIALIST
- 2ND YEAR AT UNC



Jenny Olson is in her second year as a learning specialist at North Carolina. She came to Carolina after teaching special education for three years at Chapel Hill High School from 1999-2002.

Olson earned a bachelor's degree in communication science and disorders from Vermont in 1996, and a Master's degree in special education from Vermont in 1999. She worked at the University of Vermont's Disabilities Services from 1992-99.

A native of Southboro, Mass., Olson also lived in Brussels, Belgium (1974-1977 and 1987-1990) and Burlington, Vermont (1991-1999). Jenny and her husband, Eric, have two dogs, Elway and Maple, and a cat, Truro. Eric is a pulmonary fellow at UNC Hospitals.



## SCOTT OLIARO

- ASSISTANT FOOTBALL TRAINER
- 6th Year at UNC



Scott Oliaro is in his sixth season as Carolina's assistant football trainer.

Oliaro is a 1993 graduate of Cornell University where he earned a B.S. in nutritional sciences. At Cornell he was a three-

year football letterwinner, a two-time captain and a two-year Ivy League selection at tailback. A native of Lansing, Mich., Oliaro grew up in Burlington, Vt. In 1999, Sports Illustrated named Oliaro one of Vermont's top 50 athletes of all-time.

Oliaro earned a Master's degree in athletic training from North Carolina in 1996. Oliaro is a NATABOC certified athletic trainer and a member of the National Athletic Trainers Association. In 1996, he worked the Olympic Games in Atlanta.

Prior to coming to UNC, Scott spent two years as an assistant athletic trainer for American University and the Washington Capitals. He and his wife, the former Jeri Dorezas, reside in Chapel Hill.

# 2003 CAROLINA FOOTBALL STAFF



## CYNTHIA R. REYNOLDS

- ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR/ACADEMIC SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES
- 2ND YEAR AT UNC



Cynthia R. Reynolds is in her second year as the associate director of academic support for student-athletes at UNC. She works as the primary academic liaison with the

Carolina football team.

Reynolds came to Carolina in 2002 after working as the assistant athletic director for student services at Tulane. She also has worked at Cornell, Michigan and SUNY-Buffalo. She was the academic coordinator for the football team at Michigan from 1997-2000 and served as the Wolverines' interim director of academic and support services from 1998-99.

Reynolds graduated from Northern Iowa with a bachelor's degree in psychology and sociology. She has a Master's degree in college counseling and student personnel administration from SUNY-Buffalo.



## NICK SCHIRALLI

- ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
- 2ND YEAR AT UNC



Nick Schiralli is in his second year as an administrative assistant at North Carolina. Schiralli comes to Chapel Hill from the University of Florida, where he was a four-year letterwinner under head coach Steve

Spurrier from 1995-99.

Schiralli played at wide receiver and on special teams for the Gators and was a member of the 1996 national championship team, two Southeastern Conference championship teams (1995, 1996) and five bowl teams. He was named to the SEC Good Works Team in 1999 and was a two-time Academic All-SEC selection in 1998 and 1999.

After his playing career at Florida, Schiralli coached wide receivers at Cardinal Newman High School in West Palm Beach, Fla. In 2001, he coached wide receivers and worked with special teams at Gainesville High School in Gainesville, Fla.

Schiralli earned a degree in telecommunications from Florida in 1999 and a degree in public relations in 2000. He attended graduate school at Florida and earned a Master's in exercise and sports science/sports management in August 2002. He and his wife, Jenny, live in Chapel Hill.



## RYAN SLABAUGH

- GRADUATE ASSISTANT STRENGTH COACH
- 1ST YEAR AT UNC



Ryan Slabaugh is in his first season as a graduate assistant strength coach at UNC. Slabaugh came to Carolina after serving as the outside linebackers coach at Fairmont State College in Fairmont, W. Va., in 2002.

A native of Plain City, Ohio, Slabaugh graduated from Fairmont in

2001. He played linebacker for Fairmont and was named second-team all-conference as a senior. Following graduation, he played two years in the National Indoor Football League with the River Cities Locomotives and Bismark Rough Riders.



## DR. TIM TAFT

- DIRECTOR OF SPORTS MEDICINE
- 29TH YEAR AT UNC



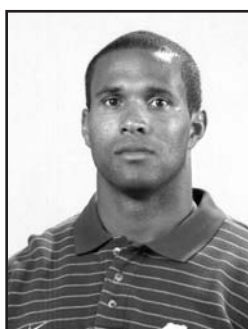
Dr. Timothy Taft is the team's orthopaedic surgeon and the Director of Sports Medicine at the University of North Carolina.

Taft, a native of St. Louis, Mo., received his A.B. degree from Princeton University in 1964 and his M.D. from the University of Missouri in 1969. He completed his residency in orthopaedic surgery at Carolina in 1974.

Taft holds one of only two endowed professorships in sports medicine in the United States, the Max Novich Distinguished Professor of Sports Medicine chair. He is the president of the Council of Delegates for the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine, a member of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, the American College of Sports Medicine, the Committee on the Medical Aspects of Sports for the North Carolina Medical Society and has been an examiner for the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery.

Taft served as team physician for the 1979 U.S. Pan American Games Team and the 1980 U.S. Olympic Team and was head physician for the 1981 U.S. World University Games Team. He has served as the team physician for numerous U.S.A. national teams including the U.S. basketball teams which won the 1986 Men's and the 1990 Women's World Championships.

Taft and his wife, Judy, have two children, Todd and Becky. Becky is married to Aaron Fecher, a marine, and they have a son, Coby.



## ROBERT TATE

- ASSISTANT STRENGTH COACH
- 2ND YEAR AT UNC



Robert Tate enters his second season as assistant strength and conditioning coach at North Carolina.

Tate played at ECU from 1989-93, lettering three years at defensive back. He was a member of the 1991 Peach Bowl team and was captain of the special teams as senior. Tate earned his bachelor's degree in physical education from UNC Wilmington in 2000.

He coached running backs at Wilmington's Hoggard High School from 1998-2000 and was the defensive backs, running backs and strength and conditioning coach at Laney High School in 2001.

Tate and his wife Theresa have two daughters, Toni and Taylor and a son, T.J.

# 2003 CAROLINA FOOTBALL STAFF

## FOOTBALL OFFICE STAFF



**Teresa Vanderford**  
Coach Bunting's  
Administrative Assitant



**Sandy Restivo**  
Assistant Coaches' Secretary



**Terri Maynor**  
Assistant Coaches' Secretary



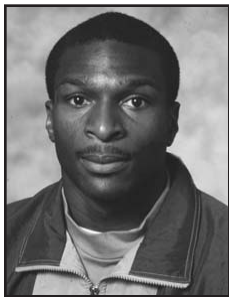
**Brenda Halthcock**  
Recruiting Secretary



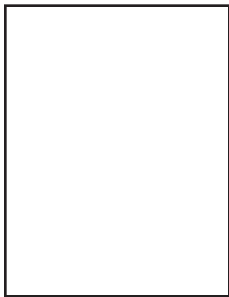
**Lance Markos**  
Football Operations  
Intern



**Jack Evans**  
Faculty Representative on  
Athletics



**Octavus Barnes**  
Academics Assistant



**Jerry Greenwood**  
Kenan Football Center Chef



**Keith Hartley**  
Head Student Manager



**Nathaniel Hogge**  
Offensive Video Assistant



**Matt House**  
Defensive Video Assistant



**Darryl Sanders**  
Video Assistant

## 2003 CAROLINA BLUES



Jeffrey Comarant

First row: Christen Steele, Grace Wicker, Ronda Norman, Mary Grace Hicks, Sarah Martin, Emily Caldwell, Lisa Doliner, Clarissa Adams and Summer Eudy. Second row: Whitney Freeman, Ebony Haskins, Kathy Cyr, Norledia Moody, Sarah Durr, Bianca Stovall, Catherine Craven and Angel Flow. Third row: Keshawna Solomon, Ashley Parker, Dema Badr, Kit Evans, Stacy Meiggs, Freida Huggins and Shavone Moore.



**Christy Bray**  
Office Assistant



**Brent Blaylock**  
Office Assistant



**Tommy Nicholson**  
Office Assistant



**Lindsey Lucas**  
Office Assistant