

Virginia Tech Football
Defensive Coordinator Bud Foster
Media Day Press Conference
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“Thank you Coach Fuente, I appreciate it. I appreciate everybody coming. I appreciate the relationships we’ve had over the years with several of you. I know there’s a lot of familiar faces here and I can’t thank you guys enough for how fair you’ve been in my time here and I hope we’ll keep that going. I’m not going to spend a whole lot of time on this today. I think at the end, this thing’s about our players and this football team and that’s where my focus is going to be, but I do have a couple things. Obviously, as Justin [Fuente] said, we just came from a team meeting.

“Obviously very emotional, had an opportunity to visit with the staff. This is never an easy decision. It was my decision. I can’t thank Justin for allowing me the opportunity to continue on and be a part of this program. I can’t thank Whit enough for his support and him allowing me to do this my way. I mean, in this business, you don’t get that opportunity very often. You don’t get a chance to go out on your terms. I’ve been very blessed to have this opportunity and Whit I can’t thank you enough.

“I want to thank Coach Beamer for giving me an opportunity to do some really special things and giving me an opportunity to get a chance to experience a dream of a lifetime. That’s what makes this thing really, really hard. It’s about the relationships you bond with, the players you meet, the people you meet, the fans – it’s just a special opportunity and I can’t thank him enough for giving me that. But, it’s time for me to step down at the end of the season. I’m not sick, I’m not burned out. At least I hope I’m not sick (laughs). Nobody’s forcing me out, it’s just going to be time when it’s all said and done. Like I said, I’ve been given a great opportunity. I saw Coach Beamer go down this road. He knew it was time. This was not an easy decision. I know Justin can talk about it; my focus is going to be on our players. This has been something we’ve been talking about for several months. I’ve talked closely with a lot of people close to my heart. It’s a decision I’ve made, and I made it. Like I said, I consider myself very fortunate in the end when it’s all said and done.

“I just told the team whatever greatness is I’m going to push them as hard as they can. I’m going to give them every ounce of energy that I have and I’m going to expect that in return. That’s really what it comes down to. I love our players, I love this team, I love their focus and our focus is going to be on this team and their season. We’ve got some great kids and we’ve got an opportunity to do some special things. I really feel good about them and I can promise you I’m going to give them my very best for these next 120 days.

“There’s going to be plenty of time to reflect and celebrate. Hopefully at the end of the year there’ll be some good and some bad things said. Hopefully good not much bad. At the end I’ll be happy to sit down with you guys and talk about the process, but really I hope you respect

the fact that this thing is not about me. You're in this business about young people, about developing and preparing young people to be successful on the field, but hopefully to be successful in life. That's where my focus is, and I hope you guys respect that and appreciate that. I owe to it our players, our fans at Virginia Tech to do it that way. So, Justin thank you so very much, Whit thank you and I appreciate you all being here. Thank you so much."