

WEEKLY SUMMER EDITION

# The Daily Tar Heel

Volume 103, Issue 40  
102 years of editorial freedom  
Serving the students and the University community since 1893

Chapel Hill, North Carolina  
THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1995

News/Features/Arts/Sports 962-0245  
Business/Advertising 962-1163  
© 1995 DTH Publishing Corp. All rights reserved.

## UMass President to Take Top Post at UNC

### Young Administrator Brings Vision, Division From Three Presidencies

BY PETER ROYBAL  
STAFF WRITER

Before Michael Hooker started looking at becoming UNC's eighth chancellor, he drilled oil in Texas, applied for a job as a Colorado sheriff's deputy, rode bulls in rodeos, published a book on Descartes and predicted a future where people could be genetically cloned. And that's to say nothing of his rise from the son of an Appalachian coal miner to a UNC undergrad to a Harvard professor of philosophy at age 28 to the president of the University of Massachusetts' five campus system.

As Hooker stands poised to lead North Carolina's flagship school into the 21st century at the younger than average age of 47, it is his combination of vision, daring and energy that have won him notice in higher education, and sometimes strong criticism from the ranks of school and state legislatures. Since his arrival at UMass in September 1992, Hooker has faced a series of problems not of his making: a school cut to the bones in a state recession; lagging in research grants and fund-raising efforts; drawing lukewarm support from legislators; and in need of \$800 million in capital improvements.

Before Hooker's arrival, admissions were becoming a rubber stamp, with 85 percent of applicants admitted. About 10 percent of students needed remedial help.

State appropriations per full-time student ranked 43rd nationally.

It was a school "widely acknowledged to be mediocre," as one editor of the Boston Globe put it.

#### An Average Grade

In the face of this difficult situation,

Hooker fanned flames by issuing a report card on the University in November that gave it only a C-plus grade. Hooker had planned the report card — that set benchmarks by which to major progress — as a tool to show the University was accountable to the public and legislature.

A month after he issued the report card, Hooker took an 8 percent raise — increasing his salary to \$189,000. The report card and salary hike prompted vocal criticism from faculty, and he later called the C-plus grade a public relations mistake.

But at the same time, Hooker was critical to the University; he planned five-year goals intended to put it back on track and make it "world-class."

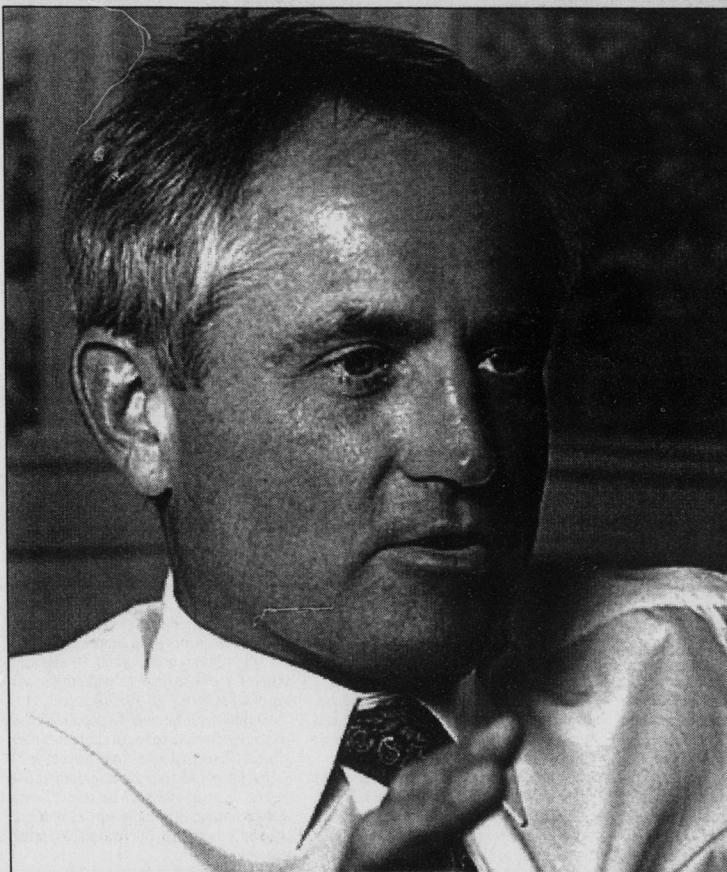
At the center of Hooker's vision for UMass were joint ventures between the University and private industry that focused on economic development.

The strategic action plan he developed for the UMass system set goals to improve undergraduate education, economic development and outreach and to address diversity issues. "It's been a thoroughly consultative, bottom-up process," Hooker said in an interview with The Daily Tar Heel Wednesday. "We are super sensitive to the necessity of implementing a plan that has been originated on each campus."

#### Technology That Sells

One of Hooker's central focuses have been to encourage research at UMass that has "technology transfer potential," or applicability in the economic sector.

He said public land-grant universities (UMass is one, but UNC is not) have forgotten their original mission to benefit



Michael Hooker has pushed to increase allocations to the University of Massachusetts in financially troubled times for the state. His plan to quickly improve UMass has drawn mixed reviews.

See HOOKER, Page 7



Seniors brighten the Commencement ceremonies Sunday with their colorful choice of hats. Despite the dreary weather, the spirits of the graduating class could not be dampened. For a last look at the class of 1995, please see additional photos on page 5.

## Rain Abruptly Ends Commencement

BY BRONWEN CLARK  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The rain that fell on Kenan Stadium Sunday morning could not dampen the spirits of the 4,373 UNC graduates who crossed the field waving signs, shouting and tossing footballs.

Although the 193rd commencement was marred by inclement weather, there was no lack of celebration on the part of the 28,500 in attendance.

"Just above the cloudy sky, the sky is Carolina blue," Chancellor Paul Hardin said. "This is your day in which all of us join you in celebration of your academic achievement."

In his last commencement address as chancellor, Hardin said he felt a special tie to this year's seniors.

"All graduating classes are special, but I feel particularly close to these of you who receive degrees today because we graduate together," Hardin said.

Scott Haenni, a senior from South Carolina, said he was disappointed that it rained but was pleased with the overall atmosphere.

sphere of the ceremony.

"The rain was disappointing," said Haenni. "I know a lot of people who were really upset, but what are you going to do?" he said. "In general I was surprised by the laid-back attitude. I mean I was pleasantly surprised, it was a free-for-all for seniors."

Hardin encouraged the graduates to view the ceremony not as the end of their academic career, but as the beginning of a lifetime of learning and teaching.

"Here is my charge to you, let's continue to be learners for the rest of our lives," Hardin said. "As you leave this robust marketplace of ideas, create modest bounties of learning."

C.D. Spangler, president of the UNC system, thanked both the graduates and their parents for their sacrifices and the contributions they had made to the University and said he hoped they would continue their involvement in UNC.

"To the parents and the relatives, it is your sacrifice that makes this day possible. To the graduates, we thank you for your

Cole asked graduates to congratula-

See GRADUATION, Page 2

## Cole Urges Graduates To Use Education to Help Those Less Fortunate

BY BRONWEN CLARK  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Johnetta Cole, renowned scholar and president of Spelman College in Atlanta, Ga., encouraged graduates to maintain their passion, enthusiasm and idealism in her keynote address at the 193rd commencement in Kenan Stadium Sunday.

Although Cole's selection had been the subject of controversy, with some critics accusing her of communist leanings, Cole received a standing ovation and the praise of University officials.

Cole asked graduates to congratula-



JOHNETTA COLE told graduates to keep their passion and enthusiasm alive as they leave UNC

See COLE, Page 2

## Raleigh News & Observer Sold

BY WILL SAFER  
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

The Raleigh News & Observer, a North Carolina family paper for over 100 years, announced Wednesday its sale to McClatchy Newspapers of Sacramento, Calif. for about \$378 million.

But while the N&O is leaving family ownership for corporate ownership, the paper is staying in some sort of family: Frank Daniels Jr., the publisher of the N&O, is a '53 UNC graduate, and Erwin Potts, the owner and president of the McClatchy Group, is a '54 graduate who also served on the N&O's board of directors.

"Everyone has questions, but everything about this seems fairly positive," said Kelly Thompson, an N&O reporter and former editor of The Daily Tar Heel.

"It was a big surprise," she said. "People are probably kind of sad; all of us enjoyed working for one of the last family-owned newspapers in the country."

In a letter released to all N&O employees, Frank Daniels Jr. explained the reason for the sale.

"Looking 10 or 12 years down the road, we do not see any scenario that keeps The News and Observer in the Daniels family," he said. "The issue for management is timing. When is the best time to sell?"

He said the time was now because the newspaper had recently made several significant improvements to its physical plant, its printing capability and in its computer technology. These improvements made the N&O extremely attractive to any potential buyer, he said. Frank Daniels Jr. stressed the importance of keeping the N&O on the forefront of the Triangle's

growth. "To keep up with a growing community requires capital, but our access to capital is limited," he said. Selling to the McClatchy Group would enable the N&O to continue growing and to continue as a leader in electronic publishing, he said. "It would be fun and exciting for the N&O to remain in the family, but good business dictates that it's time to have new ownership," he said.

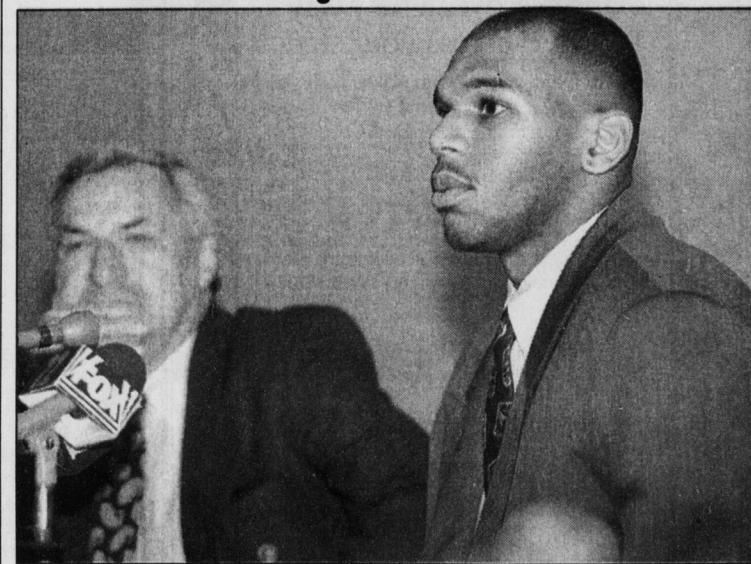
Richard Kaspar, publisher of The (Durham) Herald-Sun, said he thought the Daniels family had run their business well, and he was surprised by their decision to sell the paper. "I think anytime you lose local ownership you lose something, something that transcends money," he said.

In the letter released to all N&O employees, Daniels said that he expected the McClatchy Group to keep the current management and staff in place, as they had done with their other newspapers.

According to a McClatchy Group spokesman, the company agreed to pay \$250 million for the N&O stock and to assume the N&O's debt of about \$123 million, most of which was incurred during its recent printer upgrades. The McClatchy Group earned \$46.6 million on sales of \$471.4 million in 1994. The N&O company's total revenues in 1995 are projected to be \$118 million, compared to \$107 million in 1994, and came primarily from the N&O.

Included in the sale are The Chapel Hill News, The Cary News, The Smithfield Herald, The Mount Olive Tribune, The Zebulon Record and the Gold Leaf Farmer of Wendell. It also includes Benson Print Company, a commercial printing business.

## And We Thought Duke Had It Bad ...



Jerry Stackhouse announced May 8 his intentions of following Rasheed Wallace to the NBA. With Stackhouse at the press conference were his mother and Coach Dean Smith.

DTH/CHRIS GAYDOS

*Life is pleasant. Death is peaceful. It's the transition that's troublesome.*

Isaac Asimov