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Smith closes book on epic coaching career

■ Dean Smith's resignation came just nine days before the start of practice.

BY ALEC MORRISON
SPORTS EDITOR

Hurriedly and with apparent indifference to the fanfare surrounding him, Dean Smith announced Thursday his retirement as men's basketball coach at the University of North Carolina.

Smith faced a room of about 300 people — friends, players, media members and former assistants — and informed the public of his decision to leave the job he began in 1961.

His voice caught only once, prompting an ovation that echoed through the Skipper Bowles Room deep in the Smith Center. He closed the book on an era that defined not only UNC's college basketball program but the face of the University for nearly 40 years.

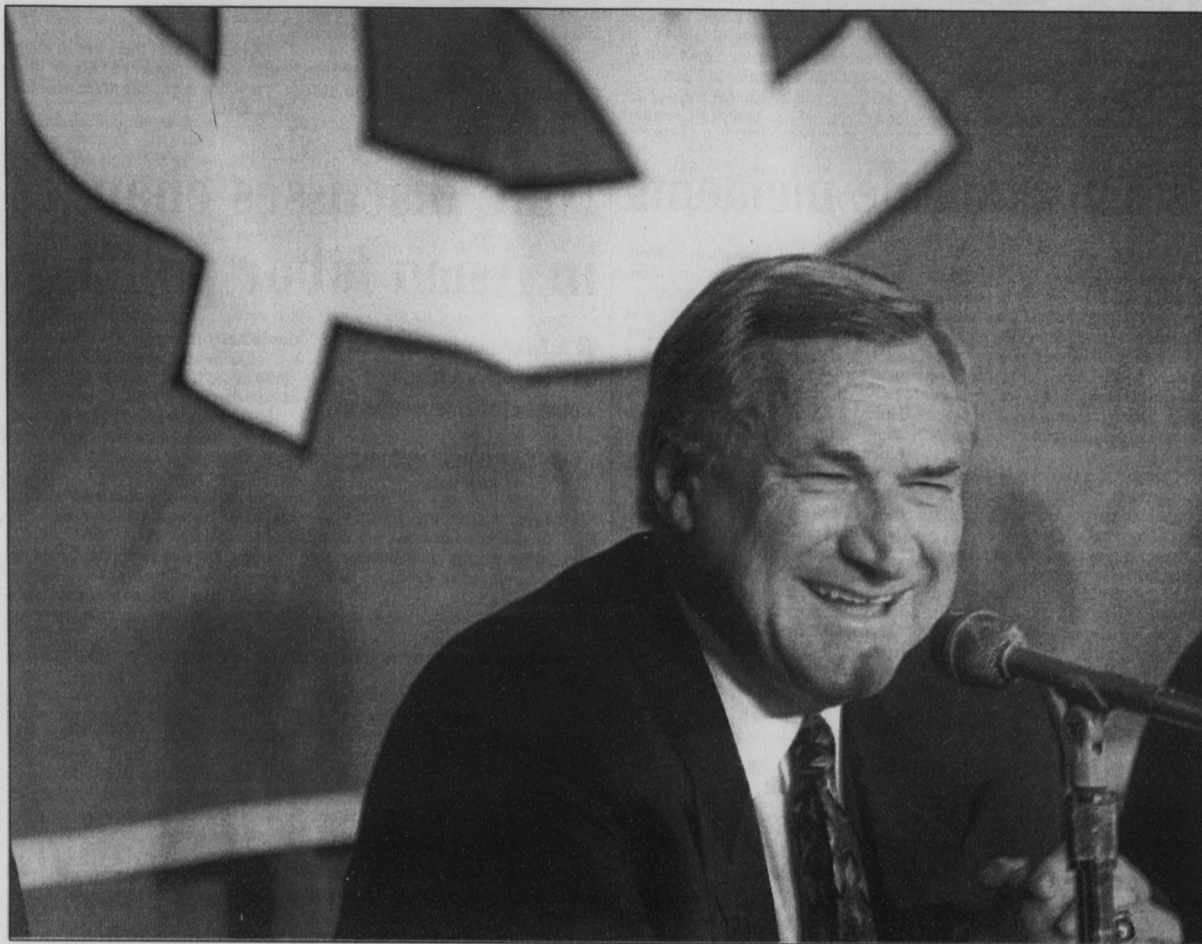
"My only guilt is that some day, some team would be my last team," Smith said. "... I looked in (the players') faces yesterday, and I couldn't handle it, and I couldn't if I turned right now.

"But I still believe that it's best for them that I could give them what I want, and I could work for them. Any player that's played for me, I owe them."

Assistant Coach Bill Guthridge will succeed Smith as UNC's head coach pending approval of a contract from the University's Board of Trustees. Guthridge will sign a multiyear deal and lead the Tar Heels beginning Oct. 18, the first day of practice. Former UNC player Pat Sullivan will replace Guthridge as assistant coach.

But most of the hourlong conference was a chance for Smith, the sport's leader in career coaching victories, to exit stage right. He remained the same stoic man who has paced UNC's sideline since the 1960s, offering jokes to lighten the room's mood and receiving repeated ovations from his audience.

"He is the consummate teacher; he is the paragon of integrity," UNC Chancellor Michael Hooker said. "I told him as we were coming down the



UNC men's basketball coach Dean Smith announced his immediate retirement at a press conference Thursday. During his coaching career of 36 years at UNC, Smith broke the record for coaching wins and won two NCAA titles.

stairs that I don't think any person has ever done as much for his university in the history of higher education as Dean Smith has done for Carolina."

Early in his opening statement, Smith refuted a report that his retirement was a result of a conflict with the chancellor. The Basketball Times, a weekly publica-

tion, reported Wednesday that Smith and Hooker had clashed over the hiring of a new athletics director this summer. Smith said he was in good health,

save a need for exercise and chose to retire because he could not summon the
SEE SMITH, PAGE 8

Hooker taps Guthridge to follow Smith

■ Bill Guthridge was an assistant to Coach Dean Smith for the past 30 years.

BY JOSEPH ROLISON
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

For more than 30 years, Bill Guthridge waited patiently for his moment.

He served his time as coach of freshman teams. He put in countless hours as an assistant coach and even served a stint coaching in a Puerto Rican summer league.

After all those years of toiling — 30 of which came under Dean Smith at UNC — Guthridge was named UNC's new head coach a few minutes after 2 p.m. Thursday, succeeding Smith.

The occasion was momentous — but it was nothing like Guthridge had planned. The man who spent so many years at Smith's side was left to continue the job by himself.

"It has never been my goal to be the head coach at the University of North Carolina," Guthridge said at the press conference where Smith announced his retirement. "I've always said it wasn't a goal of mine to be a head coach.

"(My goal) was to go out when Dean did, but I wasn't ready to go out at this time."

Throughout his career as a Tar Heel assistant, Guthridge stuck to his principles. Several times, athletics directors dangled head coaching jobs before him.

And each time, Guthridge turned them down. Arkansas sought him twice, and both times, Guthridge stayed put. In fact he had only one moment of indecision — in 1978, when Penn State almost lured him away.

But at the last moment, Guthridge spurned the Lions and chose to remain Smith's top assistant. From that point Guthridge made it a policy to refuse head coaching offers.

"After we lost to San Francisco (in the '78 NCAA Tournament), he couldn't say bye to the team," Smith said. "He called Chancellor (Christopher) Fordham and me and said, 'I'm going on to Chapel Hill, and I won't ever interview again.'"

SEE GUTHRIDGE, PAGE 8

Friday

A legend steps aside

Smith's epic coaching career spanned five decades. For more coverage on his retirement see inside. Pages 6, 7

Domestic discrimination

A new study found equal domestic violence rates among homosexual and straight couples. Page 2

TIME'S
RUNNING OUT!
day left to
register to vote

Today's weather

Partly sunny
mid 80s
Weekend: Sunny,
low 80s

Students, residents rally for Smith

BY KERRY OSSI

AND HUGH PRESSLEY
STAFF WRITERS

For freshman John Ratcliff, Thursday afternoon was a chance to be a part of UNC history.

"There's only a select few that can actually be here at the Dean Dome when Dean steps down," Ratcliff said.

Ratcliff was one of the many excited students who stormed the Smith Center hoping to catch a glimpse of men's basketball head coach Dean Smith after he announced his retirement.

Isaac Henderson, a graduate student from Chapel Hill, was also part of the crowd that stormed the building. "Somebody opened the doors from the inside, and everyone just went crazy," he said.

Security officers made students leave the building, but most stayed outside, offering occasional cheers and even chanting "Dean."

Ratcliff and his roommate, Chris Furr, a freshman from Concord, held up a banner made from their shower curtain that read, "We love you Dean."

Several students said they were disappointed the University did not allow them in the Smith Center to hear the

announcement and show their support.

"We assumed we'd be able to see or at least hear what's going on," said Jennifer Henderson, a freshman from Wilmington. "It's history. It's Dean Smith."

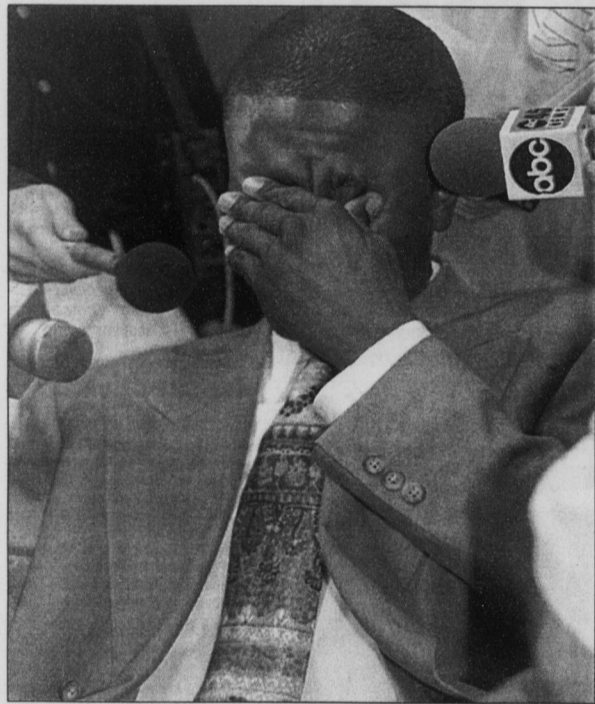
Other students gathered in the Great Hall and the Union Cabaret, where the

press conference was shown on big-screen televisions. As Smith made the actual announcement of his retirement, a low groan spread throughout the crowd in the Cabaret.

"Why, God? Why?" asked Jewel
SEE REACTION, PAGE 8



Students try to catch a glimpse of Coach Dean Smith by looking through the windows during the press conference at the Smith Center on Thursday.



Senior guard Shammond Williams became emotional following the press conference in which Coach Dean Smith announced his resignation.

Change defines Hooker's 2 years as University head

■ Sunday marks the 2nd anniversary of Hooker's official leadership of UNC.

BY CYNTHIA EAKES
STAFF WRITER

The University has seen sweeping changes in areas from administration to student life in the two years Michael Hooker has been chancellor.

"These are turbulent times," Hooker

said.

Hooker has reorganized much of the administration during his time at UNC. He has hired a new dean of the School of Medicine, Jeffrey Houpt, and the dean of School of Public Health, William L. Roper.

"I don't know any two people that we could have in these positions that would give me more confidence," Hooker said. "We will be at the forefront of change."

He brought in a new dean for the College of Arts and Sciences, Risa

Palm; a new provost, Richard Richardson; an executive vice chancellor, Elson Floyd; and a new vice chancellor for student affairs, Sue Kitchen.

The search continues for a dean for the Kenan-Flagler Business School, for the



Chancellor
MICHAEL HOOKER

School of Information and Library Science and for a vice chancellor for administration.

"We're very concerned with finding someone to fill the position of vice chancellor for administration for the salary we can offer," Hooker said.

Provost Richard Richardson said initial reordering was natural with a new chancellor.

"Hooker wanted to restructure reporting in relation to him," Richardson said.

"He reordered the whole organiza-

tional structure."

Richardson said UNC has gone through many changes, but it was normal.

"The effect of the changes is a little unsettling, but it comes with an enormous infusion of new energy and ideas," Richardson said.

Intellectual climate

The chancellor created a task force last fall to study the intellectual climate
SEE HOOKER, PAGE 8

The best thing for him will be the best thing for us.

Shammond Williams