

# The Daily Tar Heel

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## Poor Sportsmanship

Goheels.com columnist Art Chansky's criticism of Roy Williams' decision to stay with Kansas was both childish and unprofessional.

Perhaps the only man in Chapel Hill who feels more jilted than Dean Smith is Art Chansky. Like so many others, Chansky was certain that Williams would be the next coach of the Tar Heels. "It is Williams," Chansky emphatically stated in the last line of his June 30 column on Goheels.com advising readers to believe the early reports that said Williams would succeed Guthridge.

Chansky, once a writer for The Daily Tar Heel, has long promoted the idea that Williams was heir to the North Carolina throne. The introduction to his book "Dean's Domain" claims that Williams was all but a sure thing: "Unless something drastic occurred at Kansas, or within the UNC administration, it would be Williams."

Likewise, in his conclusion, Chansky uses that always trustworthy method of relying on boosters: "I do know this," said one prominent member of the booster club. "Roy will accept the job here if it is offered. He has told people that."

Certainly, Chansky was not alone in assuming Williams would come back to Chapel Hill. And while they are disappointed Williams stayed at Kansas, most respect his decision. Chansky does not. In fact, his criticism of Williams has moved from unfair to juvenile.

In his first column after Roy's decision — "Williams Hung UNC Out to Dry" — Chansky writes that Williams is "wrong." He later writes, "Williams virtually insured landslide approval ratings as a self-promoted heir apparent, coming back to visit regularly and maintaining close ties with key people."

Chansky would have you believe that Williams' frequent trips to Chapel Hill — keep in mind his son, Scott, played basketball at UNC and his daughter, Kim, is a junior and member of the dance team — were not trips to see friends and family, but a calculated lobbying effort for the UNC helm.

Chansky's attacks become even more childish in his second column after the decision. In relating the truth behind how Eddie Fogler ended up turning down Smith's request that he coach at UNC (a secret from Fogler that Chansky compromised in the name of slamming Roy), Chansky writes that Fogler took the "unselfish way out." Yet, he uses Fogler's commitment to South Carolina and Columbia as the basis for his "ego-less act." But the basis for Fogler's decision doesn't sound too much different from Williams'.

Truth is, Williams struggled long and hard with his decision, as everyone witnessed. In the end, he chose to stay loyal to his players and to Kansas. He, of course, did what was in the best interests of Roy Williams, but can we fault him for that? This wasn't a request for a lifesaving kidney transplant, as Chansky might lead you to believe.

Williams chose not to take a job that he had, by everyone's admission, rightfully earned. He meant no harm to North Carolina. He just wanted to stay at another tradition-rich basketball program (where Smith played and coached). And while he was the best man for the job, we must look ahead to Matt Doherty. After all, North Carolina basketball is bigger than one man. Even Smith would admit that.



## Frats Don't Deserve Bad Reputation

According to a recent article in The Daily Tar Heel, UNC fraternity and sorority houses are making good progress toward meeting recent town ordinances.

Top on the list is the demand for sprinkler systems following a 1996 fire at Phi Gamma Delta in which five students died.

Twenty-three of the Greek organization homes are expected to have met that requirement by the time students return to school next month, leaving ten that have not. The deadline is Fall 2001.

While progress is being made on the fire safety front, it's important to remember that Greek organization membership is about much more than just a potential place to live.

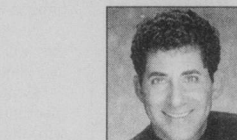
Emotionally and spiritually, fraternity or sorority membership can make UNC seem a little more manageable. It sort of cuts the University down to size some, providing a sense of belonging, a cadre of friends and organized peer-to-peer advising. Practically, membership offers structured social activities, organized philanthropic opportunities and entrance to a whole new world of t-shirts and other college fashion and paraphernalia niceties.

UNC-Chapel Hill features 32 national social Greek organizations and an additional 16 specialty chapters welcoming members. In all, almost 2,700 students join the groups, representing 18 percent of the undergraduate student population, a few points above the national average.

The Spring 2000 Executive Summary produced by the Office of Greek Affairs reports the all-Greek student grade point average was 3.020, slightly higher than the non-Greek GPA of 2.946.

The summary report also indicates fraternity and sorority members dedicated more than 18,500 hours to community service and raised more than \$67,000 for charity.

These last two statistics support the notion



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that these Greek organizations are producing good citizens.

The ranks of the United States Congress, appointed and elected judges, NASA astronauts, Fortune 500 executives and Miss Americas are all ripe with former *Sigma-this* and *Kappa-thats*.

Still, the overriding symbol of the Greek organization is the house, the physical structure with the letters emblazoned above the front door.

While typically second year members live in these houses, a total of nearly one-third of all fraternity and sorority members move in any given year at an average expense between that of living in a University dormitory and calling Granville Towers home.

I walk to school each day from the west end of Cameron Street, passing by seven of these homes. One of them is the Phi Gamma Delta house, the site of the fatal 1996 graduation day fire that sparked the town resolution requiring sprinkler systems in all the houses.

Reopened just this past academic year, it's a lovely looking facility anyone would be proud to call home. Even the grass is enough to make any homeowner green with envy.

Still, somehow, two fire code violations at the house are noted on the University Spring 2000 Greek Report. I also walk by the Chi Psi house twice each day. The stately brick castle-looking fraternity tops the chapter grade point average rank with an impressive 3.239 but it

suffered four fire code violations.

Most other houses on my route present a dangerous looking living environment. Whether it's a concern about fire safety or shower safety, I can't imagine many parents happy to be carrying clothes and computers into these places next month as their children move in. They look like places from the proverbial wrong side of the tracks.

I am a fraternity member. Long ago, I pledged as an undergraduate at the University of New Hampshire. Odd as it may seem, I chose to pledge the only fraternity on campus at the time without a house.

Still, the group had a home. Its home was a spiritual one grounded in community service, campus leadership and a strong commitment to protecting and promoting a dry rush policy and non-hazing pledge education program. These were cutting edge policies in the early 1980s.

My fraternity, which is represented here at Chapel Hill, did have an office in the Student Union and we partied plenty, trust me.

But I was drawn to join by the prospect of brotherhood and the opportunity to learn to follow well and, eventually, lead effectively.

And so, as a new crop of freshmen recruits packs and prepares for University life, I whole-heartedly support taking a close and serious look at the Delta, Theta and Gammas of UNC as wonderful opportunities and sources of great fun and pride.

And I urge those who are already members to continue an enviable record of contribution to our community and to strive to be good students in class and safe neighbors in their homes.

Dana Rosengard is a graduate student in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication originally from Massachusetts, with many stops between there and here along the way. He can be reached at danar@unc.edu with questions, comments, concerns or column suggestions.



## Kansas-UNC Link Far from Broken

Fortunately, I've never had to choose between Carolina and Kansas. Well, in 1997, I had to decide on my NCAA tournament bracket that Carolina would in fact beat Kansas in the championship game.

My friends couldn't believe I'd take the Tar Heels over the Jayhawks. I grew up a Jayhawk — my blood is crimson and blue.

But my brother was playing on the Tar Heels at the time, so it was an easy decision.

Choosing between two shades of blue was not so easy for Roy Williams, however.

Roy can be thought of as the son who headed West years ago to find gold. Thanks to his determination, he's had some luck, though he's still looking for the mother lode.

Two weeks ago, a call came from back East. "Come home and run the family business." A dream come true for Roy. Only Roy realizes he doesn't want to leave the West. He wants to see his business in Kansas succeed.

And with his decision, the Kansas-Carolina connection just grew stronger.

Let me explain by relating my (very minor) link in the chain.

Years ago, Dean Smith played at Kansas. He later went on to recruit my dad, Bob Frederick, who is now the athletic director at Kansas, and encouraged him to attend Kansas. (Smith recently told me the story of taking my dad to dinner in St. Louis forty-plus years ago, which told me a lot about why he's so respected. He remembers peoples' stories.) Anyway, twelve years ago, Smith encour-



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aged my dad to hire Roy. And, of course, Smith had incredible foresight.

Roy's son, Scott, and my brother, Brad, became fast friends and went on to attend UNC and play for the Tar Heels.

I had so much fun visiting Chapel Hill, I decided to seek a master's in journalism at UNC. A year later, I am the summer editor of The Daily Tar Heel and I love the job. (We only come out on Thursday in the summer. Can't imagine this job on a daily basis.)

It seemed to be a relatively slow summer, until the news of Bill Guthridge's resignation broke on a Thursday. Missed the story that week, but vowed to have Roy's story in time for the next. What a long week it was.

I ended up bothering my dad every day. Of course, my mom couldn't turn me away, like she does to so many other pesky reporters. But, of course, my dad had no scoop for me.

The days grew longer, and reporters looked for any story to send home from

Chapel Hill. Before I knew it, someone had figured out my connection to the situation and next thing I knew, I was interviewed for TV, newspapers and my favorite, sports talk radio. Most were simply hoping I'd slip and blurt out Roy's intentions.

I bring this up simply to point out the absurdity of the entire affair. While Roy said he'd take a week to decide, the media was obsessed with getting the scoop. So much so, that two papers printed that Roy was coming, deeply wounding their credibility.

When Roy decided to stay, I was happy for everyone back home, most importantly, my folks. I was sorry, as a Carolina fan, I wouldn't get to see him on the UNC sideline. Further, I was sorry he had decided on a Thursday, as The DTH would again miss the story by a week.

We won't miss the story this week, though. Tuesday night, Carolina named Matt Doherty its new head coach. A former Tar Heel, Doherty played for Smith and at Kansas, under Roy, Doherty grew into a coach promising enough to be given the UNC reins.

As Doherty succeeds, Carolina fans will soon forget Roy's decision and realize the silver lining in the situation: Williams learned from Smith. Doherty learned from Smith and Williams. Two great teachers to emulate.

The Kansas-Carolina connection can only grow stronger.

Meanwhile, the whole ordeal has left me feeling tarred and feathered.

### The Daily Tar Heel

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Office: Suite 104 Carolina Union  
Campus Mail Address: CB# 5210 Box 49, Carolina Union  
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