

# Williams rethinks recruiting Student leaders to prep for year

Early departures present difficulties

BY CHRIS COLETTA  
SENIOR WRITER

College basketball coaches used to salivate at the mere thought of snagging the best high school post players, giants who could power their way to two points.

But according to UNC men's basketball coach Roy Williams, those days quickly are becoming a distant memory — and it's changing the way he recruits.

"If a guy is in the top 10 (of his class) and I have to look up at him at all, I'm probably going to make a decision not to recruit him," Williams said Monday at his summer press conference.

And it's not just the big guys who are leaving. Lured by the quick cash and glitzy lifestyle that comes with an NBA contract, more and more of the nation's best high schoolers are skipping college altogether to enter the professional ranks.

This year, 13 high school players have declared for the draft. The list includes former North Carolina recruit J.R. Smith, a Newark, N.J., shooting guard who wasn't on scouts' radars until a couple of impressive performances in all-star games against top competition.

But after scoring 25 points at the McDonalds All-American game and wowing the crowd with

several long-range shots and acrobatic dunks, Smith quickly made a name for himself and declared for the draft May 3. He later signed an agent and is ineligible to play college basketball.

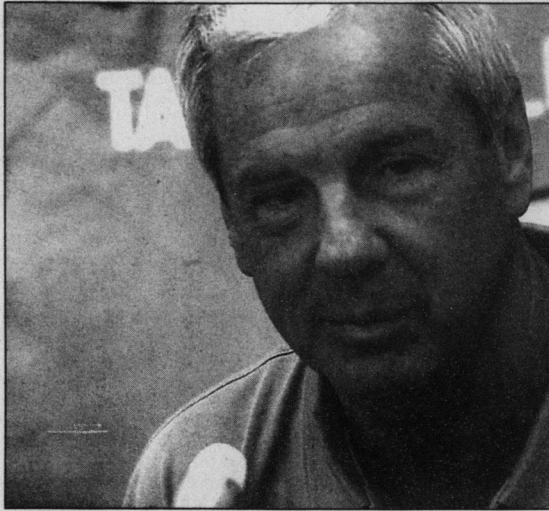
Williams said it's that unpredictability, combined with the difficulty of convincing many top 18-year-olds to come to school, that has made recruiting both risky and, at times, frustrating.

"It's incredibly hard," he said. "There's nobody good enough — I'm not good enough — to do it."

Smith's departure isn't likely to hurt the Tar Heels much next year, as the team returns everyone who saw significant minutes in the 2003-04 season.

But it still will force Williams to work harder to bring talent to Chapel Hill, particularly for the 2005-06 season. Before that team tips off, UNC will wave goodbye to its three current seniors and could lose four players — Rashad McCants, Sean May, Raymond Felton and incoming freshman Marvin Williams — who are believed to have NBA talent.

UNC has two commitments for that season: Marcus Ginyard, a shooting guard out of Arlington, Va., and Bobby Frasor, a Chicago point guard. And depending on



North Carolina men's basketball coach Roy Williams addresses members of the media at a press conference Monday morning at the Smith Center.

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ROY WILLIAMS, MEN'S BASKETBALL COACH

how many players leave early next year, they might have to serve as the tip of the iceberg.

But Williams said he doesn't see what else can be done.

"I don't think we should put a

Band-Aid on it," he said. "You can't change the culture."

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

## CORRECTIONS

•A June 3 article on page 4 should have stated that Jeffery Furman's free concert will take place at 6 p.m. on the Weaver Street Market lawn.

To report corrections, contact Managing Editor Laura Youngs at layout@email.unc.edu.

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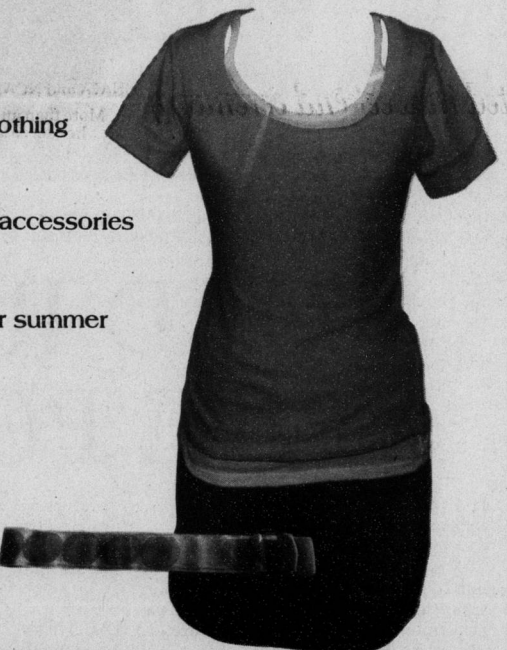
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Group will build on summer efforts

BY ALEX GRANADOS  
STAFF WRITER

Members of the UNC-system Association of Student Governments are preparing to join together Saturday for a coordinated exchange of ideas and ambitions aimed at building on the work they've been doing this summer.

The Council of Student Body Presidents will meet in Raleigh to hammer out the new political framework of the organization, along with other ASG delegates.

ASG Senior Vice President Victor Landry said the meeting will be heavy on details that will serve as preludes to the association's long-term plan.

"During that meeting, we plan on doing a lot of the preliminary-type stuff we need to begin operations," he said.

These activities include the presentation of officers to be considered for approval, the planning of dates for follow-up meetings and a first look at this year's streamlined budget.

In addition, various officers and leaders, including new President Amanda Devore and UNC-Chapel Hill student officials, will be given the chance to present some of their ideas to the group.

Among the priorities that will be discussed are increasing student participation in voting and maintaining campus safety, Landry said.

But while these issues are some of the specific cries that will echo across the political landscape of higher education, more generally, ASG members will seek political influence among powerbrokers in Raleigh.

"After November, that is when we are going to start engaging our General Assembly," Landry said.

"(We will be) making sure that they are aware of the presence of the university system from the students' standpoint." Such actions will build upon a

framework ASG leaders have been crafting since the new administration took power. Devore and Landry, among others, have been in Raleigh lobbying legislators about student issues, and they also have been in talks with leaders on individual campuses to set up voter registration drives, safety awareness events and even a debate during UNC-CH's Homecoming festivities.

Matt Calabria, UNC-CH student body president, said that in addition to working with ASG leaders on their goals, he hopes to place the UNC population under one unified voting district.

He added that he hopes such a move would lead universities across the state to consolidate their democratic capital, making their politically undervalued group a commodity.

But until that time comes, Calabria said, he hopes to get other student leaders stirred to UNC's cause. "Essentially, we are asking them to show signs of support," he said.

He said he hopes other schools will help by writing letters to local representatives and by encouraging the various university chancellors to do the same thing.

One of the ASG's most pressing concerns took a left turn Tuesday, when a bill that would have made the UNC system's 18 percent cap on out-of-state students a law was re-referred to the Education Committee. Rep. Alex Warner, D-Cumberland, said it likely will change into a resolution asking the system's Board of Governors to make regular reports on the cap.

Landry said a legislative mandate on the cap could hurt the UNC system and would be handled better by the BOG.

"I believe that is why the Board of Governors was invented."

Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

## Gerraughty claims NCAA shotput title

BY MICHAEL PUCCI  
SPORTS EDITOR

UNC junior Laura Gerraughty earned her first outdoor NCAA title Saturday, winning the women's shotput competition with a throw of 59-11 at the 2004 NCAA Outdoor Championships in Austin, Texas.

The Tar Heels as a team didn't fare nearly as well, finishing 14th with a team total of 16 points, all scored by Gerraughty and senior Alice Schmidt, who placed third in the 800-meter finals.

Given the ability of his runners, head coach Dennis Craddock expressed disappointment at the overall results.

"Our goal was to finish in the top 10," he said. "While with 300 teams, 14th is still really good, that's not where we wanted to finish."

Gerraughty was forced to come back in order to secure her win. Stanford's Jillian Camarena had the



UNC junior Laura Gerraughty led the Tar Heels to a 14th place finish at the NAAs.

lead after the fourth of six throws, but on Gerraughty's fifth attempt, she beat Camarena's best throw by six inches.

Gerraughty's triumph caps a remarkable season for the Nashua, N.H., native. She threw her way to two ACC indoor titles, two outdoor ACC titles, a U.S. Nationals title and now the indoor and outdoor shot put national titles.

"She was the favorite coming in, and she had to come back to win this one," Craddock said. "In a situation like that, it makes it all the more impressive."

Schmidt, who was gunning for an unprecedented third consecutive 800-meter outdoor title, fell just a second short, placing third with a time of 2:03.79.

"Because no one had ever won three, and all the publications had asked if she could do it, there was a lot of pressure on her," Craddock said. "But I thought she held up — it was her fastest time of the year."

Two other Tar Heels competed as well, though neither ran as well as hoped.

Junior Erin Donohue took 11th in the 1,500-meter finals, with a time of 4:34.30.

"It just didn't happen for Erin," Craddock said. "It's like a basketball player who averages 25 points but goes out one day and only scores five. ... I can't put my finger on it."

The final Tar Heel looking for All-American status was sophomore Carol Henry, who placed 13th in the 3,000-meter steeplechase with a time of 10:48.25.

"Carol did not have one of her better races," Craddock said. "She's the type of runner who needs to run up front with a pack. ... I think mentally, about a mile into the race, she fell back and she could never get back into it."

Senior Tiffany Flomo had qualified in the East Regionals in Gainesville, Fla., but did not accompany the team to Austin for violating team rules.

Craddock declined to comment further.

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

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